

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dave Muller

Sunset, Sunrise (repeat) b/w The Record Pavilion

Blum & Poe, Los Angeles

July 9–August 13, 2022

Opening Reception: Saturday, July 9, 5–7pm

Saturday, July 30, 10am–6pm:

Record Pavilion Day: The record pavilion open for sales, with in-store live sets and chats. Stay tuned for details.

“Steve Reich: Since that time, things have changed. And there are no more record stores.

Russell Hartenberger: In other parts of the world, there still are record stores...”

—Excerpt from Steve Reich’s *Conversations* (New York: Hanover Square Press, 2022)

Los Angeles, CA, June 23, 2022—Blum & Poe is pleased to present *Sunset, Sunrise (repeat) b/w The Record Pavilion*, Los Angeles-based artist Dave Muller’s eleventh solo exhibition with the gallery.

With *Sunset, Sunrise (repeat) b/w The Record Pavilion*, Muller looks back on his life of growing up in record stores. In a tribute to the slow and physical act of touching, browsing, and looking at records, this exhibition presents the artist’s treasured pastime, one that is becoming extinct as music consumption is increasingly intangible. The presentation unfolds in three parts: hand-painted wall murals, new paintings of records and record store paraphernalia, and an open-air, modernist pavilion for rehousing records.

Muller’s newest paintings draw from a reservoir of reference materials that the artist has amassed, including his scrupulous archive of price tags and hype stickers—a personal collection of roughly 1,500 unique decals from albums purchased. Depicting these at larger-than-life scale and layering them atop one another to fill the composition, Muller tapes off, gessoes, and paints each section of the work’s surface in thin, accumulating layers, in a nod to the analog and hand-done systems of music distribution.

Muller also presents works that further his quintessential record paintings. Inspiring the exhibition’s title, Anita Ward’s *Ring My Bell* and Amii Stewart’s *Knock on Wood*, two disco-era classics, both have sunsets (or perhaps, sunrises) pictured on their labels. Muller has adoringly rendered both labels, every detail and bit of wear and tear, in his paintings—turning the gallery into a durational space, with a sunrise at the east end and a sunset in the west. With these artworks as bookends, this installation functions as a three-dimensional, twenty-four-hour clock face.

At the center of the clock that makes up *Sunset, Sunrise (repeat) b/w The Record Pavilion* is the record pavilion: an open structure filled with a cornucopia of records from his personal collection that spans eras,

countries, categories, and genres—like a diary that traces a life lived in music. The artist sees the records in this space as components of the ongoing self-portrait that is his greater collection: a self-portrait that is also an invitation to peruse. Of the records that he is willing to part with, he says, “they already had their journey with me.” Muller will be personally selling records, manning the register, and hosting in-store sets and chats in the pavilion on Saturday, July 30 from 10am to 6pm.

Dave Muller lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. His work has been the subject of numerous exhibitions in the United States and abroad, including solo shows at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA; Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León, Spain; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; and Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MI. His work is represented in the public collections of the Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, among others.

About Blum & Poe

Blum & Poe was founded by Tim Blum and Jeff Poe in Santa Monica in September of 1994 as a space to show local and international contemporary art in all media. Blum’s extensive experience in the Japanese art world combined with Poe’s keen knowledge of emerging artists in Los Angeles resulted in an international program of influential artists. Throughout a twenty-seven-year history, Blum & Poe has shaped the trajectory of contemporary art by championing artists at all stages of their careers—cultivating the lineages that run between emerging and established practices and working with artist estates to generate new discourse surrounding historical work. Currently, Blum & Poe represents fifty artists and nine estates from sixteen countries worldwide.

In 2003 the gallery moved to a larger space in Culver City, and in 2009 Blum & Poe purchased and renovated its current 22,000-square-foot complex on La Cienega Boulevard. In this location the gallery has since staged museum-caliber surveys, examining the historical work of such movements as the Japanese Mono-ha school (2012); the Korean Dansaekhwa monochrome painters (2014); the European postwar movement CoBrA (2015); Japanese art of 1980s and '90s (2019); a rereading of Brazilian Modernism (2019); and a revisionist take on the 1959 MoMA exhibition, *New Images of Man* (2020). To produce these exhibitions, Blum & Poe has worked with celebrated curators such as Alison M. Gingeras, Sofia Gotti, Joan Kee, and Mika Yoshitake.

In 2014, Blum & Poe opened galleries in New York and Tokyo to focus on intimately scaled projects in new contexts. These expansions tie into the gallery’s wide-reaching program that includes exhibitions, lectures, performance series, screenings, and an annual art book fair at its base in Los Angeles. Blum & Poe’s publishing division democratically circulates its program through original scholarship and accessible media ranging from academic monographs, audio series, magazines, to artists’ books. In 2020, the gallery launched

BLUM & POE

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Blum & Poe Broadcasts, an online platform showcasing artists' projects in conjunction with physical installations or as standalone digital endeavors.

Across the three global locations, Blum & Poe prioritizes environmental and community stewardship in all operations. In 2015, Blum & Poe was certified as an Arts:Earth Partnership (AEP) green art gallery in Los Angeles and consequently became one of the first green certified galleries in the United States. The gallery is also a member of the Gallery Climate Coalition, which works to facilitate a more sustainable commercial art world and reduce the industry's collective carbon footprint. Blum & Poe is committed to fostering inclusive and equitable communities both in their physical and online spaces and believes that everybody should have equal access to creating and engaging with contemporary art.

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