
MARTIN SEEDS

VIOLENCE RELIGION INJUSTICE DEATH

9 MAY - 2 JUNE 2019

Seen Fifteen is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Northern Irish artist Martin Seeds - VIOLENCE RELIGION INJUSTICE DEATH. Seeds grew up in Belfast at the height of the civil conflict, The Troubles, in the 1970s and 1980s. Through his practice he engages with the conflicting experiences of Northern Irish identity, politics and culture.

The exhibition presents new works from the series *Disagreements*, part of a long-term project made in the grounds of the Stormont Estate, home of the Northern Ireland Assembly. The Assembly was created as part of the Good Friday Agreement with the aim of establishing a devolved government in which both Unionist and Nationalist political parties would share power. The devolved government of Northern Ireland collapsed in January 2017 and has not operated since. The issue of dysfunction at Stormont had rarely been covered in the British media until the recent death of journalist Lyra McKee. Seeds' *Disagreements* works - which fuse positive and negative images of the same subject - are an allegorical response to the fragility and vulnerability of Northern Ireland politics.

The centrepiece of the exhibition is a large scale installation of Seeds' latest body of work, *Masks* - comprised of over 190 unique silver gelatin contact prints of balaclavas, hand-made in the darkroom with the screen of an iPad. This new body of work marks a departure in the artist's practice driven by the fact that Northern Ireland and the "Irish Question" has been thrust into the centre of political discourse surrounding the Brexit negotiations. The *Masks* are an overt symbol of terrorism and an expression of the artist's darkest fears that Brexit could lead to a return to the sectarian violence that was the backdrop to his early life.

ABOUT MARTIN SEEDS

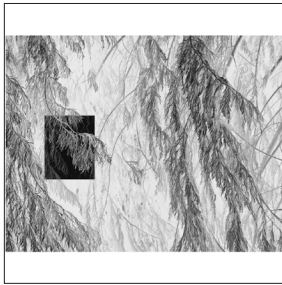
Martin Seeds practice is shaped by his relationship with his Northern Irish homeland which he left in 1986. Personal narratives, the relationship to place, politics, conflict, sameness and difference, diaspora and myth are all underlying themes that recur and interconnect in his work. He experiments with combinations of analogue and digital imaging technologies. In 2017 he was awarded a Magnum Graduate Award for his body of work, *Assembly*. In 2018 he was the recipient of the Brighton Photo Fringe Danny Wilson Memorial Award - Professional's Choice. He has previously exhibited with Seen Fifteen at Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris during Paris Photo 2017. Recent exhibitions include Format International Photography Festival (2019), Field/s One at Sluice HQ London (2018) and Brighton Photo Fringe 2018. Martin Seeds lives in Brighton and is a Lecturer in Photography at the University of Brighton.

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SEEN
FIFTEEN

MARTIN SEEDS LIST OF WORKS

**DISAGREEMENT (i)**

101.6cm x 81.2cm
Giclee Print
Handmade Frame
Edition of 5 (2AP)
£1,550

50.8cm x 40.6cm
Giclee Print (Unframed)
Edition of 8 (2AP)
£650

**DISAGREEMENT (ii)**

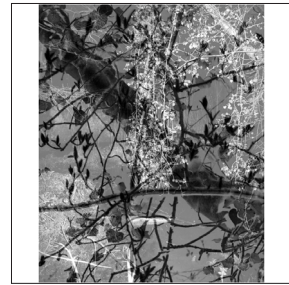
101.6cm x 81.2cm
Giclee Print
Handmade Frame
Edition of 5 (2AP)
£1,550

50.8cm x 40.6cm
Giclee Print (Unframed)
Edition of 8 (2AP)
£650

**DISAGREEMENT (iii)**

101.6cm x 81.2cm
Giclee Print
Handmade Frame
Edition of 5 (2AP)
£1,550

50.8cm x 40.6cm
Giclee Print (Unframed)
Edition of 8 (2AP)
£650

**DISAGREEMENT (iv)**

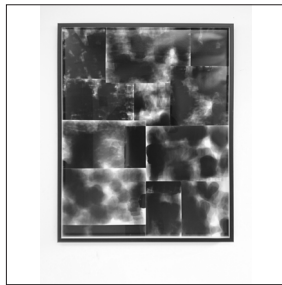
66cm x 81.2cm
Giclee Print
Handmade Frame
Edition of 5 (2AP)
£1,250

40.6cm x 30.5cm
Giclee Print (Unframed)
Edition of 8 (2AP)
£450

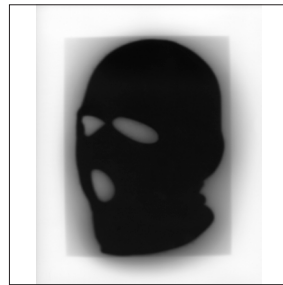
**DISAGREEMENT (v)**

53.8cm x 81.2cm
Giclee Print
Handmade Frame
Edition of 5 (2AP)
£1,250

26.7cm x 40.6cm
Giclee Print (Unframed)
Edition of 8 (2AP)
£450

**PUNISHMENT (i) 2018**

79cm x 59.5cm
Collage of unique silver
gelatin prints
Framed
Edition 1/1
£2,400

**MASKS - SERIES - 2019**

Unique silver gelatin prints
Each print Edition 1/1
£100