Annwn by Iwan Lewis An exhibition in extended reality for Vortic Collect app as part of the London Collective

20th July – 15th August 2020



Iwan Lewis Citrus Sun, 2020 Oil on canvas 46cm x 38cm



Iwan Lewis Afallon, 2018 Oil on canvas 144cm x 125cm



Iwan Lewis Mango Syrup and Proboscis, 2016 Oil on canvas 195cm x 163cm



Iwan Lewis Cont y Môr, 2020 Oil on canvas 51 cm x 60cm



Iwan Lewis Catch, 2017 - 2018 Oil on canvas 51cm x 61cm



Iwan Lewis Pope, 2018 Oil on canvas 96cm x 75cm



Iwan Lewis Orenau, 2018 Oil on canvas 102cm x 102cm



Iwan Lewis Eliffant, 2016 Oil on canvas 31cm x 30cm



Iwan Lewis Invading Doggerland, 2018 Oil on canvas 45cm x 39cm

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: 'Annwn' by Sid Motion Gallery, London (solo, 2020); 'Blason' at Sid Motion Gallery, London, co-curated by Charlie Billingham (group, 2019); '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 cofounder of the artist led space Studio Cybi.

"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."