Iwan Lewis Annwn

13 March – 11 April 2020



Private View Thursday 12th March 6–8pm



The Marquess, The Mog and The Marauding Mob, 2020 Oil on canvas 153 × 122cm



Afallon, 2018 Oil on canvas 144 × 125cm



Citrus Sun, 2020 Oil on canvas 46 × 38cm



Mango Syrup and Proboscis, 2016 Oil on canvas 195 × 163cm



Dorothea a'r Sliwan, 2020 Oil on canvas 67 × 47cm



Cont y Môr, 2020 Oil on canvas 51 × 60cm



Doggerman, 2018 Oil on canvas 79 × 70cm



Catch, 2017–18 Oil on canvas 51 × 61cm



Tigress and The Landlord, 2019 Oil on canvas 76 × 61cm



Sliwan, 2019 Oil on canvas 61 × 51cm



Pope, 2018 Oil on canvas 96 × 75cm



Orenau, 2018 Oil on canvas 102 × 102cm



Liferoom, 2015 Oil on canvas 31 × 41cm



Eliffant, 2016 Oil on canvas 31 × 30cm



The Cat Collects His Tears in a Paper Cup for a Future Moment of Sincerity, 2020 Oil on canvas 51 × 41cm



Inland Sea, 2020 Oil on canvas 31 × 31cm



Saint Seiriol, 2020 Oil on canvas 25.5 × 25.5cm



Invading Doggerland, 2018 Oil on canvas 45 × 39cm



Piano Fingers, 2020 Acrylic on canvas 27 × 22cm



Knight and Rook, 2020 Acrylic and oil on canvas 40 × 30cm



Gwyddal, 2020 Acrylic on wood carving 21 × 18 × 12cm

sid motion gallery

Press Release

Annwn Iwan Lewis 13 March – 11 April 2020 Private view on Thursday 12 March

Annwn or Annwfn comes from the Welsh for Otherworld, appearing in native mythology as a place of milk and honey, a place free from afiechyd or disease. Unlike the Christian Otherworld, Annwn can appear in specific locations. I recognise my bilingual tongue as opposites similar to that of the real and the other. For me my mother tongue has become a time machine or a key to otherworldly portholes fixed to a specific region where dialect and class create nuances, where nation becomes irrelevant and where civilisation sits precariously on a pitted landscape. This linguistic porthole becomes a tool to escape and explore the other. The epic landscape can't be reasoned with rationally over canvas instead it becomes a backdrop where narratives play out. Often the wet grey is exchanged with a hot sticky humidity; this is where Annwn truly exists as a sanctuary to keep nature's true intentions at bay. Annwn serves as respite to the living not as a retreat for the dead.

Iwan Lewis (b. North Wales) is an artist and lecturer who graduated from BA (Hons) Fine Art at UWIC, Cardiff in 2002 and MA Painting, Royal College of Art, London in 2011. Lewis has exhibited extensively for the last decade. A selection of his recent exhibitions include: 'Blason' at Sid Motion Gallery, London, co-curated by Charlie Billingham; 'Nightswimming', Lle Gallery at Mission Gallery, Swansea; 'Birds That Eat Purple Flowers', Chapel on the Green, Hay-on-Wye; 'Celf', North Wales Contemporary, Caernarfon, and 'Hanes: Tales/Stories/Legends/Myths', Aberystwyth Arts Centre. Earlier solo exhibitions include Gallery 6, MOSTYN, Llandudno and 'Indian Summer', The Ucheldre Centre, Anglesey. Lewis was awarded First Prize in Painting, Welsh Artist of the Year, 2012; was nominated for The Paul Hamlyn Award for Visual Artists, 2017 and is co-founder of the artist led space Studio Cybi