



Urban & Contemporary Art (14 June 2022 B)

Tue, 14th Jun 2022

Viewing:

Collections will take place from Wednesday, 10am at our Chiswick Headquarters on Colville Road.

Viewings will be held at our new headquarters:

10 Barley Mow Passage
Chiswick
London
W4 4PH

Thursday 9 June, 11am to 4pm
Friday 10 June, 11am to 4pm
Saturday 11 June, 11am to 4pm
Monday 13 June, 11am to 4pm

This auction will be held at our previous HQ:

1 Colville Road
London
W3 8BL

Lot 258 §

Estimate: £4000 - £6000 + Fees

HUGHIE O'DONOGHUE (BRITISH B. 1953)

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Marsyas

incised with signature and date *O'Donoghue 2002* (lower right); incised with title (lower left)

watercolour, oil and varnish on paper

sheet: 37.5 x 56.5 cm

frame: 43 x 62.75 cm

framed

ARR

Provenance:

Purdy Hicks, London, where purchased by the present owner

Considered to be one of the leading painters of his generation, O'Donoghue drew inspiration from the lavish colours of Old Master painters such as Titian. His paintings frequently combine rich, expressionist colours and textures, verging on abstract, when addressing a particular event or history upon which he has chosen to meditate or elaborate.

His paintings explore themes of universal human experience, often on an epic scale, they meditate on ideas of truth and the relationship between memory and identity, drawing on history and personal records to create works that resonate with emotional intensity.

Marsyas alludes to the satyr in Greek mythology who is a central figure in two stories involving music. In one, he picked up the double oboe that had been abandoned by Athena and played it. In the other, he challenged Apollo to a musical contest and lost his hide and his life. The tales of free

speech, hubris and loss are relatable in their themes reflecting human existence.

Charged with metaphorical, O'Donoghue's works, though never fully formulated subject matters, invite the viewer to immerse themselves in the artist's thought and working process, ultimately challenging them to confront their own relationship with identity. This reflects the artist's deep-rooted interest in interrogating the way memory is forged through generations.

Hughie O'Donoghue was born in Manchester, England but much of his work is influenced by time spent in his mother's place of origin, the remote Barony of Erris in Co Mayo, Ireland. The stark Irish scenery with its accompanying sense of tragedy, derived from the days of The Great Famine, found later expression in his art. O'Donoghue studied at Goldsmiths College and upon graduation he became artist-in-residence at London's National Gallery.