MITCHELL-INNES & NASH

DANIEL LEFCOURT: Terraform 534 West 26th Street, New York November 1 – December 22, 2018

Opening Reception: Thursday, November 1 from 6 to 8 PM



NEW YORK, September 21, 2018 – Mitchell-Innes & Nash is pleased to present an exhibition of new paintings by Daniel Lefcourt at the gallery's Chelsea location at 534 West 26th Street. Titled *Terraform*, this will be the artist's second solo exhibition with the gallery and will feature a set of eight large-scale paintings.

Throughout his career, Lefcourt has engaged painting through the lens of scientific, industrial and military imaging technologies. For his latest work, he has created a set of paintings each depicting an abstract landscape seen from an aerial

perspective. The landscapes do not describe real places, but are generated by staining the canvas and then tracing the stains using algorithmically plotted lines. Sometimes the line drawings are map-like or diagrammatic; in other instances, landforms are described using hatching and linear perspective. The paintings speak to a history of art derived from computation and indeterminacy. A history that includes the generative systems of the artist Hanne Darboven and the parametric musical scores of Iannis Xenakis.

The aerial view is of interest to Lefcourt because it is a particularly modern and technological vantage. It is also a gendered perspective. It correlates with masculine fantasies of dominance, as well as metaphysical and technological omnipotence. The bird's-eye view in the paintings bring to mind drone footage from America's global military operations, satellite data of melting glaciers, and the camera movement in contemporary video games.

Borrowing a popular term from science fiction, the title of the exhibition, *Terraform*, alludes to the influence of authors such as Ursula K. Le Guin and Kim Stanley Robinson. The authors' respective works broach the economic and environmental consequences of our current socio-political landscape by constructing elaborate fictional worlds. Likewise, Lefcourt's paintings offer a vehicle by which we might think on a geological scale, reflect on our current condition, and imagine other possible futures.

About Daniel Lefcourt

Daniel Lefcourt was born in New York in 1975, and lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. He received his MFA from Columbia University and his BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design, where he is a member of the faculty. Lefcourt's work can be found in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; and the MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge. He has had numerous solo exhibitions both in the United States and in Europe, and has been included in prominent group exhibitions at institutions such as the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia;

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de Cordova Park and Museum, Lincoln; de Young Museum, San Francisco; Malmo KonstMuseum, Malmo; Kunst-Werke Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin; and MoMA P.S.1, Long Island City.

About Mitchell-Innes & Nash

Founded by Lucy Mitchell-Innes and David Nash, Mitchell-Innes & Nash places exemplary contemporary artists within a historical context, revealing a continuity of ideas and aesthetic virtuosity from the Modern era through the present day.

Mitchell-Innes & Nash's renowned exhibition program, in both their Madison Avenue and Chelsea locations, fosters excellence within artistic practice, while forging an informed dialogue between emerging and established internationally recognized artists. From acclaimed surveys of 20th century masters, such as Jean Arp, Anthony Caro, Jay DeFeo, Willem de Kooning, Leon Kossoff, Kenneth Noland, Roy Lichtenstein, and Nicolas de Stael, to solo exhibitions of Sarah Braman, Keltie Ferris, Daniel Lefcourt, Pope.L, Martha Rosler, and Jessica Stockholder, Mitchell-Innes & Nash has proven expertise in both advancing the careers of emerging artists and maintaining the superior standard set by established artists.

Caption: Daniel Lefcourt, <u>Terraform</u>, 2018, Pigment and acrylic polymer resin on canvas © Daniel Lefcourt; Courtesy of the artist and Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York

Listings Information:

Mitchell-Innes & Nash is located at 534 West 26th Street in Chelsea and 1018 Madison Avenue on the Upper East Side. Tel: 212 744 7400. | Web: www.miandn.com | Email: josie@miandn.com

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