

**Matt Connors**  
**FIGURE**

The Modern Institute, Aird's Lane  
 16 November 2019 – 18 January 2020  
 Preview: Friday 15 November 6–8pm

*FIGURE* marks the second solo exhibition by Matt Connors at The Modern Institute, presenting a new body of work encompassing drawing, painting and tapestry across the gallery's Aird's Lane and Bricks spaces.

Abstracted by colour, Connors' paintings and drawings are created through a process of layering and re-working forms extracted from his immediate environment. Overtime, these recognisable shapes are steadily obscured through the repetitive application of paint and line – the visual reduction and dilation of influence creating works imbued with an almost psychedelic presence.

Indebted to the physicality of their production - process, materiality and action exist as equivalent points of departure in Connors' work. Details are seized upon, drafted and re-worked - either within one painting or simultaneously across several; accidental drips and marks accumulated through time spent in his studio become integral to the work, his surfaces registering each moment in their creation.

Indeed, if painting can be thought of as an act of pushing through from one space to another, the installation of Connors' works allude to the struggle and scrutiny of this process. Hung between four free standing walls, the tight formation of which forces one to encounter much of the work as if in a 'tunnel' between these two metaphysical spaces.

Accompanying his new paintings and drawings, Connors will present his first tapestry. Fabricated at Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh, the work re-imagines his painting by the same name, *Translated Union Bug*, 2019; the tapestry's shift in scale, material and form expanding the physical potential of his painted works.

**Notes to Editors**

For all PRESS enquiries please contact Rees & Co:  
 Rosanna Hawkins | [rosanna@reesandco.com](mailto:rosanna@reesandco.com) | +44 (0)20 3137 8776

**Matt Connors (B. 1973, Chicago; Lives and works in New York)** Selected solo exhibitions include 'The Flat Voice', The Modern Institute, Glasgow (2016); 'Zonder', Karma, Amagansett, New York (2014); White Flag Library, Saint Louis (2013); 'Reverse Telescopes with Inflected Baffles', KARMA, New York (2013); 'Impressionism', MoMA PS1, New York, (2012); 'Gas... Telephone... One Hundred Thousand Rubles', Kunsthalle Düsseldorf (2011) and Concentrations 54: Fergus Feehily and Matt Connors, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas (2011). In 2016 Connors had his first solo exhibition at The Modern Institute, Glasgow. A monograph of Connors' work titled 'GUI(L)DE' was published this year.