

## IBID

35 Hoxton Square  
London N1 6NN  
United Kingdom  
t: +44 (0) 207 998 7902  
f: +44 (0) 207 729 3309  
e: [info@ibidprojects.com](mailto:info@ibidprojects.com)  
[www.ibidprojects.com](http://www.ibidprojects.com)

### **Christopher Orr**

*Cleiking the Deil*

25 August – 29 September 2012

IBID is pleased to announce its fourth solo exhibition with Scottish painter, Christopher Orr, entitled *Cleiking the Deil*.

Christopher Orr's work embodies uncertainty, mystery and doubt through portraits of people from the recent past and landscapes suspended between reality and illusion.

His new body of work focuses on the figurative where his subjects appear deeply occupied with undefined activities, incongruous with the painting's background. Characters, scenes and objects are lifted from the artist's collection of science and history magazines, its pages serving as a free association of material from the natural world to folklore. The title of the show, *Cleiking the Deil* (catching the devil by his leg), references a parish tradition in Scotland revolving around the story of St Ronan, who is traditionally depicted with his crook attacking Satan, dispelling evil from our midst.

Christopher Orr's recent paintings are confident in their execution and in part he references a Romanticist ideal. Yet here some of the scenes feel different, man seems to be more isolated and detached. Instead of idealized historical events or allegories we find representations of rather unadorned men and women from everyday life who seem to be removed from reality, engrossed in some sort of obscure undertaking or ruled by something indiscernible.

The canvases of Christopher Orr depict landscapes populated by figures from a past time. Oscillating between figuration and abstraction, landscape backgrounds are in some instances rendered through matrix-like checkerboards, foreshadowing the real. Earthy palettes of colour build up the compositions that in some places have been scraped off to reveal the bare canvas beneath. Combining often ordinary source materials to produce extraordinary juxtapositions, Orr creates a painterly vision that is entirely his own.

Christopher Orr's exhibition will be in two parts – Part One at Ibid, 35 Hoxton Square, Orr's most recent series of paintings will be exhibited. Part Two will be on show at Katrin Bellinger / Colnaghi, 15 Old Bond Street, where a series of works on paper will be presented alongside a small selection of Old Master works of the same medium. Christopher Orr's works on show at Colnaghi look at historical and contemporary aspects of the 'unfinished' and its compositions. The show is an open exploration of the processes and methods by which artists explore and come to know a subject and compositions by way of drawing and sketching - a kind of provocation, getting to know something. It is looking at the inner structure, logic and meaning inherent to the medium that painting cannot reveal in the same way.

**Part One - Christopher Orr**

Ibid, 35 Hoxton Square, London N1 6NN

Dates: 25 August – 28 September 2012

Tuesday – Saturday 11am - 6pm

[www.ibidprojects.com](http://www.ibidprojects.com)

**Part Two - Christopher Orr**

Colnaghi, 15 Old Bond Street, London W1S 4AX

Dates: 30 August – 26 September

Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm

[www.colnaghi.co.uk](http://www.colnaghi.co.uk)

Christopher Orr, born in Scotland in 1967, lives and works in London. He attended the Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design in Dundee, Scotland and obtained an MA in painting at the Royal College of Art in London. Recent solo shows include *A Painting Cycle*, Nomas, Rome, IT; Hauser & Wirth, Zurich, CH; Artsway, Hampshire (both 2010); and IBID PROJECTS, London (2009). Group shows include ArtSway at the 54th Venice Biennale, Venice, IT (2011); *BIGMINIS*, CAPC, Museum of Contemporary Art Bordeaux, Bordeaux, FR; *No New Thing Under the Sun*, Royal Academy of Arts, London (both 2010); and *Tate Triennial*, Tate Britain, London (2006).

For further images or information on the two exhibitions by Christopher Orr, please email

Chelsea Zaharczuk / [chelsea@ibidprojects.com](mailto:chelsea@ibidprojects.com) / +44 (0) 207 998 7902