

OLIVIER CORNET GALLERY, DUBLIN, IRELAND.

WAR PAINT BY CONRAD FRANKEL

Sunday, April 10, 2022 to Sunday, May 1, 2022

War Paint

The Olivier Cornet Gallery is delighted to present War Paint, Conrad Frankel's third solo exhibition with us.

Please note that 20% of the sales of work from this exhibition will go to the Irish Red Cross to contribute to the Ukraine relief effort.

"For the last few months my mind, like nearly everybody's, has been occupied with the war in Ukraine. I've been checking the news 20 times a day. Since last September I have been working towards my upcoming solo show at the Olivier Cornet Gallery, a series of still lives with phantom like shadows cast by the use of two angle-poise lights. When Russian forces invaded Ukraine two weeks ago and Putin began his ultraviolent smash up in Ukraine, I felt compelled to turn my attention to the war as an artist. I just couldn't sit and paint still lives anymore. It felt wrong at this time-I had to paint the war, to show the horror of it, the inhumanity of it. I knew this wasn't going to be a commercial subject matter. However, every day since it began, I've chosen an image, mostly from the BBC website, or something similar, and painted it.

By making this group of paintings, I hope to show the war to people afresh. Saturated, jaded by online media, I wanted to make paintings of the images we all see and know, and too quickly forget. Images that would resonate deeper by virtue of them being reimagined and abstracted in paint.

I usually just use regular Windsor and Newton oil paint and whatever lead white I can buy. For this series I wanted to use something different to express the bleakness of the situation. I got some very fine sand from the owner of Athy foundry, and mixed it with a cold wax medium called Zest it, and another medium called Velasquez medium which is limestone based. To that mound of matter, I added my colours. The piles of paint I used were the size of golf balls, and very gritty because of the sand. It all crunched under my palette knives. It felt right when painting a convoy or a bombed maternity hospital to be using such rough stuff. The skies I made look like they

have been painted with cement. The images are hewn from a slimy grit and the brushes and palette knives have been wearing down faster than usual. The experience is about the presence of things, a broken and bald world.

Having studied the press photos of the war closely I've realised that one war is ten million wars. So many actions happen to so many people in so many places that it's very hard to fathom what a war is. We can't imagine what's really happening even if we see the images online. We forget the news so quickly. Dasein was Heidegger's word for 'being there' or the experience of being that is particular to humans. In my paintings for this show I hope to take people into the icy convoys sliding off the snowy highway, up the road with the fleeing families lugging their wheely suitcases, and into a night group of hitchhikers hoping to get a lift away. I want to do something deeper with the news I can't stop looking at. To make it real in paint. To be there just a bit closer, and show how many places people are stuck in. With three weeks left I am working away every day, towards a show, and like many people, with an existential dread of what is to come before the show..."

Conrad Frankel

CONRAD FRANKEL Leaving Town, 2022

92 x 122 x 2 cm (h x w x d) Oil & sand on linen 5000 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL
Satellite Image III, 2022

25 x 30 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1200 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Echo Chamber, 2022

30 x 40 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Russian Convoy, Dawn, 2022

25 x 30 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1200 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Russian Convoy, 2022

30 x 40 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL

Tank at Night, 2022

30 x 40 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL
Burning Vehicule, 2022

30 x 40 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Stranded Russian Convoy, 2022

40 x 69 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
3000 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Border Patrol, 2022

30 x 40 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Kamikaze Drone, 2022

80 x 90 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
5000 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Hitchhikers, 2022

 $51 \times 97 \times 2$ cm (h x w x d) Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood 4000 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL
On the road, 2022

56 x 72 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
3500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL

Maternity Hospital Rescue, 2022

63 x 76 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
3500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL

Bombed Hospital, 2022

 $51 \times 61 \times 2$ cm (h x w x d) Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood 3500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Doctor, 2022

 $50 \times 50 \times 2$ cm (h x w x d) Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood 2000 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL

Bombed Maternity Hospital, 2022

46 x 55 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
3000 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Waiting, 2022

30 x 40 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL
Burning Apartment Block, 2022

25 x 30 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1200 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL

Missile in Kiev Suburb, 2022

40 x 30 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1500 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Burial, 2022

25 x 30 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1200 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL
The School Run, 2022

25 x 30 x 2 cm (h x w x d)
Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood
1200 EUR



CONRAD FRANKEL Missile Strike, 2022

50 x 100 x 2 cm (h x w x d) Oil & sand on linen mounted on wood 4000 EUR



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