

DOGON KAYAK:

New Works by Ward Schumaker

September 12th – October 17th, 2015



Jack Fischer Gallery is pleased to announce a new solo exhibition featuring work by Ward Schumaker.

Dogon Kayak highlights recent paintings in acrylic on canvas and paper, collages, and wood sculptures. The title of the show and several of the works in it reference Schumaker's travels to Mali in 2005. Seeing photographs of the villages of the Dogon people, mud structures built into the Bandiagara escarpment, had inspired Schumaker to make the trip. In one way or another, that trip in turn inspired his artmaking through subsequent years. Ritual Dogon altars gave form to Schumaker's series of stepped, painted sculptures, titled *Bandiagaras*.

Many of the recent paintings in *Dogon Kayak* are large in scale with designs resembling patchwork quilts, overlaid with various sizes of irregular dots, as in *Big Red* (below). What is obvious looking at Schumaker's paintings (as well as collages such as *Djenné 05*,

above) is his long, deliberate, but at the same time playful and experimental practice. Schumaker works constantly, and the fruits of this labor are clear. His art strikes a perfect chord between loose and tight, fast and slow, warm and cool.

Ward Schumaker has exhibited widely in the Bay Area, as well as in New York, Los Angeles, Nashville and Shanghai. In 2013, *Years of Pretty*, a retrospective at Jack Fischer Gallery received Baker's Top Ten year.

Dogon Kayak opens through October 17th. An opening reception for the artist will be held on September 12th from 3:00 to 5:00 with an artist's



talk at 4:30.

on September 12th and runs through October 17th. An opening reception for the artist will be held on September 12th from 3:00 to 5:00 with an artist's talk at 4:30.

Images: *Djenné 05* (2014-5).

Mixed media on cardboard. 10" x 6"

Big Red (2015). Acrylic on canvas. 78" x 66"