

IAN DAVENPORT

SYNESTHESIA

edited by Stefano Castelli

12th September – 31st October 2019

Opening: 12th September 2019 - 6.30 pm

Luca Tommasi is pleased to announce, Synesthesia, a solo exhibition by Ian Davenport to be held in the spaces of Via Cola Montano, 40, in Milan. At the heart of the exhibition will be an imposing wall painting measuring over 3 metres high and 5 metres wide. Created by the artist specially for the exhibition, it will be the first time Davenport has made a large site specific 'Splat' piece. In this work, the artist uses short jets of colour squirted against a wall, to form splinters and drips of paint that overlap and interplay, in complex arrangements of marks and colour.

Included in the exhibition are also three coloured stripes works on paper, perhaps more typical of Davenport, in which poured paint is dripped down a surface creating harmonic colour combinations in parallel lines. These will be flanked by a wide selection of works on paper, representing the artists' different approaches to painting and made over the last 15 years

Ian Davenport came to prominence internationally for his exploration, of line, colour and the materiality of paint. The contrast between monumentality and a sense of movement, between randomness and control, and the subtle paradoxes within his paintings are thoroughly investigated in the variety of works on paper for the exhibition.

Ian Davenport was born in Kent in 1966, and studied at Goldsmiths' College of Art in London. Only two years after graduation, Davenport had his first solo exhibition at Waddington Galleries in 1990, and in the same year, his work was included in The British Art Show, touring to Leeds City Art Gallery and Hayward Gallery, London. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 1991, and in 1999, was awarded a John Moores Painting Prize. Davenport has had over 40 solo exhibitions during his career, including Tate Liverpool in 2000, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham in 2004 and Dallas Contemporary 2018.

He has also received numerous commissions for public installations, most notably by Southwark Council to produce Poured Lines: Southwark Street, London a 48-metre-long painting which was completed in 2006. In 2017, Davenport created 'Giardini Colourfall' for the 57th Venice Biennale.

His work is held in many important museum collections throughout the world, including Tate Gallery, London; Centre Pompidou, Paris and Dallas Museum of Art, Texas.

The exhibition will remain open at the following times: Tuesday - Saturday 3 - 7 pm and by appointment. Closed on Saturday 12th October.

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