

Simone Subal Gallery

Brian O'Doherty

FRIEZE LONDON
BOOTH H15
OCTOBER 14-18, 2014

At Frieze London 2014, P! and Simone Subal Gallery stage a solo presentation of seminal artist, writer, and critic Brian O'Doherty (a.k.a. Patrick Ireland). Beginning in the 1960s, O'Doherty created a vast body of conceptual and language-based artwork including drawings, paintings, sculptures, performance, and site-specific installations. The booth at Frieze London 2014 focuses on the connections between a set of rare historical works juxtaposed with a new work created specifically for Frieze. Last exhibited together at Betty Parsons Gallery in 1970, four of O'Doherty's "Ogham" sculptures command the booth's interior. These wall-mounted, mirrored sculpture are incised with an ancient linear Celtic script, transforming the viewer's gaze in an experiential and encoded moment of self-representation. An untitled painting from the mid-1970s, rendered in watercolor marker on unprimed canvas, captures the artist's quixotic attempt to follow a strand of his own hair in an exploration of line and process. These works are complemented by a new "rope drawing," the most recent in an ongoing body of work begun in the 1970s, together with a set of works on paper that reveal the structural underpinnings of O'Doherty's oeuvre and its deeper connections to the written word.

Brian O'Doherty (b. 1928, Ireland) has led a remarkable and multifaceted career. After working and researching as a medical doctor, he relocated to the USA, where he hosted two television shows on art and culture. O'Doherty served as art critic for the *New York Times* and as editor-in-chief of *Art in America* magazine. He edited and designed the groundbreaking "conceptual issue" of the multimedia magazine-in-a-box *Aspen*, as well as authored the seminal essay series *Inside the White Cube*. While part-time director of the NEA's visual arts and media program, he helped make Soho a magnet for artists, coined the term "alternative space," and championed early video art. From 1972 to 2008, he worked as an artist under the pseudonym Patrick Ireland. He has mounted over forty solo exhibitions, and was the subject of several retrospectives, most recently in 2007 at NYU's Grey Art Gallery. O'Doherty is the author of several novels, including *The Deposition of Father McGreevy* (2000), which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. His most recent novel, *The Crossdresser's Secret*, was published by Sternberg Press in February 2014. O'Doherty's 2014 exhibition at P! and Simone Subal Gallery, *Connecting the ...*, received widespread praise from publications including *Artforum*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Art in America*, *ArtNews*, *Modern Painters*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *The Daily Beast*, and others.