

# Rodrigo Cass

## A JOYNER/GIUFFRIDA VISITING ARTIST PROGRAM

Rodrigo Cass (b. 1983) is an interdisciplinary artist whose practice is rooted in Brazilian Neo-Concrete art, a movement that began in 1959 to emphasize a greater sense of rhythm, poetry, and sensuality within the context of geometric abstraction. Working with his novel medium of concrete and blended pure pigment, he applies this mixture to linen in a painterly exploration of line, color, shape, and perception. From 2000 to 2008, the artist was a Carmelite monk in southeastern Brazil, a formative period that continues to shape his artistic approach. His early works involved video and the documentation of repetitive gestures with everyday objects, echoing the contemplative rhythm of monastic rituals and inviting viewers into spaces of stillness, reflection, and meditative inquiry. This new, site-specific installation, *Mystic Revolution*, features separate elements—three paintings, a carpet design, and a video—that all come together and resonate with the geometric forms already present in the gallery. Here he merges color, texture, light, and space to create a multisensory experience. The three paintings feature pure geometric shapes: a red circle, a green square, and a blue triangle, each one with tilted, irregular edges that heighten the relationship to the wall. The angular compositions also appear in the related video, projected onto a suspended, geometric object. Cass selected hot pink as a distinguishing element to honor the philanthropist Pamela Joyner, who often wears the vibrant hue. Altogether the works open a space to reflect on the poetic dimensions of space, where painting, video, and architecture converge to draw attention to how we inhabit and experience aesthetic environments, on both interior and exterior levels. This presentation marks Cass's first, solo museum exhibition in the United States.

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