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**PRESS RELEASE**

**MICHAEL JUST: *WHAT'S DONE CANNOT BE UNDONE***

DALLAS - CYDONIA contemporary art gallery is pleased to announce Berlin-based artist **MICHAEL JUST'S SOLO EXHIBITION *WHAT'S DONE CANNOT BE UNDONE***. The show **OPENS FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015 FROM 6:00PM UNTIL 8:00PM. THE EXHIBITION RUNS UNTIL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015.**

CYDONIA believes that Michael Just's process is part of a new form of artistic practice, merging and equalizing artistic production and curatorial practice. For the multi-disciplinary Just, process is always layered. He constructs the art objects themselves, from the surface of the objects to the construction of the framework, but the artist also meticulously assembles the conceptual spirit of the exhibition. Screen-printed images of unique cultural artifacts and historical references are juxtaposed next to laser-cut text works and sculptures, each contributing to a unique moment of "critical suspension" where the differing components within the exhibition "fuse, dissociate, and undermine" one another. Just is equally dedicated to the immaterial whole that each of his objects generate in conjunction with each other as he is to the physical form that they embody. The full experience of each of his works is entirely dependent upon the unique energy generated from seeing the show.

*What's Done Cannot be Undone* revolves around the idea of forgiveness beyond its traditional definition, not only as emotional affection or religious ceremony. Just questions if trauma can be interpreted as a historical category and a productive force in the way that theorist Rebecca Comay suggests. Instead of enshrouding catastrophe with negativity, Comay negotiates foreclosure and reconciliation after Hegel. Can we treat absolution as a critical historical tool? Comay understands forgiveness as the only conceivable act that can come close to erasing transgression. If the future reverts to recode the past, if society can forgive, how can that change history? And if history changes, what does that mean for the present?

Just's vigor lies in the dialectic between the clinical, the cerebral and the human, and finally, a surrender to feeling. The exhibition includes screen-printed images taken from photographs of 19<sup>th</sup> century German-Texan sculptor Elisabet Ney's statue of *Lady*

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## **WHATS DONE CANNOT BE UNDONE / ADD 1**

*MacBeth*. The context of the exhibition is multi-fold: this is Just's first exhibition in Texas and he is re-appropriating and re-contextualizing a work of art made by a German intellectual's legacy in Texas.

The public is invited to attend a **RECEPTION HONORING THE ARTIST STARTING AT 6PM AND ENDING AT 8PM ON JANUARY 9, 2015**. The show **RUNS UNTIL FEBRUARY 20, 2015**.

CYDONIA thanks the generous sponsorship of the Dallas Goethe Center and Texas Ale Project brewery.

Michael Just is a graduate of the Kunstakademie of Dusseldorf, where he was awarded a Meisterschuler (Master Scholar) certificate, as well as an EHF Fellowship from the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation. In 2009, he received an MFA from Goldsmiths, University of London as a DAAD Postgraduate Fellow and subsequently participated in the Whitney Museum of American Art Independent Study Program, New York City. He was also a resident at the Villa Aurora in Los Angeles in 2012, among the most prestigious programs for German artists in the United States. His most previous exhibition was at Eigen Art Lab in Berlin in September 2014. In 2015, his work will be featured in *Checkpoint California* at the Deutsche Bank KunstHalle, Berlin. The artist lives and works in Berlin.

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**WHAT'S DONE CANNOT BE UNDONE opens on FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015 and runs UNTIL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015.**

CYDONIA is a contemporary art gallery located in Dallas, Texas focused on supporting the careers of emerging artists whose practices have international relevance. Our mission is to show artists that have cultural and historical significance, conceptual rigor, or are the singular voice of their generation. Our values include service, ethics, and most importantly, posterity.

167 Payne Street, Dallas, Texas 75207 USA

Gallery Hours (starting in 2015): Tuesday – Saturday: 10:00 – 6:00pm

Other hours available by appointment

For more information, please contact [info@cydoniagallery.com](mailto:info@cydoniagallery.com) or call 214-296-4848 or visit [www.cydoniagallery.com](http://www.cydoniagallery.com)