James Kelly Contemporary is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of new work by Stuart Arends titled “Miles & Miles. ” This will be his fifth solo show with the gallery.

Arends’ newest body of work uses found objects as supports for a nuanced abstract language of wax and oil painting developed over thirty years. The work still deals with traditional painting issues of color, light, scale, illusionistic versus real space, painting as object, etc., while adding additional formal and cultural complexity.

Arends' first objects from 1980 were found cardboard boxes, which he painted and installed on a wall. In the ensuing years he occasionally used found materials such as sake boxes from Japan and "Borden’s" milk cartons, along with machined aluminum and fabricated wood supports.
Arends had a solo exhibition, “Kid Blocks, Boxes, and Boats,” of these recent works at Studio la Città in Verona, Italy in October 2014 and was included, along with Franz Kline, Joseph Kosuth, Richard Nonas, Lawrence Carroll, and Lies Kraal, in the exhibition "Omaggio a Giuseppe Panza di Biumo, La Passione della Collezione" at the Accademia Nazionale di San Luca in Rome in December 2014. Arends' works are included in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, The Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, Lannan Foundation and New Mexico Museum of Art in Santa Fe, the Museo d'Arte in Lugano, the Collezione Panza in Varese, and the Museo d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea in Trento, among others. Arends graduated in 1981 from the MFA program at the Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles.

The artist will be in attendance at the exhibition opening at James Kelly Contemporary, on Friday, May 29, from 5-7 PM. Please join us also to welcome Jim Kelly back to the gallery after his recent absence.

LEFT: Stuart Arends, Red Truck Wit Black, 2015, oil, wax, steel, 6-3/4 x 2-1/4 x 2 inches
RIGHT: Stuart Arends, Long Boat, 2014, oil & wax on found wood, 30 x 8-1/2 x 4 inches