

## Kerlin Gallery ART BASEL

Hall 2.1, Booth M11  
16–19 June 2016

**Willie Doherty**  
**Merlin James**  
**Siobhán Hapaska**  
**Jan Pleitner**

Kerlin Gallery is pleased to announce its participation in Art Basel 2016.

In Hall 2.1, Booth M11, the gallery will present new and important work by **Willie Doherty**, **Siobhán Hapaska**, **Merlin James** and **Jan Pleitner**.

A pioneering figure in contemporary art film and photography since the 1980s, **WILLIE DOHERTY** (b. 1959, Derry, NI) will debut two new diptychs at Art Basel: *Loose Ends I* and *Loose Ends II*. The diptych format has long been a central and important part of Doherty's practice, setting contradictory points of view against each other. His works give an unsettling, uneasy mediation on landscape, purposefully frustrating the establishment of any straightforward position, any single authoritative view.

**SIOBHÁN HAPASKA** (b. 1963, Belfast, NI) creates complex and enigmatic sculptures, articulated through a diverse vocabulary of materials. In this instance, a new material – concrete cloth – is used alongside Hapaska's signature fibreglass resin, wood, industrial steel, faux fur and phosphorescent paint. In her new sculptures at Art



Siobhán Hapaska, *Touch*, 2016, concrete cloth, oak, synthetic fur, aluminium, steel, two-pack acrylic paint and lacquer, 230 x 95 x 140 cm / 90.6 x 37.4 x 55.1 in

Basel, with affectionate titles like *Love*, *Touch*, and *Us*, Hapaska's dual forms reach out to one another, playfully expressing feelings of connectivity and kinship, but also loneliness and interiority, through strange and surprising means.

The intensively worked and generally small-scale canvases of **MERLIN JAMES** (b. 1960, Cardiff, UK) encompass a wide variety of subject matter including empty interiors, rural landscapes, architecture and scenes of sexual intimacy. Kerlin Gallery's selection of paintings for Art Basel includes work from across two decades, an approach that highlights both James's diversity and his consistency, with motifs, ideas and processes resurfacing across the artist's career in a cyclical fashion.

**JAN PLEITNER** (b. 1984, Oldenburg, Germany) creates striking and expressive abstract painting driven by subconscious thought. Often painted in short bursts of time, or even marathon single sittings, the artist's highly physical, even primal, approach to painting frequently sees him employ his hands to manipulate the surface. For Art Basel, Pleitner has created his most ambitious work yet – a vast, urgent and otherworldly five-metre oil painting that expands and deepens his artistic vocabulary.

## GALLERY HISTORY

Established in Dublin in 1988, Kerlin Gallery has built an international reputation by providing sustained and meaningful representation for leading contemporary Irish and international artists. For almost three decades, the gallery's programme has reflected significant trends in international contemporary art, and in recent years, the gallery has introduced a new generation of artists working across diverse media. Kerlin Gallery participates in six major art fairs annually, including Art Basel, Art Basel Hong Kong, Art Basel Miami Beach and Frieze New York.

## CONTACT

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