



Kelly-McKenna Gallery  
1308 Third Avenue, Spring Lake, NJ  
201-208-5039  
kellymckennagallery.com



#### Press Release

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Victor Matthews: Mantra

Dates: March 13 – April 13, 2025

Kelly-McKenna Gallery, 1308 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Spring Lake, NJ 07762

(Presented in partnership with Space Gallery St Barth)

Kelly-McKenna Gallery is proud to announce *Victor Matthews: Mantra*, a solo exhibition of works by American painter and sculptor Victor Matthews. Opening on March 13 and running through April 13, the exhibition is presented in partnership with Space Gallery St Barth and showcases Matthews' unique approach to abstraction and memory through his deeply meditative artistic process.

At the heart of the exhibition is Matthews' own philosophy: *"My paintings start with charcoal drawings, applied directly on each linen canvas as one continuous stream of consciousness, never lifting the charcoal off the canvas until each thought is complete."* This quote forms the foundation of the exhibition, inviting viewers into an intimate dialogue between artistic spontaneity and deliberate craftsmanship.



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*Mantra* draws parallels with artists like Hilma af Klint, whose practice of automatic writing sought to channel subconscious and spiritual connections through visual expression. Matthews' work similarly embraces the flow of intuition, capturing fleeting yet profound moments in time and space. His compositions, often inspired by the urban and natural landscapes of his native New York City, evoke a sense of rhythm and introspection, resonating with themes of memory, identity, and transformation.

The exhibition also ties into the broader themes explored in Kelly-McKenna Gallery's recent programming. Much like the gallery's celebrated *Endless Summer* exhibition, *Mantra* invites viewers to slow down and engage deeply with the overlooked beauty of our world. Matthews' intricate interplay of form and material reflects the transient yet profound experiences of everyday life, encouraging a renewed appreciation for the delicate balance of permanence and impermanence.

As part of the exhibition, Kelly-McKenna Gallery will host a series of special events, including an artist talk with Victor Matthews and a collaborative live drawing session inspired by the principles of stream-of-consciousness art.

#### Exhibition Details

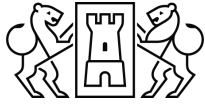
- Dates: March 13 – April 13, 2025
- Venue: Kelly-McKenna Gallery, 1308 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Spring Lake, NJ 07762
- Gallery Hours: Thursday–Sunday, 11 AM to 5 PM
- Artist Talk: Thursday, March 27 @ 6-7:30 PM
- Special Event: *Automatic Writing in Art History: From Surrealism to Contemporary Practices*; Thursday, April 10 @ 6-7:30 PM

For more information, visit [www.kellymckennagallery.com](http://www.kellymckennagallery.com) or contact Caitlin Kelly-McKenna at [info@kellymckennagallery.com](mailto:info@kellymckennagallery.com) or (201) 208-5039.

#### About Kelly-McKenna Gallery

Kelly-McKenna Gallery LLC is a contemporary art gallery providing art consulting and advisory services for collectors of modern and contemporary art. Located in the picturesque town of Spring Lake, NJ, just a short distance from New York City, the gallery serves as a vibrant cultural hub, offering a carefully curated selection of contemporary art that challenges conventions and inspires dialogue. Known for its emphasis on diverse mediums and perspectives, Kelly-McKenna Gallery features thought-provoking pieces that range from cutting-edge modern installations to timeless, evocative works. The gallery's mission is to bridge the gap between artist and audience, fostering a deeper appreciation for art's power to transform and connect.

#### About Space Gallery St Barth



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Established in 2011, Space Gallery St Barth is a contemporary art gallery dedicated to showcasing painting, photography, and sculpture by established and emerging artists. Since its inception, Space Gallery St Barth has built up an impressive roster of artists, curated international exhibitions, and participated in major art fairs including the Venice Biennale. As of today, the gallery has locations in St Barth and New York City and regularly exhibits internationally. Space Gallery's team has combined experience of over 40 years liaising with leading international artists and working with clients at the highest level. The gallery provides a professional and personalized service to collecting and curating. The gallery is defined by an unwavering commitment to the world of fine arts, working closely to meet your needs to deliver beautifully curated spaces and fulfill your goals by building meaningful collections.