

## LUNGLEY | Brian Dawn Chalkley

### LISTE Art Fair | Basel | Stand 84

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Brian Dawn Chalkley is a visual artist and storyteller. Formative in the trans community since the early 90's, the artist is known for their performances as Dawn a leading figure in London's underground trans clubbing scene in the 1980s and '90s, a time when it was deemed unacceptable and perverse.

Brian Dawn Chalkley has been exploring gender, sexuality and identity for more than four decades, first in private and then in their art. Having started their career as a modernist painter, whilst a transvestite in private, in 1996 he embraced "Dawn", their alter ego, into their public art practice, too. Ever since, this movement "Brian" and "Dawn" has fuelled an odyssey into what it means to perform gender, and to form and reform identities, going far beyond the modernist tendencies of his earlier years, and continuing to build an impressive body of work that uses narrative and costume to construct and deconstruct aspects of their personality and personae.

Brian Dawn is well known for hosting the Salon, an event for performers and performances in which orthodox moral, social, and artistic boundaries are challenged by the representation of unconventional behaviour and the use of experimental forms.

For LISTE, cotton pillowcases embellished with drawings, handwritten texts and embroidery, line the walls. Recurring motifs appear against vivid landscapes but now their significance has deepened with time, like recurring characters in a long sequence of novels

The people they meet and the places they go are the subject of the work, memories from the artist's own life and childhood are present, although laced with violence and horror. While we are invited to speculate on, and discover more about, these scenarios, they ultimately refuse to give more than these stark, dream-like symbols, and so refuse any true resolution.

The pictures are laden with clues but interpretation is slippery and as elusive - much like the moment between waking and sleeping.

## LUNGLEY

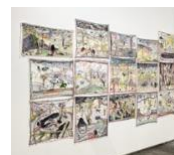
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### Works list



***The Analytic Pictorial Space of Poetic Horror*** (2024)  
Pencil, ink and embroidery on cotton, pins.  
180 x 370 cm.



***Dreaming of other worlds*** (2024)  
Pencil, ink and embroidery on cotton, mounted and framed behind UV glass.  
978 x 998 x 62 mm.



***Regardless of the weather, the grass is still green*** (2024)  
Pencil, ink and embroidery on cotton, mounted and framed behind UV glass.  
928 x 1118 x 62 mm.



***Unreal Dreaming*** (2024)  
Pencil, ink and embroidery on cotton, mounted and framed behind UV glass.  
928 x 1118 x 62 mm.



***The Prevailing Storm*** (2024)  
Pencil, ink and embroidery on cotton, mounted and framed behind UV glass.  
868 x 1038 x 62 mm.



***Forgotten Dog*** (2024)  
Pencil, ink and embroidery on cotton, mounted and framed behind UV glass.  
848 x 833 x 62 mm.