

LUNGLEY

Luke McCreadie: Touching Words

06/04/18 - 22/04/18

For his first solo exhibition at LUNGLEY, Luke McCreadie presents **Touching Words**.

Exhibiting a diverse body of work produced in the last year McCreadie's practice appears disparate in medium and approach. Video, drawing and sculpture are coupled through enigmatic and often ambiguous visual and conceptual associations. Throughout the exhibition the artist considers how a shift in language between varying contexts has the potential to create a lapse in meaning and our understanding of the way objects and ideas are perceived, both literally and figuratively.



The backdrop to the exhibition is a wall decorated with wallpaper, the design is a pattern made up of hand drawn forms that appear dense and irregular, these lumpen forms sit somewhere between letters of the alphabet and the distinct sculptural forms prominent in the work of Henry Moore or Franz West. A giant tongue penetrates the gallery wall and appears to glow, complete with a laser cut pill like shape on the tip of the tongue - perhaps a bitter pill to swallow McCreadie acknowledges and mocks the supporting architecture.

The technique of laser cutting becomes a form of mark making that enables McCreadie to reflect on the qualities and behaviour of materials and engage in a dialogue between art and technology rather than a way of showing the artifice inherent in making art. Materials whether readymade, crafted, commonplace or virtual – are both literal and suggestively symbolic. He constructs a topography (forming a collection from separate parts) that is also a form of typography, a language that demands to be read and interpreted, creating a hierarchy or taxonomy between something formal, humorous and potentially abject.

Language and its representation is a recurrent theme in the work. McCreadie is interested in the way words exist in the world and how through their saturation, there is a point where they become nonsense. Leaning precariously on the wall of the gallery are three multi-coloured perspex sheets treated by a technician each sheet features text that appears embalmed in the material the viewer is forced to get up close to the translucent material and make sense the words entwined and trapped - McCreadie asks us to examine the way words exist all around us.

The contained elements imply hierarchies, patterns and systems; and yet McCreadie hints at the capacity for structure (and with it, easy meaning) to unravel and mutate. Often, a gap opens up between an object's superficial appearance – and its material form. In his videos as much as his sculptures and painting, McCreadie coerces disjointed elements into a formalist whole.

For further information please contact the gallery at mark@lungleygallery.com