

JD MALAT
GALLERY

At the Margin



THE EXHIBITION

Darren Reid's paintings construct scenes that appear documentary in clarity yet are charged by scale, distance, and atmosphere. Across landscapes, coastal views, bridges, and urban streets, the human figure is often present but rarely central. Instead, it becomes a measure against which space is understood.

Reid's realism is not nostalgic. It is structured. Influenced by the compositional discipline of Holbein and the atmospheric clarity of Edward Hopper and Andrew Wyeth, he treats painting as an act of sustained looking. Surfaces are clean, light is controlled, and gesture is subdued. What emerges is not spectacle but suspension.

In works such as *Précipice* (2025), a solitary figure stands at the edge of a snow-covered cliff, dwarfed by shifting cloud and mountain masses. In *Headland* (2025), a boat cuts across muted coastal water beneath a wide sky. In *Notting Hill* (2023), the everyday urban street is rendered with equal precision, the ordinary elevated through compositional balance. Across these works, Reid positions the viewer in a state of watchfulness.

The exhibition considers how scale alters perception. Vast landscapes and built environments are not dramatic backdrops but structural forces. The figure becomes a point of calibration within them, registering distance, risk, movement, and stillness. Each painting holds a moment in equilibrium, poised between narrative suggestion and formal clarity.

FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 27 2026

JD MALAT GALLERY LONDON
30 Davies St, London, W1K 4NB

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Darren Reid

Darren Reid (b. 1971, Derby)

Darren Reid is a self-taught artist specialising in realist painting. Drawing scenes by hand, Reid's emerging style and technical rigour has been influenced by artists such as Caravaggio and Holbein, alongside 20th Century painters such as Edward Hopper and Andrew Wyeth. Executing his paintings in acrylic, Reid works with an intricate craftsmanship through fine brushwork. Reid credits his attraction to realist landscapes for their potential to render a scene "so perfectly in paint" and the style's documentary value. His allure to the narrative quality of realism is encapsulated by his choice in subject matter which largely references his local environment. In 2014, Reid was shortlisted for the John Ruskin Prize. Since then, the artist has continued to thrive on the art scene and toured with the V&A's 2014 Recording Britain exhibition.



Darren Reid
Highlands,

2022
Acrylic on panel
39 3/8 x 39 3/8 in
100 x 100 cm



Darren Reid
Cologne Bridge,

2012
Acrylic on canvas
24 x 29 7/8 in
61 x 76 cm



Darren Reid,
Précipice,

2025
Acrylic on panel
39 3/8 x 39 3/8 in
100 x 100 cm





Darren Reid
Sentinel,

2025
Acrylic on panel
43 1/4 x 25 5/8 in
110 x 65 cm



Darren Reid
Headland,

2025
Acrylic on panel
51 1/8 x 31 1/2 in
130 x 80 cm



Darren Reid
Notting Hill,

2023
Acrylic on panel
25 5/8 x 43 1/4 in
65 x 110 cm

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