

**TOM JUDD**

**The Myth of the Frontier**

WILLIAM HOLMAN GALLERY  
65 LUDLOW STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10002

TOM JUDD

The Myth of the Frontier

November 16 – December 19, 2015

William Holman Gallery

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday to Saturday, 10.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Tom Judd was born in Lawrenceville, New Jersey in 1952, but he was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. He now lives and works in Philadelphia.

The great-grandchild of the famous Mormon Church president (1918-45) Heber J. Grant, Judd is not an active church member, but remains deeply informed by the landscape of his youth in Utah and the West.

Judd attended the University of Utah from 1970 to 1972 when he departed on a six-month leave of absence to travel in Europe. He returned in 1973 to attend the Philadelphia College of Art where he studied with Rafael Ferrer, Bob Kulicke, and Larry Day, graduating with a BFA in painting in 1975.

His work is in the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Academy of Art and in numerous university and private collections.



*Dale Evans, 2015*  
Acrylic and collage on panel, 10 x 14 inches



*Mt. Rushmore, 2015*  
Oil on Canvas, 72 x 60 inches

### **This is the Place**

"I grew up in Salt Lake City, in the heart of what I'm calling the "Myth of the Frontier." Entangled with the Mormon religion, the settling of the Salt Lake Valley was considered nothing short of God's plan. Brigham Young was said to have uttered aloud, upon seeing the valley for the first time: "This is the place." This is in keeping with the very American notion of Manifest Destiny - the legislated belief that it was Anglo-Saxon Americans' providential mission to expand their civilization and institutions across the breadth of North America.

Mount Rushmore is the most ambitious and exaggerated expression of this vision."

- Tom Judd, 2015



*Marlboro Country*, 2015  
Acrylic and collage on panel, 14 x 8 inches



*Handshake*, 2015  
Acrylic and collage on panel, 12 x 15 inches



*Sitting Bull, 2015*  
Acrylic and collage on panel, 40 x 32  
inches



*Custer, 2015*  
Acrylic and collage on panel,  
40 x 32 inches

## The Invented Myth

David Hamilton Murdoch, a British historian, wrote a terrific book, *The American West: The Invention of a Myth* about the strange obsession Americans have always had with the conquest and settling of the western territories.

"If we understand this part of our history, we will better understand how our people see themselves and the hopes they have for America.

One could say the "Myth" lives on in the psyche of the American people to this day, manifested in everything from our politics, to our architecture, our attitudes towards the rest of the world, and our core values.

This exhibit also speaks to my love of the epic American landscape, which is the background of this invention of myth. I too love the "Myth" itself as long as it stays a myth and is not sold to us as the truth.

--Tom Judd, November 2015



*Mt. Shasta, 2015*  
Oil on canvas, 72 x 72 inches



*Little Cottonwood, 2015*  
Oil on canvas, 72 x 84 inches

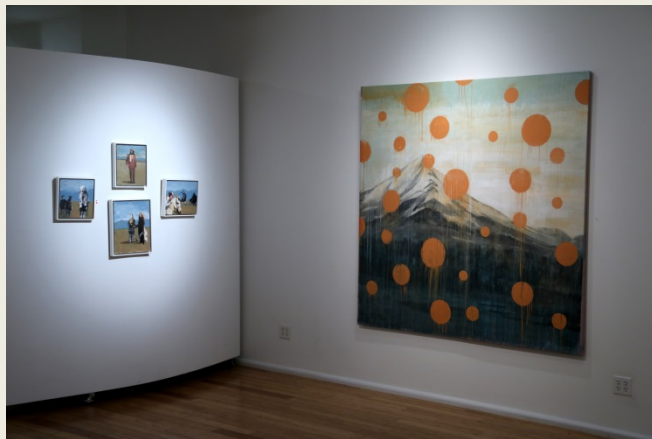


*Planetarium, 2015*  
Mixed media on paper, 30 x 22 inches



*Devil Chair, 2015,*  
Mixed media on paper, 32 x 20 inches

**Tom Judd: The Myth of the Frontier**  
Installation Views from William Holman Gallery, New York, NY  
Wednesday, November 18 – Saturday, December 19, 2015





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