

EMPIRE

DAVID WIGHTMAN

Solo exhibition of new landscape paintings
Long & Ryle, 4 John Islip Street, London SW1P 4PX

Private View: Wednesday 12 October 2016 / 6-8pm
Exhibition Dates: Thursday 13 October to Saturday 19 November 2016
Gallery opening times: Tuesday to Friday 10-5.30pm and Saturday 11-2pm



David Wightman is well known for his imaginary landscapes featuring mountains and lakes. The surfaces of Wightman's intensely-coloured acrylic paintings are made from meticulously hand-cut collaged wallpaper using a technique similar to marquetry. Each painting is painstakingly collaged, crafted, and painted over a period of several weeks. His fictional landscapes pay homage to earlier landscape painters and Japanese wood-block printers, while remaining utterly unique and personal. Cherie Federico, editor of *Aesthetica Magazine*, has said: "You must spend time with Wightman's paintings; on the surface they are beautiful and intricate, and like the layers they are made from, there is so much depth to his work". Waterfalls, mountains, lakes, and valleys combine to form landscapes that Wightman describes as being "idealised and impossible". *EMPIRE* is David Wightman's first solo exhibition with Long & Ryle and features over a dozen new paintings, each one bolder and more colourful than previous works.

David Wightman (born 1980 in Stockport, Greater Manchester, UK) studied Fine Art at Middlesex University and gained an MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art, London. While still at the Royal College of Art, he won 'Young Artist of the Year' at the Hunting Art Prize. He

graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2003 as the youngest graduate at the age of 23. His solo exhibitions include *New paintings + Akris collaboration*, Akris, 30 Old Bond Street, London (2014), *Redux*, 10 Gresham Street and Halcyon Gallery (2014), *Hero*, commission for House Arts Festival (2013), *Paramour*, Halcyon Gallery, London (2012), *Homage to Loreleia*, Berwick Gymnasium Gallery, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland (2011), *Secret Name*, Sumarria Lunn, London (2010), *Behemoth and Other New Paintings*, Cornerhouse, Manchester (2009), and *Aspirations – New Paintings*, William Angel Gallery, London (2008).

In 2010, Wightman was awarded the Berwick Gymnasium Arts Fellowship - a six-month residency in Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland funded by Arts Council England and English Heritage. In 2013, he was selected by the curator of House Arts Festival, Mariele Neudecker, to make a site-specific painting for a disused pavilion on Brighton's seafront. The commission was funded by Arts Council England. Wightman has also collaborated with the fashion label Akris for their Fall / Winter 2014/15 collection. Wightman's work has featured in Harper's Bazaar, The Guardian, The Telegraph, The Financial Times, and Money Week.



Please contact Sarah Long or Kinga Gróf at the gallery for further information:

LONG & RYLE

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