

# ARRANGEMENT OF FORGOTTEN STORIES

OPENING

MARCH 31ST 2020

## IAN TWEEDY

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### ENGLISH VERSION

MONITOR Lisbon has the pleasure to announce Arrangement of Forgotten Stories, the first solo show in Portugal by American artist Ian Tweedy. The exhibition was supposed to take place on March 31st, but since the gallery is temporarily closed until further notice due to the public health crisis, we have decided to make the exhibition available to be viewed online.

Ian Tweedy (Hahn, Germany, 1982) begun his artistic career as a muralist and later on turned his attention towards painting. From this transition, we can trace some elements of continuity that characterize his artistic process in each period, namely the choice of a site charged of history for his interventions and the subsequent stratification of the present on the past through his practice.

The artist paints on a wide variety of surfaces such as old photos, canvases, cold war maps and book covers. Tweedy carefully collects these objects taking into consideration the potential of their original function and agedness to bear witness to a certain story. Assembled together in the studio, all these *objets trouvés* form a vast archive of latent meanings and bygone narratives patiently waiting to be rearranged by the artist.

For the exhibition Arrangement of Forgotten Stories, Ian Tweedy presents a body of new works that reflect the process outlined above. All the eleven paintings in the show are made on old linen book covers collected by the artist. Tweedy is not new to this medium, in fact the title of the show comes from the name of the series on book covers, started more than a decade ago. Tweedy is interested in this particular support for its original capacity to enclose and at the same time represent a book in its entirety, with all the successions of pages, images, characters and tenses that compose its story. The paintings present in the exhibition are all marked by the use of a lightened up palette, used as a conceptual tool to complement the imagery chosen for the covers (also part of Tweedy's archive). These images depicted in the artworks are often partially covered with large areas of pure colour, that stand in stark contrast with the meticulous brush strokes that define the mysterious and poignant human characters portrayed in the covers.