

# Samuel Laurence Cunnane

## Late Spring

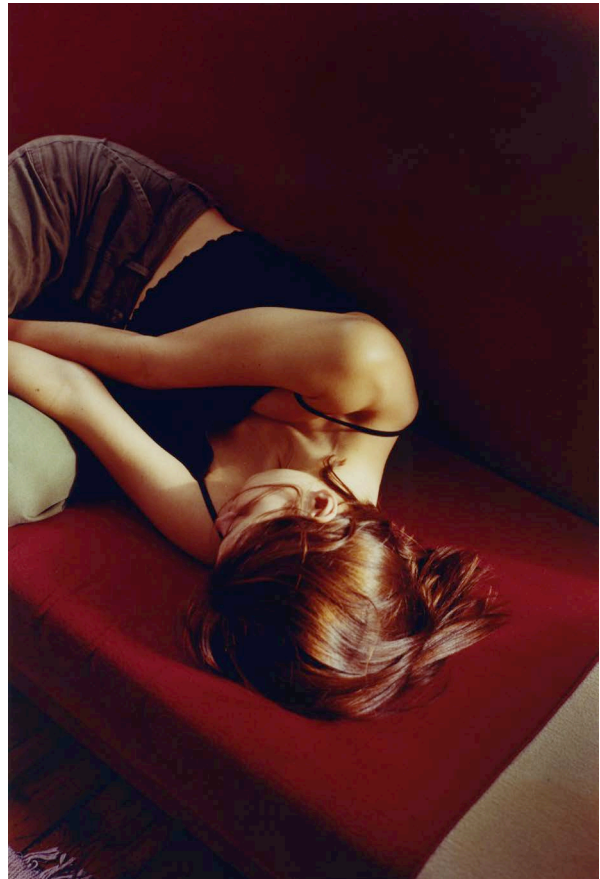
1 March – 6 April 2024

Opening: Thursday 29 February, 6–8pm

Kerlin Gallery is delighted to present *Late Spring*, an exhibition of analogue photographs taken by Samuel Laurence Cunnane in the Spring of 2023.

*Late Spring* is the latest instalment in a multiyear project made while driving across continental Europe. Cunnane captures moments of idiosyncratic beauty that catch his eye as he passes from place to place, documenting the surfaces and textures of urban and rural locales and the peripheral zones between them: signposts, building sites, midcentury architecture; the tangled woodlands and desolate roadsides that orbit our settlements. There's a sense that the grandeur of modernity has ebbed away here, been layered over with new, makeshift infrastructures. A supermarket wall clipped free of its tiles becomes a blank abstract painting; a fence cuts through a French modernist seaside resort – the kind the artist's grandparents would holiday in; a synthetic curtain flares in the light of a tiny Warsaw hotel room. Minimal in composition, the photographs often feel like the opening shots of films, poised and waiting to be animated. *Late Spring* also includes several portraits of the artist's friends in moments of quiet repose. An intimate counterpoint to the transience of life on the road, they capture light falling delicately on the backs of hands, shoulders and necks, illuminating subjects who seem inattentive to the camera's gaze. These photographs give atmospheric glimpses into their subjects' lives and yet retain a sense of mystery – moments of meeting and passing in the anachronistic universe Cunnane so adeptly conjures.

Based in Co Kerry, Samuel Laurence Cunnane (b. 1989) works with analogue photography, capturing scenes with a detached "floating eye" perspective. He began his career working in the Maysles Documentary Centre in New York in 2012, working alongside its founder, the



celebrated American filmmaker Albert Maysles, to hand print his collection of documentary photographs. Cunnane's photographs deromanticise the popularly sentimental, with landscapes interrupted by utilitarian infrastructure, and yet their sensitivity to light, framing and texture gives them a cinematic quality. Responding to the increasingly dematerialised nature of contemporary image-making, Cunnane remains connected to the physicality of the production process, printing his photographs by hand in a darkroom.

Cunnane has had solo exhibitions at Kerlin Gallery (2020, 2015); OCT Boxes Museum of Art, Shunde, China (2018), Öktem&Aykut, Istanbul (2021, 2017); Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (2016) and THEODORE: Art, New York (2015).

### Media Contact

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