

## N.Dash To Open New Exhibition, *and Water*, At SITE SANTA FE

A solo exhibition of works featuring the artist's internationally known, ecologically driven compositions

Opening Celebration: Friday, October 6, 2023, 5:00 - 9:00 PM



(Santa Fe, NM, August 23, 2023) – SITE SANTA FE presents *and Water*, a solo exhibition of recent works by N. Dash featuring the spare, ecologically driven paintings for which the artist has become internationally known.

The new paintings in the exhibition highlight some of the artist's most significant aesthetic and conceptual approaches: harnessing the interaction of earth and water to create vertical topographical fields of desiccated soil; layering commercial printing technology onto the paintings' prepared grounds; and arranging readymade found objects and industrial detritus—water bottles, agricultural netting, architectural insulation—alongside natural materials. Dash's "fabric sculptures," diminutive forms created when the artist rubs pieces of cloth to the point of disintegration, also appear in these works as silkscreened images. These idiosyncratic, somatic sculptures are potent emblems of entropy, complexity, and change.

Dash's work draws from a deep connection to the land and an awareness of environmental and material transformations. Often beginning with troweled base layers of excavated earth, the artist then aggregates numerous materials and processes on these grounds to create complex visual terrains. Works on view in *and Water* feature expanses of graphite burnished to radiance; strata of earth cut through by lengths of string; and layers of silkscreen ink that reproduce color fields of rosettes—a visual artifact resembling floral blooms formed during the mechanical halftone printing process—as well as images of Dash's fabric sculptures enlarged to monumental proportions.

Though Dash's work is conversant with lineages such as post-Minimalism, Land Art, and Arte Povera, the center of Dash's work lies not in mining historical precedents but rather in a steadfast commitment to exploring subtle energy systems and unseen elemental processes. Animated by the underlying tension between the industrially produced and the handmade, Dash's practice harnesses the unpredictability of natural materials and transmutes their potent energies.

SITE SANTA FE Phillips Executive Director Louis Grachos notes, "I admire how N. Dash's work complicates the space between painting and sculpture, drawing the viewer into its ideation. Dash continues to challenge and build upon the legacy of abstraction, expanding its material language in unexpected ways. We are honored to present the artist's first exhibition in New Mexico."

*and Water* is on view from October 6, 2023 - February 5, 2024.

Accompanying programs will be updated at [sitesantafe.org](http://sitesantafe.org)

#### About the Artist

N. Dash (b. 1980, Miami, Florida) lives and works in New York. Dash received an MFA from Columbia University, New York, in 2010 and a BA from New York University, New York, in 2003. Dash has presented solo exhibitions at the Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst (S.M.A.K.), Ghent, Belgium (2022); Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (2019); the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield (2019); Fondazione Giuliani, Rome, Italy (2017); Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2014); and White Flag Projects, St. Louis (2013). The artist's work has been presented in institutional group exhibitions at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2021, 2018, 2013); Dallas Museum of Art (2018); the Flag Art Foundation, New York (2018); Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany (2018); Les Brasseurs Art Contemporain, Liège, Belgium (2018); Birmingham Museum of Art (2017); Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (2016, 2014); Jewish Museum, New York (2015); Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy (2015); MAXXI Museum, Rome, Italy (2014); and others. Dash's work is included in the collections of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Dallas Museum of Art; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Blanton Museum of Art, Austin; Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst (S.M.A.K.), Ghent, Belgium; Frac des Pays de la Loire, Carquefou, France; Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany; among others.

### About SITE SANTA FE

Guided by artists, rooted in New Mexico, SITE SANTA FE celebrates contemporary creative expression. SITE SANTA FE aspires to be an internationally recognized destination for art and artists, and a community resource for creativity and learning.

Founded in 1995 to establish the first international contemporary art biennial in the United States, SITE SANTA FE is a non-collecting art institution committed to supporting new developments in contemporary art, encouraging artistic exploration, and expanding traditional museum experiences. Since its launch, SITE SANTA FE has presented 11 international biennials, more than 100 contemporary art exhibitions, and works by hundreds of emerging and established artists from around the world, and in New Mexico.

SITE SANTA FE presents a wide range of public and educational programs that include conversations with artists and curators, performances, film screenings, concerts, hands-on workshops, and collaborations with dozens of local schools and community organizations.

### Image Credit

N. Dash, *Untitled (detail)*, 2023, earth, acrylic, rock, silkscreen ink, jute, 64x59", photo by Jason Wyche

VISUALS AVAILABLE

FURTHER INFORMATION ON SITE SANTA FE CAN BE FOUND AT [SITESANTAFE.ORG](https://www.sitesantafe.org)

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Media Contact: Carolina Franco  
Manager of External Affairs, SITE SANTA FE  
T: +1 (505) 989-1199 x 12 | E: franco@sitesantafe.org