

Marcus Rees Roberts | Winter Journey



Echo Song (2), 2012
Mixed media on canvas; 165 x 119 cm

Studio 3 Gallery

Jarman Building
School of Arts
University of Kent
Canterbury
CT2 7UG

Tel. 01227 827228

Free admission, disabled access

Monday – Friday
9am – 5pm
to 11 April 2014

Exhibition Catalogue

£5.00 each
Students: £2.50

<http://blogs.kent.ac.uk/studio3gallery/>

There is an expression in French to describe dusk: 'entre chien et loup'. At the end of the day, in the dying of the light, it is hard to distinguish 'between dog and wolf' and objects take on an indeterminate menace in this state of perceptual ambiguity. This is the moment inhabited by the art of Marcus Rees Roberts.

Working together with Pratt Contemporary, Studio 3 Gallery presents an exhibition of the darkly poetic work of Marcus Rees Roberts. The focus of the exhibition will be recent short films from *The Winter Journey* cycle, and related work in diverse media including *By the Black Window* (2013) – a work consisting of 24 drawings conceived for Studio 3 Gallery – and paintings from the *Echo Song* series (2012-13). Also exhibited are the book works *Ash to Dark Water* (2005), *The Sad Sea* (2009) and *Night of Four Moons* (2009), and the sets of prints *Between Dog and Wolf* (2008), *Memory's Wound* (2010) and *Echo Song* (2012).

In his current work Rees Roberts has taken inspiration from the poetry and writings of Miklós Radnóti, Federico García Lorca, Paul Celan and Walter Benjamin: all of whom were victims of fascist persecution. Underlying his concern with modernist stylistic experimentation is the insistent political question of how the artist should bear witness to the atrocities of our times. Rich in poetic connotations and thematic leitmotifs, it is uncertain whether the *Winter Journey* envisaged by Rees Roberts is Radnóti's forced march, Schubert's 'Winterreise', or Odysseus's voyage to Hades' 'dark shore'

A Studio 3 Gallery exhibition
in association with
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