

Alex Urie
English, B. 1985



Alex Urie's paintings deal with residual spaces, functioning like transitory backdrops to an ongoing provisional cast of objects. Taking prompts from cartoon landscapes, film stills and imagined interiors, these dissolving surfaces all the while nod to the history of painting.

Uri's work is difficult to define; his often-monolithic large scale canvases have a clear link to formalism, emphasising the compositional and technical elements of the work over any iconographic subject matter or historical/social context. However, the viewer can't help but be drawn to the mysterious forms that populate the canvas, searching for a narrative that the artist hints at but never fully reveals.

Uri's recent paintings deal with intermediate, residual spaces. He approaches a stretched canvas as a dumping ground for obsolete, itinerant forms, and uses staining and timed action to address ongoing concerns with surface and ground. Uri works directly onto raw canvas; as paint seeps into the material, forms are undermined and disrupted. He is interested in the fixtures and fittings of a painting,

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the props and background figures. Within an unstable canvas-surface aesthetic ideals become dislodged and corrupted. With this instability between ground and surface and conversation starts to take place. Painterly tropes, framing devices and modernist structures all emerge as forlorn icons traced across the picture plane.

Education

- 2017 MA Fine Art, Chelsea College of Art, London
- 2006 BA (Hons) Sculpture, Camberwell College of Arts, London

Awards & Residencies

- 2017 Chelsea MA Studio Residency Award, ACME Studios Residencies and Awards Programme, London
- 2016 Frank Bowling Scholarship, Chelsea College of Arts, London

Exhibitions

- 2017 MA Fine Art Degree Show, Chelsea College of Arts, London
- 2017 Ma Fine Art Interim Show, Chelsea College of Arts, London
- 2017 *Less Tight Times*, MAFA Gallery, Chelsea College of Arts, London