

Alex Dordoy
'From Svalbard Soil'
The Modern Institute, Osborne Street
3 June – 26 August, 2017
Preview Friday 2 June, 7 – 9 pm

Alex Dordoy's fourth solo exhibition at The Modern Institute 'From Svalbard Soil' takes its title from the Norwegian archipelago of Svalbard, known for its iconic Global Seed Vault. This is the world's largest collection of agricultural biodiversity and preservation of over 1,700 individual plant seeds. Dordoy's exhibition reimagines the gallery as a greenhouse – a space in which the works grow organically, possessing a careful balance of restraint and play.

Dordoy's new body of work is comprised of a recent series of paintings, works on paper, sculptures and a site-specific wall painting. The large-scale canvases pursue the simplification of landscape seen in Dordoy's earlier paintings, for example the series 'Model T,' in which a 1920's travel poster was represented in six different colourways. Here, representation is further abstracted, as bold shapes and flat bright colours become cyphers for forms found in the natural world.

Placed throughout the gallery, six new sculptures continue Dordoy's interest in transfer processes. Intimate in scale, the wide range of surfaces evident in these three-dimensional works sit in marked contrast to the graphic simplicity of the paintings, and yet share a common vocabulary of organic outlines.

Alex Dordoy (b. 1985, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Lives and works in London) studied at De Ateliers, Amsterdam (2009 – 2011), California Institute of the Arts, Los Angeles (2005) and Glasgow School of Art (2003 – 2007). Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Model T', The Modern Institute, Aird's Lane, Glasgow (2015); 'Sleepwalker', Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag (2014); 'persistencebeatsresistance', Inverleith House, Edinburgh (2014); ReMap4, Athens (2013); 'Young Scottish Painters', Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (2010).

Dordoy has participated widely in international group exhibitions, including: 'Future Eaters', Monash University Museum of Art, Caulfield East (2017); 'Office Space', Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; 'Crab Walk', Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland; 'THE NOING UV IT', Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen (all 2015); 'GENERATION: 25 Years of Contemporary Art in Scotland', Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (2014-15); 'A House Leaves: Second Movement', David Roberts Art Foundation, London (2013).