

CIARÁN MURPHY

THERE, THERE NOW

Feb 01 – Mar 21 Keizersgracht 241



Ciarán Murphy | *Intermission* | 2018 | detail

GRIMM is pleased to present *there, there now*, a solo exhibition of recent work by Ciarán Murphy. This is the artist's seventh solo presentation with the gallery and his sixth solo exhibition with GRIMM in Amsterdam.

*Our knowledge is patterned from what we forget, as much as what we can recall. We exist in what never reaches that minor part of us in the conscious spectrum, as much as in what does. We are also what hides in blanks, gaps and aporia, in outlines, skeletons, in anticipation and afterimage.*¹

The selection of works that make up Ciarán Murphy's solo show *there, there now*, were developed during a residency in the artist's homeland, Ireland and evoke a fleeting encounter with a shifting place; a journey partly captured from a moving vantage point. Together, the images relay a drawn-out sense of time in the liminal coastal landscape, framed by the tide and movement of the sun. Although many of the forms that appear throughout this exhibition are recognizable (clouds, rock formations, sea creatures, etc.) they veer towards enigmatic; objects that appear in varying states of flux: they float, are in the midst of changing form, and reside somewhere between appearing and disappearing.

Throughout there is a subtle play with boundaries and proximities - in some instances birds are seen up close but violently cropped while in other places inanimate rocks seem as lively as the creatures that move around them. In *Long drive back* for example, the viewer can recognize hands on a steering wheel but the space between the car interior and the exterior landscape is blurred, giving the image a dream-like quality. The work has strong affinities with subjective mental processes like remembering and dreaming, processes which can also be understood as an effort to give consistency to fractured, disparate information, oscillating between fragmentation and order.

These paintings take shape through a non-linear working methodology. Images are often started, then left to gestate, only to be revisited at a later time. This process allows for unanticipated changes of direction and thus for meaning to slide. Perhaps it is this approach to art making that gives the work its fragile and mutable quality. *There, there now* captures a sense of place through fragments, charting the artist's exploration of a familiar landscape along with associated perceptions, highlights, and memories.

1. Quote taken from Luke Clancy's 2013 essay *Time after Time* on the work of Ciarán Murphy.

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For more information, interview and royalty free image requests, please contact the gallery manager Jorien de Vries:
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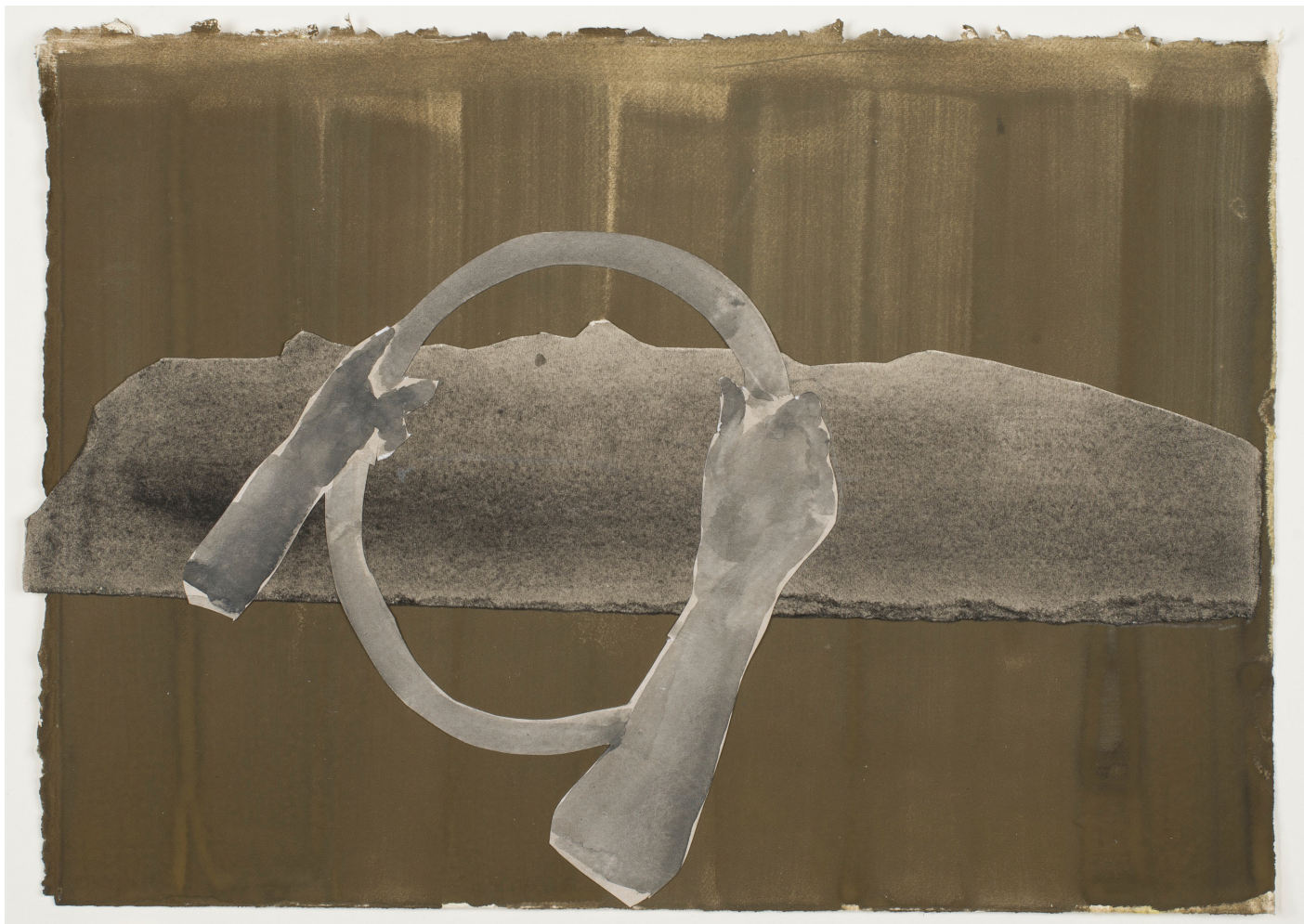
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Ciarán Murphy | *Long drive back* | 2018 | Watercolour, gouache, oil on paper | 23.5 x 32.5 cm | 9 1/4 x 12 3/4 in

About the artist

Ciarán Murphy (b. 1978 in Mayo, IE) received his BA at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin (IE) in 2003 and his MA in Visual Arts Practices (MAVIS), IADT, Dublin (IE) in 2005.

Murphy has a museum solo exhibition at The Royal Hibernian Academy in Dublin forthcoming titled *Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily* that opens November 2020. Other solo exhibitions include *Ciarán Murphy* at GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL) in 2007; *Ciarán Murphy* at Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago (US) and *Ciarán Murphy* at Cerealart, Philadelphia (US), in 2008; *All That's Air Melts Into Solid* at GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL) in 2010; *The Paradise* at Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (IE) in 2013; *A particular nothing* at GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL) 2014; *Plainsight* at GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL); and *Hundreds of Nature* at GRIMM, New York (US).

Murphy has participated in group shows at Gallery Massimo Carassi, Milan (IT) in 2006; Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (IE) and the Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin (IE) in 2011; as well as the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin (IE) in 2013, and 2017, respectively. His work was recently on view in the exhibition *Away in the Hill* at GRIMM New York, NY (US) and is now part of *The Periodical Review #9* at PallasProjects in Dublin (IE).

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