

WETTERLING GALLERY

Jason Martin, *The time between us*
Artist Statement

Wetterling Gallery, Stockholm
31 August - 30 September 2023

There are many fleeting moments in our creative life that remain of no importance. Superficial forays into overly precious ill-conceived ideas or at least miss adventures that express only false starts and empty gestures. For all our best intentions to lift this shared human condition we navigate a suspended, exposed and condemned fall of grace. Failure persists in paintings desire.

A razor edge leap of faith that defines at worst a sinking nothingness, at best a sublime trace and reverie. This genius - loci risks failing as a benign testimony caught in an act of its own making. A vanity that by brilliant intention, destroys any sense of meaning by lack of purpose. We can journey and resolve a painting practice reached by an honest enquiry driven by sound academic rigour by an empirical means, but this nonetheless guarantees no resolve and success. No fruits of labour are assured. We can act with deliberation and abandon, but more than often failure curbs resolve. So, What next? Why and what is ultimately sought? A narrative in line and space.

Intervals of a finer balance where this fecund enquiry forgives us with performative gestures rich and inventive can afford us an infinite and majestic trait. This is the opportunity of escape.

Always hopeful of this return to light, my works seek individually an idiosyncratic autonomy. To seize the moment at once fleeting but forever signals a trace resplendent in the majestic nature of its execution. This demanding line acts as a method and means tempering the advances typical of 'essential painting'. The line translates at once a passage of time that identifies meaning and narrative by the very brazen means of an act serendipitous and born of chance.

'The time between us' as a title is not a description rather a suggestion of how the close proximity of a singular perhaps monastic declaration of purpose meets a cyclical timeline. What is held in that time.

Everything and nothing.

All our empirical statement of being I choose to believe.

A declaration of self in the world confirmed by the existence of others.

An antidote to living the burden of a Solipsist.

Working limits are bound to maximise a nuance of possibility.

The various works here demonstrate an ongoing search to extend a personalised vocabulary that stretches 23 years.