

TANJA POL GALERIE

PAUL MORRISON
DRAWINGS
09/09/09 - 07/11/09

We are proud to announce Paul Morrison's first solo show at Tanja Pol Galerie in Munich. Morrison, born in Liverpool in 1966, has brought together a new group of works on paper for his Munich exhibition.

Since the mid-1990s Morrison has been working on the subject of landscape, particularly in large site-specific wall paintings and on paintings on canvas, but also in films and sculptures. He confronts the viewer with a relatively narrow selection of significant artistic motifs and topoi that stand for the genre of landscape, rendering a new conceptual approach to the this topic especially represented in British art history.

Morrison's black-and-white landscapes made up of found and adapted pictorial material have long entered collective pictorial memory, although his own idiom and means have also significantly changed over recent years. He still prefers monochromes, but now often replaces black and white with gold leaf or silver, pursuing his early interest in the theme of the mirror and reflections. Very early in his career, Morrison defined his own conceptual approach, consistently using and repeating a figurative hard-edge pictorial idiom that drew on sources ranging from medieval engravings to botanical drawings to comics. He has since expanded this slowly and subtly. In addition to flora, his landscapes began to include fragments of architecture, figures in historical costume and animals, also using found imagery. These elements started off as staffage and then slowly came to conquer the foreground of Morrison's pictures.

Paul Morrison graduated from Goldsmiths College in London in 1998 and has since developed an international reputation through major museum exhibitions and commissions. Past solo museum exhibitions include Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Kunstverein Ulm and Le Magasin Grenoble (2002), the Irish Museum of Art (2003), the Contemporary Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii (2006), Bloomberg Space, London (2007), Las Vegas Art Museum (2008), and most recently Manchester City Art Gallery (2009).

Recent commissions include Rhode Island School of Art & Design Museum (2008) and Towada Art Center (2008). Paul Morrison lives and works in Sheffield and London.