

**Pérez Art Museum Miami Announces
*Jedd Novatt: Monotypes and More***

***Exhibition Highlights Never-Before-Seen Sculptures and Wall Drawings in
Dialogue with Museum's Architecture and Monumental Outdoor Works***

Opening October 14, 2021



Jedd Novatt. *Kármán Line IV*, 2019. Woodblock monotype, ink on paper. Photo: Steven Russell Studios

(MIAMI, FL — September XX, 2021) — **Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM)** is pleased to announce ***Jedd Novatt: Monotypes and More***, an exhibition of new small-scale sculptures and two-dimensional works on paper by **Jedd Novatt**. On view **October 14, 2021–June 26, 2022**, the exhibition offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore the relationship between the artist's smaller sculptures and works on paper, his monumental outdoor works at PAMM, and the architecture of the museum first hand.

Novatt is known for his large-scale outdoor sculptures that are defined by their placement in the landscape. PAMM is home to two of these sculptures, *Chaos Bizkaia* (2012) and *Chaos SAS* (2013), which have become well-known fixtures in PAMM outdoor sculpture garden. Both works are centered around stacks of open bronze and stainless-steel cubes in dynamic, seemingly unstable towers measuring 18- and 14-feet-high, respectively.

Jedd Novatt: Monotypes and More represents the first time that Novatt's wall drawings and smaller sculptures take center stage. Displayed within a gallery with a window that looks down upon *Chaos SAS*, one of his large-scale outdoor sculptures at PAMM, this is an unparalleled opportunity to capture the breadth of Novatt's work in both two and three dimensions, creating a conversation between artworks in and outside the museum.

"With one sculpture positioned at our entrance doors on the north side and the other anchoring the north side of the campus within our Mary M. and Sash A. Spencer Garden, Novatt has been a crucial part of our campus since the building opened in 2013. This exploration of his well-known sculptures with works on paper and smaller sculptures is overdue, and we are delighted to be able to shed greater light on the artist and his work," said **PAMM Director Franklin Sirmans**.

"Novatt's work is about the way in which we interpret the present moment, and how we can do our part from keeping the chaos from becoming our future. The Huracán sculptures, through their title, reference natural and political chaos, which feels especially poignant here in South Florida," said **Maritza Lacayo, Exhibition Curator**.

Fascinated, as a child, by the spatial explorations in paint of modern masters like Mark Rothko and Willem de Kooning, Novatt embraces that modernist spirit in his own sculpture-based art. He is known for sculptures of seemingly incongruous cubes teetering on top of each other, seemingly about to collapse if not welded together. Comprised of cubes with exposed voids, Novatt's sculptures are as much about line and drawing in space as they are about occupying space with mass.

The idea of chaos is an important part of Novatt's work. Many of his sculptures have the characteristic appearance of an inevitable dilapidation or downfall. However, that chaotic moment never arrives as the sculptures, whether built from two or three cubes or many, are actually in harmony with gravity and supported by the artist's sound design. As Novatt says, "Politics is chaos. The present is important, and my work is speaking about what I experience today. How do you find grace in space, and experience, today? It's a catastrophe that we are in the situation we are in today. How do you work in steel—such a cold, hard material, and give it grace? Without false balance...these voids land perfectly. It's the moment before collapse. Not something that can be articulated. The world we are living in is the real chaos."

This exhibition emphasizes PAMM's commitment to continuing conversations with artists already in the museum's permanent collection, finding new ways for artists to engage with the public. Novatt's iconic outdoor sculptures welcome visitors into the museum, and now, visitors will be given the unique opportunity to see his wall drawings and smaller sculptures inside the museum, a different facet of his artistic practice.

This show will be accompanied by a softcover catalogue to be released at the opening of the exhibition.

Jedd Novatt: Monotypes and More is organized by Franklin Sirmans, Director, with Maritza Lacayo, Curatorial Assistant and Publications Coordinator. Lead individual support from an anonymous donor, and additional support from Burgess Modern + Contemporary, is gratefully acknowledged.

ABOUT JEDD NOVATT

After graduating from Sarah Lawrence College in 1980, Novatt spent the year studying and working in France at the Lacoste School of the Arts, now part of Savannah College of Art and Design. In 1981, Novatt returned to New York City where he had his first studio on Warren Street in Tribeca. He had his first solo show in New York City in 1993. In 2002, Novatt moved to Paris, France, where he currently

resides with his family. He divides his time among studios in Paris, the Luberon, and the Basque region in Spain.

ABOUT PAMM

Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), led by Director Franklin Sirmans, promotes artistic expression and the exchange of ideas, advancing public knowledge and appreciation of art, architecture, and design, and reflecting the diverse community of its pivotal geographic location at the crossroads of the Americas. The 37-year-old South Florida institution, formerly known as Miami Art Museum (MAM), opened a new building, designed by world-renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, on December 4, 2013 in Downtown Miami's Maurice A. Ferré Park. The facility is a state-of-the-art model for sustainable museum design and progressive programming and features 200,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor program space with flexible galleries; shaded outdoor verandas; a waterfront restaurant and bar; a museum shop; and an education center with a library, media lab, and classroom spaces.

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