

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Justine Hill

Bookends

February 15 – March 16, 2019

Opening Reception: Friday, February 15th, 6 - 8 pm

Free and open to the public

Returning for her first solo exhibition with David B. Smith Gallery, New York-based artist Justine Hill continues her dialog with abstracted landscapes.

Presented in the gallery's project room, *Bookends* tests the boundaries of the rectangular canvas, challenging what Hill views as the three classic component parts of paintings: figure, landscape, and background. Identified as independent from one another yet essential to the whole, the perimeter of each element is both distanced and linked by negative space. Eluding containment, occasionally spilling onto walls and across channels, Hill's energetic figures and marks defy the stability of the loose rectangles that strive to contain them.

Each piece in *Bookends* has three primary elements that pull together to prop up the whole as a sturdy, self-sufficient work. The literary concepts of beginning, middle, and end are likened to the figure, landscape, and background, with each fulfilling a singular assigned role. Boundary is playfully stretched and distorted with bursts of colors and movement in Hill's enigmatic trio of works, blurring the elemental structures of painting and marking the next chapter in her investigation of landscape.



Image: Justine Hill, *Bookend 12 (Lee)*, 2019, acrylic and crayon on canvas, 47 x 38.5 in. (119.38 x 97.79 cm)

About Justine Hill

Justine Hill lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. She received her MFA from the University of Pennsylvania and her BA from the College of the Holy Cross. Hill's most recent exhibitions include *Freestanding* at Denny Gallery (2018), *Movers and Shapers* with Ali Silverstein at Victori + Mo in Brooklyn (2018) and a two-person at David B. Smith Gallery in Denver (2018), and has been in critically reviewed group shows such as *Metamodern* at Denny Gallery and *Immediate Female* at Judith Charles Gallery (New York). Her work has been reviewed or featured in *Art in America*, *Hyperallergic*, *New York Magazine*, *The Observer*, *The Huffington Post*, *Artsy*, *Artspace*, *Arte Fuse*, *Two Coats of Paint*, and *On Verge*

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as *Art in America* and *ARTnews*, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works" and *The Denver Post* declared that it is the "premiere commercial space" in Denver. The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.

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