

10 Gresham Street in conjunction with VJB Arts and Long & Ryle present

'Last Light'

And exhibition of paintings by Nick Archer

Private View:

Thursday 28th January 2016, 5:30 – 8 pm

10 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JD



Last Light by Nick Archer, 2015, oil on canvas, 183 x 200 cm

Nick Archer's new paintings link the painting style of the early north European painters such as Bruegel and Caspar David Friedrich to more contemporary cinematographic language of recent dark fairy tales such as del Toro's *Pans Labyrinth* and Tim Burton's *Sleepy Hollow* and *Alice in Wonderland*. Here menace is implicit in an enchanted and beautiful landscape.

Archer's recent paintings have grown out of his interest in painting the figure. The inanimate objects found in the new works, whether an abandoned van, caravan or cottage, possess a metaphysical quality that allude to both a world out of kilter and a more disturbed state of being.

The figure has recently found its way back into the compositions. In the painting 'Last Light' a child runs from us through a rich and beautifully painted meadow. The figure is dwarfed and appears overwhelmed by the beauty of its surroundings. The power of nature and its sublime qualities appear to be a central force within these paintings, but

like the traditional fairy tale and indeed life itself; behind the beauty and awe, menace lingers in the shadows.

Nick Archer (UK, b. 1963) lives and works in East Sussex in England. He studied at the Royal Academy Schools in London (1996-1999). He won several awards after leaving the Royal Academy, including 1st prize at the Hunting art prize, commended at the BP Portrait Award and the Figure Painting Award at the Discerning eye. He has exhibited extensively in the UK and Europe including solo exhibitions with Louise Alexander gallery, Porto Cervo, Italy, Sarah Myerscough Fine Art, London, Long and Ryle, London, Galerie Hug, Paris and Gowen Contemporary in Geneva. He has featured in museum exhibitions including the National Portrait Gallery in London, the Wandsworth museum, London and in 2012 he had a solo exhibition at the Maison de la Culture in Metz, France. Archer recently featured in an exhibition at the Hastings Museum, England, which put the focus on 6 painters who live in the south east of England who have an international profile. His work is in private, corporate and public collections around the world.



Sugar and Spice by Nick Archer
2015, oil on canvas, 152 x 183 cm



Freeze by Nick Archer
2014, oil on canvas, 152 x 183 cm

For further information or images please contact either Sarah Long or Kinga Gróf.

LONG & RYLE

4 JOHN ISLIP STREET LONDON, SW1P 4PX
Tel 020 7834 1434 / Fax 020 7821 9409
www.longandryle.com / gallery@long-and-ryle.com



10 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JD
www.vjb-arts.com