

DON PARR, TX

Individual Exhibitions

2013 The Dallas Petroleum Club, Dallas, TX

2012 Frontiers of Flight Museum, Dallas TX

Group Exhibitions

2017 Mary Tomás Gallery, Dallas, TX

2015-17 LivAspen Gallery, Aspen, CO

2014-15 Modartist Gallery, Dallas TX

2013 Ilume Gallerie, Dallas TX

Press

ModernDallas.net 2012 review by Todd Camplin

Absoluteart.com 2012 article by Lisa Taylor

Organizations

The American Society of Aviation Artists

American Institute of Graphic Arts

Experimental Aircraft Association

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

Education

American University, Washington DC, BA

American University, Washington DC, MBA

Artist Statement

Don Parr is investigating the machine age materials while referencing and innovating upon the post-war artists. The current body of work consists of airplane parts converted into free standing sculptures and new material relief sculptures. The sculptures on the wall act as paintings and reflect the hard-edge painting style. His time living in the upper east side of New York City gave Parr access to art from the Whitney, Guggenheim, Metropolitan, and MOMA. Life in the city was Parr's visual education which he employs in his studio practice.

A memorial show of Lorser Feitelson's work at the Whitney sparked Parr's creative direction toward hard edge painting. Parr is also rooted in the Color Field painters of the New York School. Artists like Rothko, Still, and Newman inform his work. These artists understood that expansive spaces of color have a powerful energy. Because of the metal material, his objects are reminiscent of Frank Stella's minimalist period. His graphic iconography relates more to Jasper Johns.

The free standing sculptures are deconstructed parts of aircraft that are repurposed, creating an aesthetic object for its own sake. The wall panels use methods and materials used in aircraft construction to achieve the clean and sharp line quality. The material investigation leads to formal qualities of line, shape, and form. This expression of the formal elements with the recognizable connection to the materials leads to an emotional connection with the spirit of adventure, strength, and elegance of design.