GEORGE DOMBEK
*Recent Paintings*

3 October – 4 November 2017
Opening and Book Signing: 6 October, 6-8pm

David Lusk Gallery is pleased to present their first solo exhibition of the work of George Dombek this fall at the Gallery in Memphis. This show, *Recent Paintings*, contains nearly twenty of Dombek’s expertly rendered water-media works of barns, farm equipment, and his Ozark portraits. A large new monograph *Barns & Portrait Paintings*, published by the University of Arkansas Press, accompanies the exhibition.

An architect and an artist, Dombek creates elegant minimalist compositions of barn exteriors and interiors, and close-ups of farm implements that are often reoriented into figurative gatherings. The beams inside his barns, varying in weight and size, crisscross through the spaces, capture and play with light and shadow. Dombek studies the barns, disassembling and reassembling them through his painting process. As in his Ozark portraits depicting machinery parts, he creates wholly unique structures, blurring the lines between reality and invention.

Throughout this body of work, Dombek employs his sense of humor with the mechanical skills of an architect: discarded farm equipment waits eagerly behind the structure, trucks begin to emerge from the bays and wood and metal sneak away from their nails. A whimsical feeling resides in each piece, coming to life through the warped boards and bent metal. Dated farm equipment and other objects become elevated to characters playfully engaging with each other on fence posts.

“Place and landscape create the patterns that inform his narratives of agrarian architecture and objects. Dombek’s paintings are filled with dualities: compositions both simple and complex, spaces both empty and full, and shadows both figural and residual. The pattern and filigree of the shadow on the varying surfaces captures the light and freezes it in a particular moment in time.”

George Dombek received a Bachelor’s degree in Architecture and a Masters of Fine Arts in Painting at the University of Arkansas. He went on to teach architecture and art at universities in Arkansas, Ohio, Florida, Saudi Arabia and Italy. Over a 40-year career he has generated a body of work included in over 800 museum, corporate and private collections. He lives and works outside of Fayetteville, AR.

David Lusk Gallery is located at 97 Tillman. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday 10-5:30 and Saturday 11-4. For more information or visuals please contact Lees Romano at 901 767 3800 or lees@davidluskgallery.com.