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THE SCOTSMAN
ON SATURDAY

ARTIST SHOWCASE WITH EDINBURGH ART FESTIVAL



Kevin Harman's New Mountains Found, 2019
PICTURE: John McKenzie, Image courtesy the artist and Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh



Kevin Harman's Where water breaks its silence, 2020
PICTURE: John McKenzie, Image courtesy the artist and Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh

ARTIST #1 KEVIN HARMAN

In April this year, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 edition of the Edinburgh Art Festival had to be cancelled. However, as Edinburgh and its vibrant visual art scene begin to emerge from lockdown we are delighted to present this new weekly showcase, produced alongside Edinburgh Art Festival, featuring work by artists with digital and/or physical exhibitions at the city's galleries.

Our first featured artist is Kevin Harman. Positioned somewhere between painting and sculpture Harman's "glassworks" often appear to have some sort of reference to the places in art history where nature and abstraction collide; Turner's seascapes for example, or Monet's Giverny. But their origin is in the much more urban environment of 21st century Glasgow.

Working in his Govan studio, Harman reclaims and recycles materials from the world of construction, salvaging discarded double-glazing units and mis-tinted household paints. He splits apart the toughened glass panels, pouring and layering the paint onto both inside surfaces; letting them dry, adding more; tilting and transferring the paint. The luminous and delicate forms that result belie both the ordinariness of the materials and the physically demanding process of their making. Harman says: "there's a sense of subverting the material so the window loses all transparency and becomes this other thing to be looked at rather than through."

Harman's solo exhibition with the Ingleby Gallery, planned for April, has been postponed until early 2021 and a new book, with a conversation between the artist and author Irvine Welsh, will be published to celebrate this. In the meantime his glassworks are to be exhibited as part of HOME, a group exhibition open by appointment from 5 August at the Ingleby Gallery.

HOME is at the Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, from 5 August until 19 September, www.inglebygallery.com.

Although this year's Edinburgh Art Festival has been cancelled, ten artists from previous festival editions have been invited to mark the dates the event would have run (30 July – 30 August). For more information, visit www.edinburghartfestival.com

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