

PRESS RELEASE

Jonathan Callan
The Narrows

Exhibition Dates: 8th February – 23rd March 2024
Private View: 7th February 2024, 6-9 pm

Gallery Hours: Wed-Sat, 12-5 PM | 11 Church Street, NW8 8EE, London, UK

Jonathan Callan’s solo show **The Narrows** will present a body of work, making connections between the experience of his progressive hearing loss and the profound readjustment the artist sees taking place within Western culture as it comes to terms with its relative decline in a world being remade. Change and realignment are evidenced in almost every work, whether in terms of things being removed: in the piece *Elysium*, where an imagined Western idyll is reduced to a fragile visual net. Or a work being shown in progress, *Ten Thousand Western Sunsets*, where sunsets are sanded away from book pages and re-compiled as phials of dust, to the musical pieces where Callan tries to find visual analogues for his progressive deafness. Manuscripts of famous British composers are dissected and then rewound as paper albums. Pieces with musical notation are reimagined and re-written in silicone rubber or redrawn with monumental additions. The cover of the book that Callan used in learning how to play the guitar, something he can no longer do, is photographed spinning at 78rpm on the studio wall. The exhibition is an attempt to make connections between that which is irreducibly personal and the wider experiences of history.

Jonathan Callan’s (b. 1961, UK) work has for many years been preoccupied with the nature of information and language. Although using printed matter and imagery gathered from a variety of different places, his primary material comes mainly from books.

His work is included in major museum collections including The Museum of Modern Art, New York, The British Museum, London, The Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK, South London Gallery, London, Whitworth Gallery, Manchester, UK, The British Council, The Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, The High Museum Atlanta, GA, The West Collection, Pennsylvania, The Leopold Hirsch Museum Düren, Germany, Princeton University Art Museum, New York, Progressive Art Collection 'Ohio and JP Morgan Chase Bank, New York.

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