

ALICEBLACK

Private View: Friday 14 September, 2018 (6-8pm)

Exhibition Dates: Saturday 15 September - Friday 12 October, 2018

Gallery Address: ALICE BLACK, 47 Berwick Street (1st Fl), London, W1F 8SQ

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 11am-4pm & by appointment

ALICE BLACK is pleased to announce *Andre Stitt: space, hope + altered estates*, a dual-location exhibition, hosted concurrently at ALICE BLACK, London and TEN, Cardiff.

Andre Stitt was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1958. Working almost exclusively as a performance and interdisciplinary artist from 1976-2008, Stitt gained an international reputation for cutting edge, provocative and politically challenging work. A predominant theme in his artistic output was that of communities and their dissolution often relating to trauma and civil conflict, advocating art as a redemptive proposition. During this period his live performance and installation works were presented at major museums and galleries throughout the world including; MoMA PS1, New York City (2000), Venice Biennale (2005), Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, United Kingdom (2005), Bangkok Art and Culture Centre (2008). In 2008 and again in 2015, Stitt was awarded a major Creative Wales Award to develop his work and has since radically changed the focus of his art practice to painting.

'In these new paintings, i continue to explore themes of communities and their dissolution - i use allusions to architecture and places of habitation, such as Britain's new towns, housing estates and military installations, together with the occupation and civilianisation of contested space through settlement to suggest the uncertainty of human-historical time.

We encounter overlapping architectural blueprints, strange non-objects and floating geometric shapes; certain motifs hark to the mid-century modern, yet simultaneously hint at the digital and the coded. This is Stitt's imagined and constructed retro-future - hard, angular and flat. Stitt's use of synthetic acrylic paint allows for thin application, thus creating a seemingly endless and continually shifting depth through multiple layers on a flat plane. Paint is controlled and constrained, guided in its flow. The artist states influences from mid-century Californian interiors to 80's urban artists of the sunshine coast - reflected in the use of spray paint and combinations of colour.

'space hope + altered estates' continues Stitt's personal exploration into the physical experience of day-to-day living amongst the 'new future' of post world war society and brutalist architecture. Bold and abstract, Stitt's paintings offer the function of art and architecture as a futuristic vision of social development.

Notes to Editors:

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