

KEITH COVENTRY

WORKS ON PAPER 1992 - 2024

8 - 16 NOVEMBER, 2024

Opening on Friday 8th November at The HORSE - *Works on paper 1992-2024* by British artist Keith Coventry. The exhibition draws a discreet survey of his practice over the past 32 years, including preparatory sketches and source material for his iconographic artworks.

Keith Coventry's paintings and sculptures are a direct response to familiar objects and footings within the contemporary social landscape. His appropriation of epochal material (fast food packaging, social living, addiction, print ephemera, media figures) is then consciously placed within the situation of modernism and, in turn post-modernism; the act is simultaneously humorous and serious.

Works on paper 1992-2024 is an intimate show: Coventry allows us to see behind the known and finished paintings and sculptures. We are seeing the genesis of bodies of work as well as some entirely new evolutions on his well known tropes: *Junk Sketches*, *Estate Paintings*, *Crack Series* and some pieces of paper that we can see might have been in his wallet for years. A quiet Spectacle.

From 1992 *Ladybird Updates* are two pages taken from a kids book. The works convey subtle oppressive changes in the nature of the policing, the hi-vis arm bands and the evolution of the car behind; difference and repetition. From 2011 there is a series of *Junk Sketches*, drawn in coloured pencil, the shapes are partially filled in, skeletal, evoking a difference to the finished and familiar works. Amongst a series of *Estate Paintings* Coventry presents *Murder Estates*: these suprematist paintings compositionally select true crime scenes, rendered hard edge abstraction of buoyantly light and brilliant colours; A black humour between composition and source.

Keith Coventry's work was featured in the seminal exhibition *Sensation* at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, in 1997 and was a co-founder and curator of City Racing, an influential not-for-profit gallery in Kennington, South London from 1988-98. In 2006, Coventry received a mid-career retrospective at Glasgow's Tramway (Art Centre) and in 2010 was awarded the John Moores Painting Prize. His work has been exhibited widely in the United Kingdom and Europe and is included in collections worldwide, including the British Council; Tate Modern; Arts Council of England; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and The Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Founded in 2021 The Horse is an artist run contemporary art gallery in Dublin 1 that seeks to provide a platform for emerging, experimental and underrepresented art practitioners. For sales, viewings and programming in general, please email Matthew Wilkinson – mw@thehorsedublin.xyz