

Christiaan Kuitwaard – Space of Shade

05 December 2008 – 22 January 2009

Private View 04 December, 6-9pm



23.01. 2008

44.8 x 60.5 cm, oil on canvas and board

KESTER+BLES gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings by the established Friesian artist Christiaan Kuitwaard. This will be Christiaan's first solo show in the UK.

Christiaan lives and works in a tiny village in Friesland, the windswept northern province of the Netherlands. Christiaan unfolds the silence in the landscape surrounding him and searches for the essence of familiar objects. Vermeer's serene and timeless paintings depicting everyday life are an inspiration and his background as a professional mariner, travelling the world, also influences his work. At sea there is little noise or company - water, light and reflections produce infinite shades of grey while waves never generate strong outlines, only shadows.

Christiaan explores the boundaries of the visible and the absent, thereby almost removing any kind of form or shape, hardly representing anything at all. His small-scale interiors, still lifes and trees are constructed from shadows, excluding irrelevant details and human presence. The titles of his works are always the precise date of their creation, a systematic attempt to grasp the passing of time.

Christiaan was born in 1965. He studied at the Minerva Art Academy and the Kampen Art Academy in The Netherlands. As well as a recognized Friesian artist, Christiaan is also a visiting fine arts lecturer and a free lance illustrator. Christiaan has been professionally exhibiting his work in the Netherlands since 1991 and his work can be found in major public and corporate collections in Friesland and the Netherlands, such as AFI, Friesland Bank, Amsterdam Hospital and the Belvédère Museum.

KESTER+BLES is a contemporary art gallery in Notting Hill, London. The gallery was founded by Lieke Kester and Eelke Jan Bles, who both come from the Netherlands. KESTER+BLES shows work by emerging and mid-career artists from Northern Europe, particularly those based in the UK and the Netherlands.

For further information and high resolution images, please visit our website: www.kesterbles.com or contact Lieke Kester on: lieke@kesterbles.com, +44 (0)20 7229 0949 or +44 (0)7809 516 438.

Visiting address: 53 Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3HG, UK

Opening hours: Wed to Fri from 12 to 6 and Sat from 12 to 5 during exhibitions, or by appointment

PLEASE NOTE THE GALLERY IS CLOSED FROM 18 DECEMBER 2008 TO 07 JANUARY 2009