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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Confluence/Influence: Mingei In Contemporary Abstraction* curated by Bridget Donlon  
opens September 18, 2016 at DORSKY GALLERY | Curatorial Programs**

DORSKY GALLERY | Curatorial Programs is pleased to announce the continuation of its program of independently-curated exhibitions – ***Confluence/Influence: Mingei In Contemporary Abstraction*** curated by Bridget Donlon will open on Sunday, September 18, 2016 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. and remain on view through December 11, 2016. A color brochure with an essay by the curator has been published to accompany the exhibition.

For many artists, there has been a surge of interest in getting back to direct, unmediated experience and an affinity for objects that are individualized, handmade, and authentic. The practices of the artists in this exhibition -- **Regina Bogat, Martha Clippinger, John Crawford, Kathy Erteman, Christopher French, Sheila Hicks, Richard Kalina, Ruth Laskey, Douglas Melini, Melissa Meyer, Alyssa Pheobus Mumtaz, Odili Donald Odita, Don Porcaro, and Altoon Sultan** -- encompass painting, drawing, weaving, and sculpture including blacksmithing, marble carving, and ceramic pottery in the service of finding meaning through analog creation in a digital world. They focus on and derive pleasure from the craft of making work by hand.

*Mingei*, a Japanese folk craft movement founded by philosopher Sōetsu Yanagi, promoted a set of principles and approaches that the artists of the present exhibition explicitly or implicitly embody. Among those are a deep and evident pleasure in a hands-on relationship to materials and craftsmanship, a reductive approach to formal composition, and a lack of irony. *Mingei* (and the artists of *Confluence/Influence*) espouse a return to the tangible in the face of a world that seems to exist ever more in the ethereal, cyber realm.

**Bridget Donlon** is a Brooklyn-based, London-educated contemporary art professional with a decade of experience in curating and arts administration. She got her start at the Tang Museum, artist-run spaces in Williamsburg, and as an intern for the Guerrilla Girls. She has worked for Galerie Lelong, Tate Modern, the Fabric Workshop and Museum, and Dieu Donn . Curatorial projects have included site-specific commissions and group exhibitions. Bridget is the curator of *Pure Pulp: Contemporary Artists Working in Paper*, a 15 year retrospective of works from the organization's residency programs for the Wellin Museum at Hamilton College. The exhibition originated at Dieu Donn  earlier in 2016, traveled to the Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking at Georgia Tech in Summer, 2016, and will end at the Dedalus Foundation at Industry City, Sunset Park, Brooklyn coincident with the present exhibition, *Confluence/Influence*. The catalog for *Pure Pulp* features contributions by Richard Tuttle and Rachel Wolff and is distributed by DelMonico/Prestel. Bridget is currently an Assistant Manager at MTA Arts & Design in New York City.

DORSKY GALLERY | Curatorial Programs is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization that presents independently-curated exhibitions of contemporary art. Working with curators, writers, and art historians, DGCP aims to illuminate and deepen the public's understanding and appreciation of issues and trends in contemporary art. Gallery hours are Thursday through Monday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (closed Tuesday and Wednesday), and by appointment. For further information, please contact David Dorsky at (718) 937-6317, via email: david@dorsky.org or visit our website: [www.dorsky.org](http://www.dorsky.org).



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