



Denver + Marfa rulegallery.com  
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### **For Immediate Release**

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**(Denver, CO)** RULE Gallery is pleased to present *Charles Ross: Prisms*, a solo exhibition of early works by renowned artist, Charles Ross. Formerly exhibited at our Marfa, TX gallery in 2019, these pieces are now on view at our Denver, CO location. The show opens on Saturday, August 22, and is on view through September 12, 2020. Gallery hours will be modified to 4:30-7:30 pm, Tues – Sat for the duration of the exhibition to reflect the prime periods during which the work is most active in the environment.

Throughout his fifty-five plus year artistic career, Charles Ross's practice has focused on the nexus of light and color as we experience it through time and space. Coming to sculpture as a revelation during his undergraduate studies in Mathematics at UC Berkeley, Ross had a breakthrough transformation as an artist in 1965 marked by early investigations combining geometric form and light as the medium. This experimentation resulted in the development of a series of *Prisms* in which minimal material objects act as vessels to distort and refract both light and perception, creating an experience with the sculpture and the space in which it is viewed over time. This kaleidoscopic and fragmented effect is visible both while looking into the sculptures as well as when viewing the result of light passing through them, generating a dizzying phenomenological sensation of works that are very much alive in the environment in which they occupy.

The results of Ross's early series were first exhibited at prestigious spaces such as Dilexi Gallery in San Francisco, 1966, and later in 1968 at Virginia Dwan Gallery in New York, and, more recently in the exhibition 'Los Angeles to New York: Dwan Gallery, 1959–1971' presented at both the National Gallery in Washington D.C, as well as LACMA in Los Angeles.

Along with other projects, the *Prisms* were instrumental to Ross's early consideration of the sun and other stars as an artistic vehicle in his sculpture, as he later moved to the *Solar Burns* and ultimately working with the whole of celestial space and the earth as a medium culminating in his life's major monumental land art work in Northern New Mexico, *Star Axis*, 1971-present.

**Charles Ross** (b. 1937) graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1960 and went on to complete an M.A. in Sculpture in 1962. Ross has dedicated his life and career to making art that responds conceptually to the effects of light, time, mathematical structures, and the formal and visual potential of phenomena. Ross is a 2011 Guggenheim Fellow and recipient of a 1999 Andy Warhol Foundation Grant. His works reside in the permanent collections of numerous institutions internationally including the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY. In addition, Ross has completed permanent site-specific works at both the Dwan Light Sanctuary in Las Vegas, NM as well as at the MONA Museum in Tasmania, Australia. Most recently Ross' work has shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid; Ludwig Museum Koblenz, Germany; Palazzo Fortuny, Venice, Italy; and the National Gallery in Washington D.C, in addition to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, as part of the *Los Angeles to New York: The Dwan Gallery, 1959 - 1971* exhibition. Nancy Haas recently wrote about his major life's work, *Star Axis*, for New York Times, T-Magazine

**RULE Gallery**, founded in 1991, has locations in Denver, CO and Marfa, TX. RULE represents emerging and mid-career contemporary artists and artist estates, with a focus on fostering investigative art practices while developing artists' long-term careers. Outside their robust in-house exhibition schedule, RULE coordinates programming in prominent institutions and non-traditional settings,



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expanding community engagement with the work. In addition, the gallery actively endeavors to bring greater recognition of the region's historic art movements to a broader audience. For more information, visit [www.rulegallery.com](http://www.rulegallery.com).