

LUNGLEY

Harley Kuyck-Cohen

I is voor Inkt

26/01/2024 - 02/03/2024

Private view 25/01/2023



From The Well (2024)
Unique screen print on paper, 17 x 9 cm.

LUNGLEY Gallery is pleased to present *I is voor Inkt*, a solo exhibition by represented artist Harley Kuyck-Cohen.

For his second solo exhibition at the gallery Kuyck-Cohen draws upon a wide variety of media to build an opposing assemblage that is both autobiographical and folly.

Focused on the classroom, *I is voor Inkt* is framed by a Dutch A-Z, owned and read by the artists mother. Ink is for sketching, for planning, for writing, for dying and for staining. Ink on bedsheets are stretched out into chalkboards, a mid century school desk with its well is separated in half. Doodles of the public schoolboy Billy Bunter are pasted over CC41 Utility stamps. The work develops the artists practice of reassembly, paying attention to complicated symbols of the past that we inherit as children.

Kuyck-Cohen's multidimensional practice, blending sculpture, text, and screen-printed paintings, consistently challenges the interplay of two and three-dimensionality. His installations delve into fractured visual and linguistic ambiguity, prioritising the exploration of 'how' things are produced over mere representation. Inspired by agriculture, the sculptures incorporate livestock as metaphors for managing production and optimising workflow.

Functioning as a depot for disparate material combinations, Kuyck-Cohen's sculptural installations challenge our evolving relationship with the readymade. Infused with collaged abstraction, these assemblages resonate with associative meaning, forming encrypted sequences propelled by their internal logic.

Central to his theme is nostalgia, where symbols and ephemera tied to an hegemonic English dreamscape are repurposed. Rather than rejecting this cultural imagery Kuyck-Cohen reassembles

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these elements into artworks resembling the chalkboard; but also a conveyer belt, embodying an endless cycle of repeats, eruptions and fractures.

BIOGRAPHY

(b. 1994, London, UK) lives and works in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Recent exhibitions include *Brown Carpet*, Slugtown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK; *Remedial Works*, Quench Gallery, Margate, UK; *EKO8 International Triennial of Art and Environment/A Letter to the Future*, Maribor, Slovenia; *St Paul's Cathedral*, Lungley Gallery, London, UK; *Acting on Behalf of Thinking*, PINK MCR, Manchester, UK; *Allotment*, Airspace Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent, UK.

Harley has also been shortlisted for the Mark Tanner Sculpture Award, The Exeter Contemporary and the Woon Prize in Sculpture and Painting.

For further information please contact the gallery at mark@lungleygallery.com