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by Dion Tan

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SINGAPORE — For his debut solo show in Singapore, Ricardo Mazal brings a series of new paintings inspired by his journey to Tibet's holiest summit, Mount Kailash.

"Kailash: Black Mountain" is Mazal's third-installment in his trilogy that examines sacred burial rituals. During his venture to the mountain, he performed the kora, one of Tibetan Buddhism's most sacred rituals, where he trekked 53 kilometers around the peak. Mazal began the series in 2004, when he traveled to the Mayan tomb of the Red Queen in Palenque, Mexico, and continued to the Peace Forest cemetery in Odenwald, Germany.

The new paintings began with photographs Mazal shot during his trip to Kailash. He then formed a digital sketch on the computer and transferred the image to linen, where he layered oil paint and swept the surface, using foam-rubber blades to reveal passages of color.

Blouin ART INFO met with Mazal during his installation process and he shared the inspiration for his multidisciplinary works and discussed his journey into Tibet.

The exhibition is on view through May 15 at Sundaram Tagore Gallery Singapore, 5 Lock Road #01-05, Gillman Barracks, Singapore.