

Three Cities
Niall O'Brien

27 April –
26 May 2018

sid motion gallery



Private View
Thursday 26th April
6–8pm

142 York Way, N1 OAX



Tell me, can you buy happiness?, 2018
21 × 33 cm



She wasn't even breathing ... at all, 2018

40 × 55 cm



my heart breaks for a real story, 2018

75 × 100 cm

Mounted on aluminium



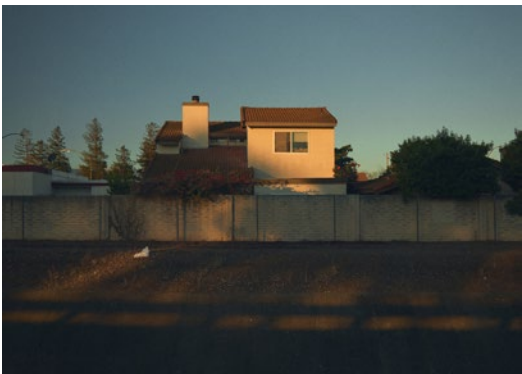
*If you leave me, I'm gonna bust every
windshield out of this van, 2018*
42 × 63 cm



Then, the sweet taste of Victory, 2018
25 × 37.5 cm



*to wake up in the morning, see
the sunlight, smell the air, 2018*
83 × 125 cm
Mounted on aluminium



wake up, the greed #1-#5, 2018
18 x 24 cm each



The greed!, it's just unreal, 2018
73 × 97 cm



My dream is to get out of California, 2018
30 x 45 cm



Get out of here for good, 2018
20 × 30 cm



*Buy a nice little cottage with a creek running by it.
Go fishing, be the best love story I've ever seen..., 2018*
83 × 105 cm
Mounted on aluminium



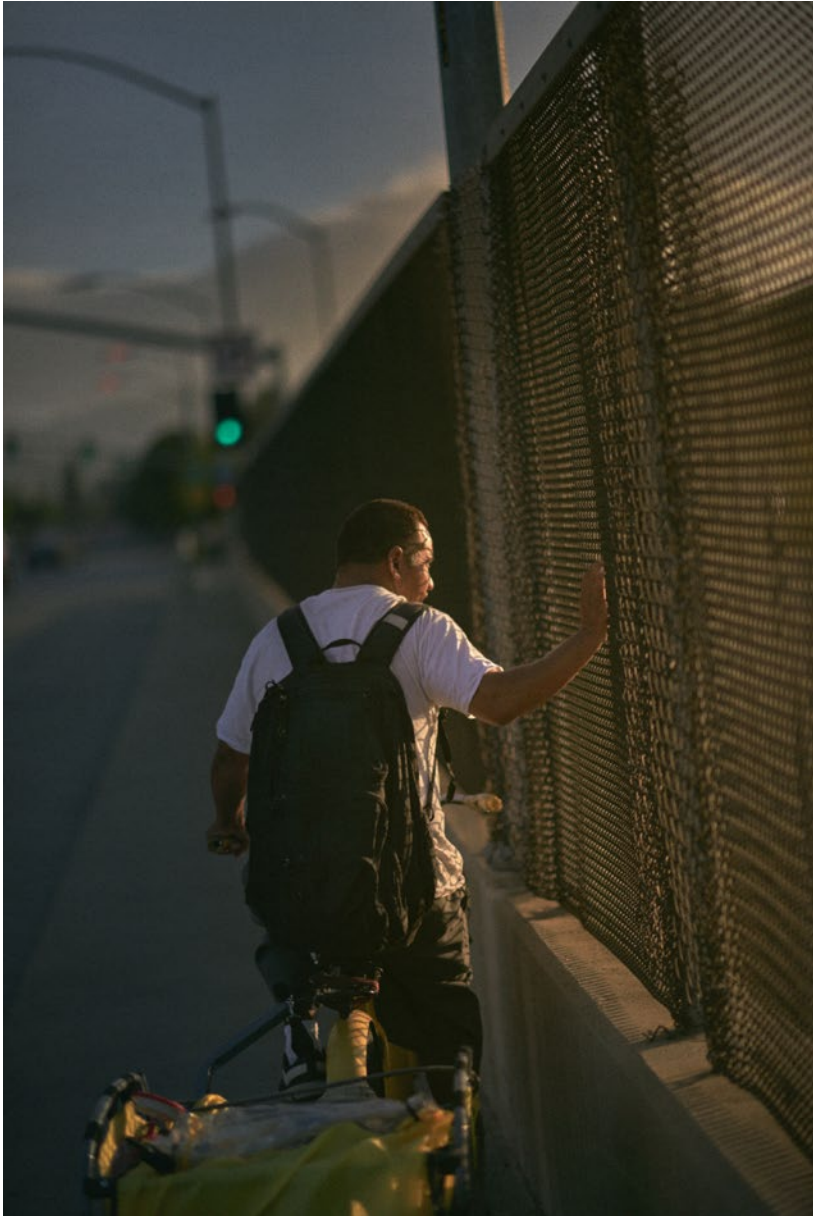
It got really bad, 2018
30 × 40 cm



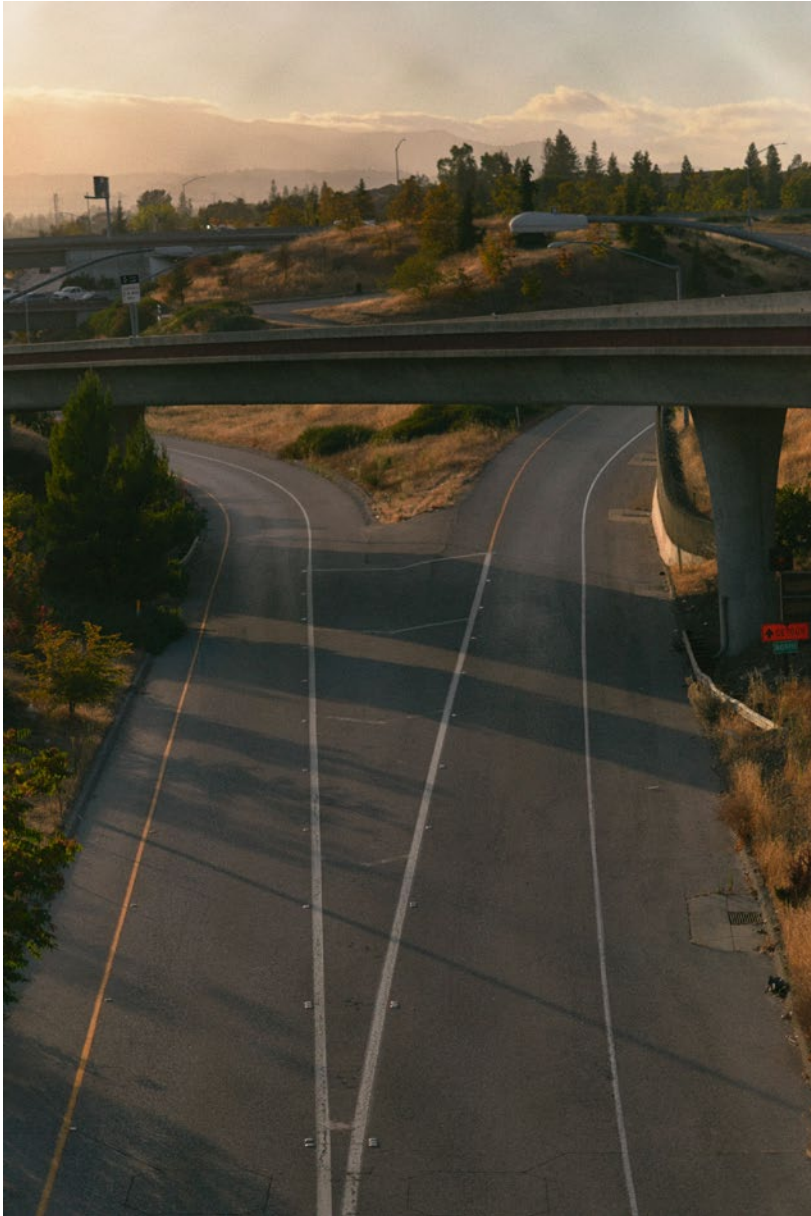
I keep stuff from my momma, 2018
15 × 22.5 cm



I hold a lot of stuff in, 2018
21 × 33.5 cm



when I'm alone, just think and daydream, 2018
43.5 × 65 cm



I bought her a bus pass to go home, 2018
30 × 40 cm



This is my happiness, 2018
35 × 50 cm
Mounted on aluminium



*I wouldn't change anything
I've done. Maybe ...*, 2018
68 × 100 cm
Mounted on aluminium



*I'm happy. Believe it or not,
I'm happy, 2018
70 × 46.6 cm
Mounted on aluminium*



I changed my ways now.
I changed my life around, 2018
48 × 70 cm

Press Release

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Sid Motion Gallery and co-curator Bakul Patki are proud to present a new body of work by Irish photographer and filmmaker, Niall O'Brien.

Three Cities explores Santa Clara's 'Silicon Valley' through a series of intuitive landscapes and portraits, shot in and around the county's seven-mile long Bascom Avenue.

During his time there, O'Brien was struck by the banality of a place that prides itself on being a world leader in innovation. Although no stranger to the US and its economic landscape, he was affected by the enormous inequality that exists amongst Bascom's residents – some of America's wealthiest and most impoverished, living side by side.

Despite this he found moments of remarkable beauty in and around the valley, over his many visits to the area. He also found beauty in the people that inhabit Bascom Avenue. Blake, a homeless man, and his girlfriend Dana became incredibly important to O'Brien, who began to see the world from their point of view.

The photographer's naturalistic and voyeuristic imagery is the result of a very personal process, which has historically seen him embed himself within 'tribes', whether they be young punks in the suburbs of London and Berlin, or the isolationist communities of conservative middle-America. Here he was drawn specifically to Blake and Dana's stories and their surroundings – spending months getting to know them and their routines, documenting their turmoil and their triumphs, as well as the streets that they call home.

Three Cities is an exquisite portrait – of a place, and of its people. It is a deeply insightful and ultimately respectful look at the lives of two unfortunate yet optimistic individuals.

For further information please contact info@sidmotiongallery.co.uk / b@bakulpatki.com

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Niall O'Brien (b.1979, Dublin, Ireland) studied fine art photography at the Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dublin, Ireland. Niall has exhibited extensively internationally.

Recent solo exhibitions have included: 'Good Rats', which was shown at Sunday Inventory Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland (2014); Upon Space, Berlin, Germany (2012) and No 10 Gallery, New York, USA (2011). O'Brien has contributed to group exhibitions since 2003 in New York, Belfast, Amsterdam, Dublin, Singapore, London and Glasgow.

O'Brien has produced two publications, 'Porn Hurts Everyone', Footfall (Self Published, 2017) and 'Good Rats' (Pau Wau Publications, 2011).