

LUKE WILLIAMS

NEW PAINTINGS

Opening: Saturday 11th June, 11am, drinks 3-6pm
Open: Sat, Sun, Mon 11am - 6pm or by appointment
Closing (last day): Monday 13th June

Mercer Chance is proud to present an exhibition of recent work by painter Luke Williams.

After studying an art foundation course at Byam Shaw School of Art, Luke started an apprenticeship as a picture restorer at J.H. Cooke and Sons, where he has spent the last 6 years honing his skills and understanding of varied painting traditions. In his spare time he paints observed scenes from everyday life, that are clearly inspired by the delicacy and careful detail that he encounters when restoring the work of past masters, but his work is much more than a quotation of the past.

Like the Dutch interior painters he carefully records the mise-en-scene of contemporary life, casting a clear and revealing light onto a world of domestic mundanity. Pure sunlight slants through a high window and across a whitewashed wall. Glinting pots and jars crowd on a worktop. Moments of humour gently puncture the meditative atmosphere; a mischievous dog, a wonky picture, a wry smile. Night falls and the fluorescent washed, LED downlit living space is redoubled on the patio doors in a murky reflection that gives the picture spatial depth despite its glassy surface.

Whilst the paintings may feel studious, even devotional, they are never overworked or cold. Love of painting, of light, love of composition and of personal detail, is expressed with a deft and thoughtful touch. Great pleasure is taken in describing everything faithfully, yet with the utmost efficiency, drawing with colour in a way that feels honest and natural, concise yet unhurried.

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