



FROST TOWER
FORT WORTH

GALLERI URBANE

Frost Tower Fort Worth Welcomes a New Site-Specific Artwork

Frost Tower Fort Worth is pleased to announce the commissioning of Chapel Hill-based artist Donald Martiny to create a unique work of art for the building's ground floor lobby. Martiny's work is internationally known for its unique approach to painting in which standard rectilinear canvases are forgone in favor of a form that is defined by large-scale brushstrokes. Swaths of paint many feet in length construe works that obscure the line between painting and sculpture, inviting viewers for closer inspection and a more dynamic interaction with a work of art. At 14 by 17 feet, the commissioned work must be created on-site, requiring the artist to set up a temporary studio in the lobby at 640 Taylor Street where he will create the piece over the course of a week beginning on November 18th.



Donald Martiny at Galleri Urbane Dallas

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Dispersing ground pigments within a specially-designed polymer, Martiny uses custom brushes and his own arms and hands to create each piece in a form of Action Painting. A unique quality to all of Martiny's work, the commissioned painting will become a record of the artist's time in Fort Worth. He has said: “My paintings are actual authentic gestures. These brushstrokes are very much me and I want to be present in the works as honestly and authentically as I can be. They are a record of my physicality at a specific point in time.” The commissioned painting has been designed with the locale of Frost Tower Fort Worth in mind, accenting the building's strong horizontal and vertical architectural details by juxtaposing them with the gestural marks of the painting. Using the building as his studio will allow Martiny to respond to the site in a direct way and create a work that best enhances each visitor's experience of the lobby.



EXIT

South Lobby of One World Trade Center, NYC



Donald Martiny is not new to large scale commissions of this kind. In 2015, the artist was commissioned by the Durst Organization to create two monumental paintings to be installed in the lobby of One World Trade Center in New York City. Due to their size, these works also required Martiny to create them on site. In 2018, the artist set up a studio in Stuttgart, Germany, to create a piece for a private collector that is permanently installed in an outdoor setting and a testament to the durability of Martiny's unique pigment and polymer formula. The piece for Frost Tower Fort Worth, acquired through Galleri Urbane in Dallas, will be the largest commission completed by Donald Martiny in the region.

Donald Martiny's temporary studio at One World Trade Center





The completed painting will perfectly encapsulate Frost Tower Fort Worth's vision to provide a unique, first-class working environment for the downtown neighborhood. With the tower constructed on a foundation of clean, contemporary design and developed with the belief that it can serve as a home away from home, Donald Martiny's painting will surely become a centerpiece to these ideals.

About the Artist

Donald Martiny was born in Schenectady, NY, in 1953 and currently lives and works in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He studied at the School of Visual Arts, The Art Students League in New York, New York University and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. He has presented numerous solo gallery exhibitions as well as museum exhibitions at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Courtauld Institute of Art, Alden B. Dow Museum of Art, Falmouth Museum, and the Cameron Art Museum. In 2015, Martiny received the Sam & Adele Golden Foundation for the Arts Residency Grant. His work has been featured in Huffington Post, NPR, Philadelphia Inquirer, VOGUE LIVING | Australia, New American Paintings | South, Decor Magazine, Hong Kong Tatler and Woven Tale Press. Martiny's work is represented by Galleri Urbane in Dallas alongside numerous galleries in Europe, the US and Australia.





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