

Independent New York 2025

May 8 - 11, 2025

Level 1, Spring Studios

50 Varick Street, New York, NY 10013

LINSEED is thrilled to participate in Independent New York 2025, presenting "Old Clothes", the solo presentation of Berlin-based artist Travis MACDONALD (b. 1990, New Zealand). The show unveils his latest series of paintings on canvas, silk, and works playing with mixed media, orchestrating a visual meditation on memory and perception through visual experimentation.

Travis Macdonald recent works continue to delineate a figurative choreography of the quotidian movements of communal time. Here we see twelve paintings that trace collective subjects meandering through recognizable scenes that construct urban or rural configuration. In pairs of two or four, we see oblique figures in fields and passageways, walking or sitting in narrow lanes, laying together, or briskly exiting cathedral doors. Paired with smaller vignettes of pastures and rural space.

In an open field, two figures pluck at the body of an imitation of themselves; a figurative substitute. Here Macdonald adopts the motif of the scarecrow, which has been known to signify the vulnerability of social absence. This recurrent character could perhaps be interpreted as a figurative supplement for an absence in political motive amongst his ghost-like cast. Whereby his self-reflective figures become emblematic of the contemporary subjects' disposition in post-consumerist society. As his paintings trace and adorn the scarecrows mythology, Macdonald hazy brush accentuates the theological and folkloric capacity of figuration.

Situated in impressionism, Macdonald's intimate and pastoral desire to accurately capture the movement of wind and flora positions his work in a lineage of contemporary romanticism. Delicately weaving the ornamentation of the everyday with fragmented autumnal motifs by way of still life, each painting becomes an anecdotal glimpse into the artist's ongoing interest in communing and slow-living movements.

Macdonald pastiche of layer and perspective conjure dream-like scenarios that blur the borders of interior and exterior space. His warm, yet bold autumnal palette softly reconfigures the harshness of the horizon line with narrow passageways, maintaining a devotion or understanding of the tension in fleeting urban density and constriction that surrounds his nondescript figures.

Text by Carmen-Sibha Keiso

About the Artist

Travis MACDONALD was born in 1990 in Bunnythorpe, New Zealand. He obtained his BFA from Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne in 2011. He currently lives and works in Berlin. Macdonald's works often feature a subdued palette and links the mundane with the absurd, crafting narratives that seem to float in an ethereal haze under minimalistic lighting. Subtle visual concepts allude to a larger, more profound context, while tender brushstrokes dissolve contrasts within the composition. The boundaries between figures and their surroundings grow fluid, creating a hazy, distorted, and melting sense of memory that resists rigid definition.

His selected solo exhibitions include: "Old Clothes", 2025, Independent New York with LINSEED, New York; "I'll be back tomorrow", 2024, painters painting paintings, online; "Travis MacDonald: selected paintings", 2024, The Commercial Gallery, Sydney; "fly by night", 2023, JVDW Gallery, Düsseldorf; "Rain sounds", 2021, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne. His selected group exhibitions include: "Mortal thoughts", 2025, Bernheim Gallery, Zurich; "Last Summer", 2025, Contemporary Fine Arts, Berlin; "A Trace Without A Tail", 2025, LINSEED, Shanghai; "Reef Knot Show Title", 2024, Cellar Door, Sydney; "Night Stroll", 2024, Galerie Elsa Meunier, Paris; "Geelong Contemporary Art Prize", 2024, Geelong Gallery, Geelong; "REALMS, a group show", 2023, JVDW Gallery, Düsseldorf; "Trance", 2023, Envy6011, Wellington; "Comfort the afflicted", 2022, Envy6011, Wellington; "Tingling honey bee", 2022, Branching Universe Gallery, Melbourne; "Postcards", 2021, Gallerie Magnus Karlsson, Stockholm; "Melbourne Comes to Sydney", 2019, Home@735, Sydney.



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Independent 艺术博览会

2024年5月8日 - 5月11日

Level 1, Spring Studios

50 Varick Street, New York, NY 10013

LINSEED很高兴参展Independent New York 2025，展出居住在柏林的艺术家特拉维斯·麦当劳 Travis MACDONALD (b.1990, 新西兰) 的个人项目《旧衫》，呈现艺术家最新创作的布面及丝绸上绘画，以及探索混合媒介的作品，以独特的材料语言展开一场关于记忆与感知的视觉实验。

新作中，麦当劳继续探索集体生活的日常图景——十二幅画作构筑了城市与乡野虚实交织的剧场。画面中，成对或四人一组的身影穿行于窄巷、静坐于长椅、相偎于草垛，或疾步掠过教堂门廊；穿插的小幅风景如记忆碎片，拼贴出荒诞与诗意并存的时空切片。

旷野中，两个人与一个稻草人互相拉扯，不分彼此。艺术家以此隐喻社会性躯体的空洞化：这些无面目的替身既是群体缺席的象征，亦暗示个体在消费主义浪潮中的动机消解。模糊的笔触赋予稻草人以神性微光，使其超越民俗符号，成为当代精神困境的寓言载体。

麦当劳的创作由印象派对光与瞬息的痴迷构建而起。他以颤动的笔尖追踪风的轨迹、草叶的私语，将这种对自然动态的精密观测，潜入当代浪漫主义的谱系。静物画般的秋日意象与日常装饰性元素交织，每件作品都成为艺术家对相互共生及缓慢动态的私密注脚——一种栖居于消逝中的存在哲学。

层叠的透视模糊了空间逻辑，温暖的秋色柔化都市的冷硬线条。匿名人物被困于瞬息密度中，却又在笔触的呼吸间获得轻盈。这些画作并非对现实的复写，而是将日常的肌理重组为一场永恒的凝视。

(文/Carmen-Sibha Keiso)

关于艺术家

特拉维斯·麦当劳 (Travis MACDONALD) 1990年出生于新西兰班尼索普，于2011年获得墨尔本维多利亚艺术学院 (Victorian College of the Arts) 绘画艺术学士学位，目前生活工作于柏林。麦当劳的作品通常采用柔和的色调将日常与荒诞相联，简约光线下的叙事似乎悬浮于朦胧之中，却又通过视觉概念暗示着更宏大的背景。轻柔的笔触稀释了画面中不同元素的对立，人物与场景的边界不再坚硬，呈现出一种模糊、扭曲并且消融的记忆。

其近期个展包括：“旧衫”，2025, Independent New York with LINSEED, 纽约；“I'll be back tomorrow”，2024, painters painting paintings；“Travis MacDonald: selected paintings”，2024, The Commercial Gallery, 悉尼；“fly by night”，2024, JVDW Gallery, 杜塞尔多夫；“Rain sounds”，2024, Niagara Galleries, 墨尔本。其近期群展包括：“Mortal thoughts”，2025, Bernheim Gallery, 苏黎世；“Last Summer”，2025, Contemporary Fine Arts, 柏林；“无踪之迹”，2025, LINSEED, 上海；“Reef Knot Show Title”，2024, Cellar Door, 悉尼；“Night Stroll”，2024, Galerie Elsa Meunier, 巴黎；“Geelong Contemporary Art Prize”，2024, Geelong Gallery, 吉朗；“REALMS, a group show”，2023, JVDW Gallery, 杜塞尔多夫；“Trance”，2023, Envy6011, 惠灵顿；“Comfort the afflicted”，Envy6011, 惠灵顿；“Tingling honey bee”，2022, Branching Universe Gallery, 墨尔本；“Postcards”，2021, Gallerie Magnus Karlsson, 斯德哥尔摩；“Rain Sounds”，2020, Niagara Galleries, 墨尔本；“Melbourne Comes to Sydney”，2019, Home@735, 悉尼。



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