

# HEADSTONE

*Gridlock*

Corwyn Lund

April 1 - 30, 2023

For Immediate Release:

Headstone announces the solo exhibition, *Gridlock*, by Canadian artist, Corwyn Lund. *Gridlock* contains 11 paintings/glaze pictures and a large sculpture all made from ceramic, glaze, and inexplicable persistence. The evident unfolding of our civilization's demise saturates Lund's new body of work; each gesture invades, cracks, burrows, and pushes beyond the boundaries of the countered aesthetic dimensions. Moments of illusion are greeted with the reflection of the viewer - an inescapable pointing that ushers a portrait of guilt. Lund creates an elegance that is simultaneously superficial, yet profoundly relevant.

Fired Earth, a process by which clay transforms into ceramic, enacts a permanence like no other material; that crucial fact is the conceptual harness for *Gridlock*. All too aware of our current global environmental crisis, Lund converts the flat, tile-like surfaces into meditative spaces - empty, sterile, and beautiful. The cutting and chipping of a blade across each surface opens a channel, like a tributary, and with color, Lund defines depth and perspective. His calculated rhetoric and visual literacy are built off his technical expertise and continue a psychoanalytical marvel in one's attempts to understand how it all happened. Posing intersections from all sides, *Gridlock* forms a riddled snowball of connectivity and relationships - our history, our stories, our catastrophes, and underneath it all, our fears.

In his paintings, Lund has deliberately removed anything that could insinuate human survival. However, at the center of the exhibition, there is one sculpture using cast porcelain, smoke-stained gloves, that look as if there is/was pressure applied from a body. Hovering above what appears to be cooling lava, its ghostly insinuation falls deeper into one's internal undercurrent, removing value and judgment. It is in that moment Lund has nestled his fearless sincerity coupled with generosity to reveal life's foundational truth. One is reminded of an excerpt from the classic Walt Whitman poem, *To Think of Time*:

I swear I think there is nothing but immortality!  
That the exquisite scheme is for it, and the nebulous float is  
for it, and the cohering is for it;  
And all preparation is for it! and identity is for it! and life  
and materials are altogether for it!

Lund's clever mind envelopes the myriad of conversations with one's self on our own mortality. What is most considerate is that while the viewer continues to look, the ceramic paintings stare back; the power is in the test of time and the ceramic material has already proven itself. *Gridlock* is an endless loop of searching for a different, perhaps more appealing answer to our living query.

Corwyn Lund is Toronto-based artist who earned an MFA in Ceramic Art from Alfred University and studied sculpture at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) with the support of a Canada-US Fulbright Scholarship. He is currently a long-term resident at the Medalta Centre for Contemporary Ceramics in Alberta, Canada. Lund began working with clay at the European Ceramic Work Centre (EKWC) followed by residencies at Anderson Ranch in Colorado, Shenkar College in Israel, and The Pottery Workshop in China. His ceramic work has been part of group exhibitions at the Benyamini Center in Tel Aviv and The Power Plant in Toronto, was the subject of solo exhibitions at Toronto's Zalucky Contemporary and the Fosdick-Nelson Gallery at the New York State College of Ceramics, and is held in the collections of the Boijmans Museum in Rotterdam and the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum.

Headstone is an artist-run, for-profit contemporary art gallery located in Kingston, New York, dedicated to showing two-person and solo exhibitions. The 1,100sq ft gallery space was created by artists Lauren Aitken and Chase Folsom. The gallery is deeply committed to our artists and their ideas, providing them with a beautiful contemporary space and the necessary support to help them foster and fulfill their artistic vision. It is with considerate curation and our vast love of the art world that we bring together and introduce emerging and established artists, some of whom have yet to benefit from wider critical and commercial attention. We believe the arts should be equitable and accessible to anyone who would like to engage. Through artist exhibitions, we hope that Headstone can collectively bring people together, create community, expand connections and become an engaging, diverse melting pot of artists, creatives, collectors, and community members.

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 1, 5pm-8pm

Gallery Hours:  
Friday to Sunday, Noon- 5pm  
Or by appointment

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