

The Grey Planets

Peter Suchin exhibition at HICA

26 October – 30 November 2008

The Highland Institute for Contemporary Art is pleased to present The Grey Planets, Peter Suchin's first solo exhibition in Scotland.

Suchin (b. 1959) is known for his frequently polemical contributions to art and theory journals such as Art Monthly, Frieze and Mute. His practice as a painter has, however, been somewhat more sparingly displayed. Borrowing its title from a large, as yet unexhibited painting, the present show brings together a number of Suchin's small, densely layered paintings, each the result of an extensive process of revision and redefinition.

Just as he has, in his capacity as an art critic, analysed the linguistic and institutional frameworks of art, Suchin has addressed in his paintings the sensuous, as it were implicit contingencies of the medium itself. These works can be read as "commentaries" upon the practice of painting, as well as coherent entities in their own right. The philosopher Paul Crowther has observed that

"Suchin's paintings declare their sources - conscious or unconscious - quite manifestly... [his] "imagery" locates us in [an] ambiguous zone, where elements and relations hover before constellating into definitive figurative presence. He arrests the visible in the very act of its emergence."

(Critical Aesthetics and Postmodernism, Oxford University Press, 1993, p. 204).

Suchin most recently contributed to the exhibitions

4x4 (Sartorial Gallery, London, 2008), Pinned (Baltimore Museums and USA tour, 2008), and Concrete Now!

(HICA, Loch Ruthven, Scotland, 2008). His works are held in many private collections in Britain, Europe and the USA.

The Grey Planets is supported by the National Lottery through the Scottish Arts Council.

The exhibition runs from 26th October till 30th November 2008, and will be open on Sundays 2 - 5pm, or by appointment.

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