

THEODORE:ART

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Samuel Laurence Cunnane



September 18 – October 25, 2015

Reception for the artist - Saturday September 26, 6-9 PM

GALLERY HOURS FRIDAYS 1-8, SATURDAY-SUNDAY 1-6 PM

Theodore:Art is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by Samuel Laurence Cunnane. It will be his first solo exhibition in the United States.

Created within the last year across various locations, including Portugal, Germany and Ireland, the photographs exhibited are part of an ongoing body of work dedicated to the idea of witnessing. Laurence Cunnane aims to distill moments from the march of everyday life “into a montage rich with some of its complexities and beauty”.

Though working within a documentarian tradition, Laurence Cunnane makes stylistic decisions that break with convention in their refusal to show all, instead honing in on precise details, stripped of context. Concealing as much as they reveal, his photographs shift our gaze towards the minute, getting closer to the unnoticed intricacies that flicker past in day-to-day experiences. Yet in its bid for closeness, the camera can only create another barrier. Photography is on one hand an act of compassion and closeness, and yet what it leaves behind is an empty husk: a constellation of surfaces and reflections. However the work is not meant to overcome this dichotomy but instead embrace it by reveling in the ‘cinematics’ of the everyday. The work embraces the immateriality of our perceived world. It distills a new narrative of disparate elements, all scenes are treated equally, all of them seen through a ‘film’ or the frosted glass of the gaze. Personal scenes and loaded imagery are treated as tenderly as the most alien of encounters. The act of photographing is all that remains. The work itself becomes evidence of a longing and a search.

Laurence Cunnane uses 35mm film and analogue photographic techniques; the work is printed by hand by the artist. He remains highly connected to the physicality of the production process, and speaks of his work in terms of “making” pictures, not “taking” them. His C-type prints are small in size, a side effect of his traditional production methods, but one that resonates with the restrained nature of the work.

Laurence Cunnane is a BA Photography graduate of IADT, Dublin (2011). Recent projects and exhibitions include a solo exhibition at Kerlin Gallery, Dublin (2015); Feature Fortnightly Presents, Kerlin Gallery (2014); the screening Portfolio, Les Rencontres d’Arles, Arles, France (2012); Listen, Block T, Dublin (2011); and The Invisible City, The Joinery, Dublin (2009). In 2012, he began working in the Maysles Documentary Centre in New York, working alongside its founder, the celebrated American filmmaker Albert Maysles, to hand print his collection of documentary photographs.