# Make

## HAUSER & WIRTH SOMERSET

### **Press Release**

## Alexander deVol. Transference

Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset 8 May – 3 July 2021 Opening Reception: Friday 7 May, 4 – 8 pm



Alexander deVol presents sculptures and wall works inspired by the fluency of fractal patterns in nature, informed by the tacit motions of his everyday studio practice. DeVol states, 'My works are imbued with the complimentary intentions of nature and the human hand; the dynamic relationship between material and maker'.

DeVol's works are simultaneously organic and human made, challenging material perception whilst creating ambiguity as to how an object or wall work has been constructed. His process encompasses a mix of considered and deliberate methods together with spontaneous action. DeVol's vessels represent an ongoing investigation into the material properties of wood, as well as their transferal into other mediums. His delicate, green-wood forms are turned and carved by hand, warping as the wood dries until each piece finds its own equilibrium. The process of change that the wood goes through is an essential part of deVol's practice, he comments that 'the final outcome is an object sculpted by both maker and material.' DeVol's hand thrown ceramics are alive with organic patinas, developed slowly through the oxidation process, resembling the reactions of aged metal or lichen on stone.

For his first solo exhibition with Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset, deVol has created new paper sculptures and painted canvases, using earth pigments, clays, stone, gypsum, metals, resin, and waste product from his daily practice. Playful and experimental, his work has evolved into new territories during long months of lockdown, finding alternative directions and material interpretations. His painterly compositions are made by simulating and adapting techniques used to create sculptural vessels, or are informed by everyday studio processes, such as reclaiming clay and mixing mortar.

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#### About Alexander deVol

Alexander deVol lives and works in Lancashire, North West England. He graduated in 2017 with an MA in Design from the University of Central Lancashire, UK. Previous exhibitions include: 'Hand & Land', Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset, Somerset, UK (2020); 'Opening Narratives', Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset, Somerset, UK (2018); 'Dunhill's The Home of Craftmanship', London, UK (2017); 'Making It Now', Ruthin Craft Centre, Ruthin, Wales, UK (2017); 'Burberry Makers House', London, UK (2017).

#### About Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset

Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset is a destination for contemporary making and the crafted object, committed to showcasing the best emerging and established makers both nationally and internationally. Make occupies two rooms of a Georgian townhouse on Bruton High Street with Jacqueline Moore as Director. Since its launch in 2018, the gallery has presented work by over fifty artist-makers, providing valuable insights into the working processes and rich narratives of their practices. There is an emphasis on pieces commissioned specifically for Make, some of which are created in response to Somerset and the South West, employing locally sourced materials. All works are for sale.



#### **Press Contact:**

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Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset Stockwell House 13 High Street Bruton, Somerset BA10 0AB Make opening hours:
Wednesday – Saturday
10 am – 1 pm & 2 pm – 4 pm
www.hauserwirth.com
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Alexander deVol Vessels 2021

Make Hauser & Wirth Somerset Photo: Emma Lewis

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Jane Ponsford, Marking Flight, 2020 and Into the Woods, 2020 Photo: Michael Phillips

Mark Reddy, Sentinels, 2020

Katie Spragg, Kenwood Ladies Pond Meadow, 2019, Photo: Sylvain Deleu

Romilly Saumarez Smith, Sea Fan Tree II, 2020