

## **Thomas Linder**

### *Primary Grid*

January 28 – March 4, 2017

Ibid Gallery is pleased to present *Primary Grid*, a solo show of work by American artist **Thomas Linder**. This is the artist's first solo show in Los Angeles and with the gallery.

Thomas Linder's artistic process as a sculptor utilizes wood and fiberglass to create paintings and modular sculptures that interact with their environment's light sources to activate, reflect, and project planes of color. For Linder, this approach is parallel to painting in his sculptural construction and application of medium and pigment. Wood frames are built, fabric is stretched, and pigmented resin is painted, sprayed, or poured. The treatment of Linder's works is unfinished, rough, and textured, and provides a loose painterly surface on an otherwise minimal format. The sculptural dimensionality of the frames provides space behind and between the translucent planes of color that allow light to pass through, projecting and mixing new colors within and surrounding the work. In *Primary Grid*, Linder's sculpture also functions as a wall and invites visitors to walk around the work and explore its sculptural elements and light reflections from all angles.

This body of work explores the landscapes of Linder's past in the Midwest and the materials and colors of Southern California. Although heavily influenced by the light-based and finish fetish movement which blossomed in Los Angeles in the 1960s, Linder's work also has a strong foundation in his personal history. Linder grew up actively involved in the family's greenhouse business and his process maintains a strong correlation to the DIY ethos and the architecture of Midwestern farming operations. These principles bring a level of practicality, ease of construction, and a strong sense of experimentation that plays out in new formats, textures, and applications. For Linder, there is a cyclical way of working that stems from the free association between his family history, past experiences, and continuing practice. Crops of bright flowers inspire color within variations of grid compositions while the stained glass windows and modernist architecture found in the church his family attended finds itself in the translucency of his material and the reflections they create.

Thomas Linder was born in Saint Paul, Minnesota in 1986. He lives and works in Los Angeles, California and is the co-founder of BBQLA, a community oriented artist-run space in Los Angeles.

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