

Alan Johnston

8 November – 13 December 2015

The Highland Institute for Contemporary Art is to host an exhibition by Alan Johnston, opening on Sunday 8 November, 2015, 2-5pm.

An exhibition preview, including a public discussion between Johnston and Murdo Macdonald, Professor of History of Scottish Art at University of Dundee, will be held at HICA on Saturday 7 November, also from 2-5pm.

Johnston is one of Britain's leading geometric abstract artists. His works exhibit a concern with architecture, as itself, and as means to engage space. Responding to the architectural space of galleries through wall-drawings, Johnston develops a necessary reciprocity between the instinctual negotiations of momentary circumstance, through the production of small-scale and irregular pencil lines, and the formation, from these, of large-scale, planned and measured constructions.

The artist states that his works are an "ever-present engagement with the creation of shadow". These rectilinear constructions have also been suggested as 'empty film screens', as a space for our own responses and projections, which perhaps further suggests the audiences' own 'shadow' as the effect of their influence in the engagement of the spaces of these works. The presence of the artist's own 'shadow' might then further be speculated on, as in some ways the trace formed in the process of these works' making.

The shifts of scale present in Johnston's works present a dialogue between the micro and macro; their large-scale structures formed through small-scale and individual action. They thus prompt the viewer's consideration of their own scale of experience, within this relation. In reflecting on the reality and physicality of both the micro and macro, they locate actions at our human-scale within a dialogue of possibilities between the infinitesimal and the environmental.

The exhibition will include a wall drawing produced in response to the nature of the HICA space, and related works.

Exhibiting internationally since the early 1970s, Johnston's numerous exhibitions include one person shows at Tate Britain; the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds; New Bedford Art Museum, USA; Slewe Gallery, Amsterdam; Arts Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory, Tbilisi; Museum of Fine Art Houston, USA; Haus Wittgenstein, Vienna; The Living Art Museum, Reykjavik; Inverleith House, Edinburgh; The Lisson Gallery, London; Museum of Modern Art, Oxford; Von der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal; Shimada Gallery, Yamaguchi/Tokyo.

The exhibition has been supported by Creative Scotland and Craig & Rose. www.craigandrose.com

It will run from 8 November – 13 December 2015, and will be open on Sundays 2-5pm, or by appointment.

For more information or images contact Geoff Lucas or Eilidh Lucas at:

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