

STRANGE GAZE

SURREALISM AT CROSS LANE PROJECTS

Cross Lane Projects

Cross Lane, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5LB

5 October to 24 November 2024

Opening Friday 4 October, 6-8pm



Cross Lane Projects are pleased to present *Strange Gaze: Surrealism at Cross Lane Projects*, a group exhibition bringing together 16 contemporary artists from across the UK.

Strange Gaze: Surrealism at Cross Lane Projects continues the world-wide celebrations marking 100 years of surrealism.

The word 'surrealist' (suggesting 'beyond reality') was coined by the French avant-garde poet Guillaume Apollinaire in the preface to a play performed in 1917. Surrealism aimed to revolutionise human experience: balancing a rational vision of life with one that asserts the power of the unconscious and dreams. The movement's artists, including Jean Arp, Max Ernst, René Magritte and Salvador Dalí, found magic and strange beauty in the unexpected and the uncanny, the disregarded and the unconventional.

Today's neo-surrealism neither smoothly continues surrealism's original projects, nor makes a clean break with them. Instead, it adapts the pioneers' discourse to what each artist finds pertinent at the present juncture.

The exhibition, curated by the artist Rebecca Scott, brings together 16 artists with dreamlike and figurative works that reference and react to the current political and ecological context. Artists include: Emily Allchurch, Hans Bellmer, Dan Coombs, Emma Cousin, Mark Fairnington, Ian Frith Powell, Martin Greenland, Dereck Harris, Denise Hawrycio, Mike Healey, James Mackie, Bex Massey, Pascal Rousson, Rebecca Scott, Perdita Sinclair and Suzy Willey.

Image: Mark Fairnington, *Orchid Tree Over Hoo*, 2024, oil on canvas, 130 x 170cm. Image copyright the artist.

-ENDS-

Notes to editor

Cross Lane Projects

Founded and independently funded by artists Rebecca Scott and Mark Woods, Cross Lane Projects brings new contemporary art to Cumbria and is situated in a former Kendal Mint Cake factory in central Kendal. Cross Lane Projects presents a curated programme of contemporary exhibitions by local, international and British artists with accompanying talks and events. Exhibitions are held in Spring through to Autumn, including working alongside the Mark Tanner Sculpture Award and The Kendal Mountain Festival. The gallery does not represent artists but curates shows from invitation and submissions.

Gallery Hours

Open Wednesday to Saturday, 12pm to 5pm FREE admission

Social Media

Facebook: /crosslaneprojects Instagram: @crosslaneprojects X: @crosslaneproject

Contact

For further information and high res images contact Rebecca Larkin: info@crosslaneprojects.com

Cross Lane Projects, Cross Lane, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5LB

www.crosslaneprojects.com

01539 739994