

press release

We are delighted to invite you to the solo show **CLEAR LIGHT DAY – SOFT DARK NIGHT** presenting new works by **ERIC CRUIKSHANK** (Edinburgh).

– Many thanks to the British Council and the , Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust for supporting the exhibition.

## **CLEAR LIGHT DAY – SOFT DARK NIGHT**

Eric Cruikshank (Edinburgh)



September 7 – October 26, 2017

**Opening:** Thursday, September 7, 2017, from 7pm  
In presence of the artist

**Reading:** Saturday, September 16, 2017, 8pm  
*Kaputt in Hollywood* a reading with music and text by Charles Bukowski, arranged by Engelbert Decker (reading) and Victor Moser (E-Piano)

**Concert:** Saturday, October 7, 2017, 7pm  
*Music for woodwinds and computer interface* by Joachim Zoepf (Sopransaxophon, Bass Clarinet and Max/Msp Interface)

**Finissage:** Thursday, October 26, from 7pm

**Opening hours:** Thursday + Friday 3:00 – 6:30 pm | Saturday 1:00 – 5:00 pm  
as well as by appointment

**ERIC CRUIKSHANK** (Edinburgh) will present new works from 2017 in his solo show **CLEAR LIGHT DAY – SOFT DARK NIGHT** at **DAS ESSZIMMER**. The starting point for these works is the landscape, not as a literal representation, but instead focusing on the emotive qualities of place. Using an objective palette tied to his family's home in the Scottish highlands, colour acts as a vehicle to reveal the picture planes underlying points of reference; with the structure, design, and colour harmony being grounded in the everyday, the viewer is encouraged to readdress notions of their surroundings, where the familiar is opened up and made full of possibility.

Daniel F. Herrmann, Eisler Curator & Head of Curatorial Studies at Whitechapel Gallery, London (UK) describes Eric Cruikshank's work approach as "...*analysing the qualities of colour and light. Instead of imitating landscapes, it explores notions of painterly space. And instead of illustrating stories, it investigates the process of painting itself.*" and "*With its focus on the chromatic qualities and the process of painting, Eric Cruikshank's work stands in a long art historical tradition.*"

"*I always come back to the base construct elements. Shape, colour, and surface build the foundational support and elevate the works concepts, allowing the viewer to uncover layers of potential meaning as each element is considered. In the absence of imagery or narrative, the panels are left open to interpretation, as an almost blank plane to reflect the viewers own emotions and ideas.*" (Eric Cruikshank, Artist Statement)

**CRUIKSHANK** applies the paint in thinly layered colour bands. By utilizing a subtraction technique, the surface is worked until a balance is reached. The delicate forms that remain give the effect of a monochromatic finish when

first viewed. Through the resulting veil of paint, shimmering traces of tone flicker on the edge of focus, where the surface holds the gentlest luminosity and modulating volume. The works are completed with a meticulous level of control, creating a plane that bears no brush marks, removing evidence of the hand of the artist and any imprint of technique. With this removal, the colour field comes under closer scrutiny - on approaching the work, colour pulses in constantly shifting patterns, on withdrawing, these patterns blend, bleed and fuse into a vibrant continuous field, inviting a highly tuned visual attentiveness.

\*1975 born in Inverness (UK), lives and works in Edinburgh (UK)

*Education*

1993 – 1997 BA (Hons) Painting and Drawing, Edinburgh College of Art

*Awards, Prizes and Residencies*

2016 Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust Award.  
2014 Edinburgh Council Visual Artist Award  
2013 Hope Scott Trust (joint award with Michael Craik)  
2012 Mustarinda Residency, Finland (FI)  
2010 Santa Fe Art Institute Residency (USA)  
2009 Pollock-Krasner Award.  
Hi-Arts Exhibition Grant  
2008 Hope Scott Trust  
Edinburgh Visual Arts & Crafts Artists Award  
1999 art.tm Young Artists Prize

*Selected Solo and Joint Exhibitions*

2017 *Clear Light Day – Soft Dark Night*, DAS ESSZIMMER, Bonn (GER)  
*The Relative Medium* (with Michael Craik), Galleri Konstspidemin, Gothenburg (Sweden)  
*Trace, Press, Bleed, Blend* (with Laura Campbell), Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
2016 *Continuum* (with Ian Kane), RAUMX, London (UK)  
*Repetition Takes Form*, AIS Gallery, Shibukawa (J)  
2015 *Ways of Seeing* (with Michael Craik), Howden Park Centre, Livingston (UK)  
*Plus | Minus | Repeat*, Sleeper Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
2013 *Malerei* (with Michael Craik), Galerie Albrecht, Berlin (GER)  
*Colour as Subject*, Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
2012 *The Solo Project – Basel* with Galerie Albrecht (GER)  
2010 *When I Was Small I Didn't Work Big*, Galerie Albrecht, Berlin (GER)  
Dalcross Project Space (with Ian Kane), Dalcross, Inverness shire (UK)  
*The Colour of Home*, Gebert Contemporary, Santa Fe (USA)  
*Moments of Absence*, Limousine Bull, Aberdeen (UK)  
*En Forme* (with Cecilia Vissers), ParisCONCRET, Paris (F)  
2009 *Colour | Light | Space*, Highland Institute for Contemporary Art, Inverness-shire (UK)  
2006 Pembroke Mews, London (UK)  
2005 *Beauty and Order* (with Bernadette Dooley), Marie Currie House, Edinburgh (UK)  
2004 *Proximity* (with Bernadette Dooley), Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
2003 *Paintings for Green Walls*, Marie Currie House, Edinburgh (UK)  
2001 *Five*, Deutsche Bank, Edinburgh (UK)  
2000 *Colourfields*, Iona Gallery, Kingussie

*Selected Group Exhibitions*

2017 *Faultlines*, EIF exhibition curated by The Drawing Works, Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
*Extended Process*, Saturation Point Projects, London (UK)  
2016 *DAS ESSZIMMER goes Weltraum*, Weltraum, Basel (CH)  
2015 *Anonymous Drawings*, Kunstverein Tiergarten|Galerie Nord, Berlin (GER) - (then travelling to Galerie ARTQ13, Rome; Galerie GEYSO20, Braunschweig & Kunstverein Russelsheim)  
*Artbox Postcard Exhibition*, Fold Gallery, London (UK)  
2013 *Kunst Zurich* with Galerie Albrecht, Zurich (CH)  
*Poste Concret2*, ParisCONCRET, Paris (F)  
*Anonymous Drawings*, Kunstverein Tiergarten|Galerie Nord, Berlin (GER) - (then travelling to Galerie Delikatessenhaus, Leipzig & Temporary Art Centre, Eindhoven)  
2012 *Three Gallery Artists*, Galerie Albrecht, Berlin (GER)  
2011 *Anonymous Drawing Archive*, Sihlquais Offspace, Zurich (CH)  
*Poste Concret*, ParisCONCRET, Paris (F)  
*Dallas Art Fair* with Gebert Contemporary (USA)  
2010 *Anonymous Drawing Archive*, Uferhallen, Berlin (GER)  
*Art Chicago* with Galerie Albrecht, Chicago (USA)

- 2009 *Anonymous Drawings*, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanian, Berlin (GER)  
*Kunst Zurich* with Galerie Albrecht, Zurich (CH)  
*CGP Open*, Cafe Gallery Projects, London (UK)  
*AAS*, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Aberdeen (UK)
- 2008 *Aspect Prize*, Paisley Art Gallery and Museum, Paisley (UK)
- 2005 *Terzet Space*, Intermedia Gallery, Glasgow (UK)  
*Art for Life*, Christies, London (UK)
- 2004 *Gallery Artists*, Amber Roome Contemporary Art, Edinburgh (UK)
- 2003 *12 x 12*, University Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne (UK)
- 2002 *Obscured*, Patrioathall Gallery, Edinburgh (UK)  
*Aphelion*, art.tm, Inverness (UK)
- 2001 *14 x 14*, Mafuji Gallery, London (UK)  
*Art House Studios*, Musselburgh (UK)  
*Highland Open*, Travelling Exhibition (UK)
- 2000 *New Highland Graduates*, Kilmorack Gallery, Beaulieu (UK)
- 1999 *art.tm Biannual Open*, Inverness (UK)

#### *Public and Private Collections*

- > Art in Healthcare, Scotland
- > Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe
- > Private Collections in UK, Europe, North and South America, Asia and Australia

#### *Selected Publications and Reviews*

- 2017 Catalogue to accompany *Faultlines* at Patrioathall Gallery.
- 2015 Interviewed by Eileen Budd for Redbird Review.
- 2014 Catalogue covering all exhibitions and projects at ParisCONCRET.
- 2013 Catalogue to accompany *Malerei* at Galerie Albrecht.
- 2012 Catalogue to accompany *The Solo Project - Basel*.  
 Catalogue from exhibition at Dalcross Project Space.
- 2010 Herald – preview of exhibition at Dalcross Project Space.  
 Pamphlet to accompany *When I Was Small I Didn't Work Big* at Galerie Albrecht.  
 Santa Fe Art in Review - review for *Colour of Home* at Gebert Contemporary.  
 Interviewed by Bob Ross for KSFR Radio Santa Fe.
- 2009 Catalogue to accompany *Anonymous Drawings* at Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanian.  
 Catalogue to accompany *Colour Light Space* at Highland Institute for Contemporary Art.