

Zyrland Zoiropa, Pankstrasse 26, 13357 Berlin

Liam Allan

The Tourist

27.01.2024 - 17.02.2024



Liam Allan's practice focuses on manipulated information and documented authenticity. Centering around a process of digital layering, he compiles mistruths and damage upon carefully collected and amalgamated found images. These delicately crafted compositions are then drawn to scale in pencil on paper, isolated within an exilic void consisting of thousands of sequential pencil marks. Beginning with research in online and physical archives, his source materials, comprising photographs of contemporary and ancient artifacts, are altered and amended to create new objects that are fictionalized and impossible to accurately place. This process aims to consider the etymology of images, and misinformation in digital environments.

“ I try to make obscurity part of the process of selecting source materials, deliberately shielding or intentionally forgetting the origins of the works. The finished drawings are then titled in ways that imply a basic but false narrative - with this group of works, I've used incorrect European nationalities. I remember watching a video of an American conspiracist researching Petra in Jordan. He explained that there was no way that the structures there could've been made by man, that the elaborate or perfectly vertical surfaces must have been created by some kind of alien society or long-lost technology. The comments on the video were full of people agreeing with him; as if the video was a destination that the viewers could go to visit something that feels more real. ”

From left of the entrance

Brits

Pencil on paper

62 x 41 cm / 24.5 x 16"

65 x 43 cm / 25.5 x 17" framed

2023

Irish

Pencil on paper

41 x 56 cm / 16.5 x 22"

44.5 x 58.5 cm / 17.5 x 23" framed

2023

The Frenchman

Pencil on paper

33 x 57 cm / 13 x 22.5"

35.5 x 60 cm / 14 x 23.5" framed

2023

The Greek

Pencil on paper

81.5 x 58.5 cm / 32 x 22"

84 x 58.5 cm / 33 x 23" framed

2023