

THE LIFE AROUND | IAN WILLIAMS & ELLEN NORRISH

WEST GALLERY
20 APRIL – 8 JUNE



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The Life Around presents the work of emerging artists Ian Williams and Ellen Norrish as they explore virtual landscapes and the complexities of being present in a technological environment. On display at Midland Junction Arts Centre from 20 April – 8 June, the exhibition showcases the distinct painting styles of the two artists as they establish a reflective space in-between two realities.

Hand held devices allow for instant accessibility to a wide range of digital platforms that become vehicles in which we can openly share the life around us. From social media, gaming, news or banking, the boundaries between physical and digital places become blurred. *The Life Around* situates the viewer somewhere between these two worlds, with Williams and Norrish providing a glimpse into the experience of engaging with technology.

Continuing an interest in the accumulation of imagery; Norrish looks to smartphone photographs that grow into large digital collections openly shared on social media. Exploring the digital life around Midland, Norrish interprets incidental images of place from Instagram posts. The outcome is a series of small works that encourage the viewer to reflect on their own snapshot archive.



Ellen Norrish, @kalinkosturkov
#sunpower #sunset, 2019, oil on board,
15 x 15 cm



Ian Williams, *Illumine*, 2018, oil on canvas, 50 x 76 cm

Also examining digital places constructed by other people, Williams investigates the realm of gaming objects through still life painting. Each of his elegant and mysterious abstract forms provides the viewer with a familiar and relatable environment to encourage interaction, engagement and decision making. Williams' work mimics the visual properties of physical world objects, offering perspective into the information age.

The Life Around invites visitors to step into a peculiar yet lively digital world inquisitively articulated with paint by Ian Williams and Ellen Norrish.

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Midland Junction Arts Centre

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Wed – Fri 10am – 5pm, Sat 11am – 3pm

