

# palmer gallery

Exhibition 13

SPOOKY ACTION AT A DISTANCE

10.01.26 - 21.02.26

Private View:  
Friday 9th January, 6-8pm

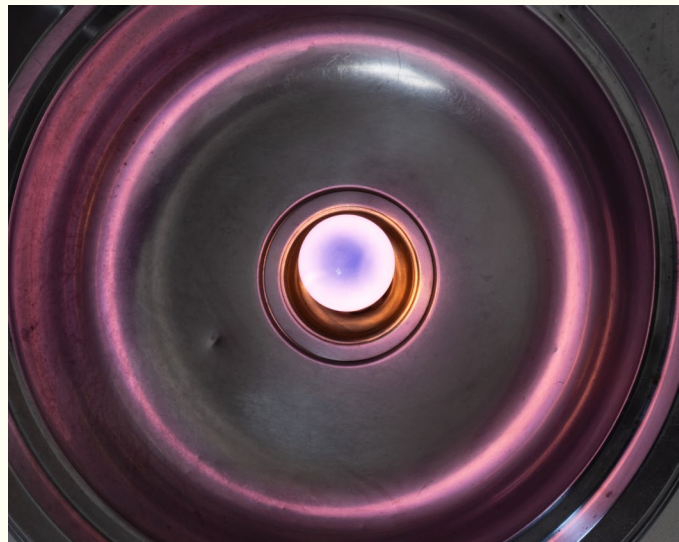
MAX BOYLA

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Palmer Gallery is pleased to announce *Spooky action at a distance*, a solo exhibition of new work by Max Boyla, a Scottish-Turkish artist based in London (b.1991, Edinburgh). Bringing together recent paintings on satin, sculptural works, video, and sound, the exhibition examines how images form, how materials behave, and how perception is shaped by both physical and conceptual frameworks.

The exhibition title - "spooky action at a distance" - refers to a term originally used by Albert Einstein to describe quantum entanglement, a phenomenon in which two particles behave as a single system regardless of the spatial distance between them. Boyla uses this notion as an analogy for the way different elements within an artwork, or within an exhibition, can appear interconnected even when their relationships are not immediately visible.

Boyla's satin paintings are produced through a multi-stage process in which lengths of poly-satin are folded, creased, compressed between boards, and then submerged in a hot dye bath containing a mixture of dyes, pigments and binder. During this stage the fabric behaves as a three-dimensional object; distant points on its surface are brought into contact in ways that later affect the final image.

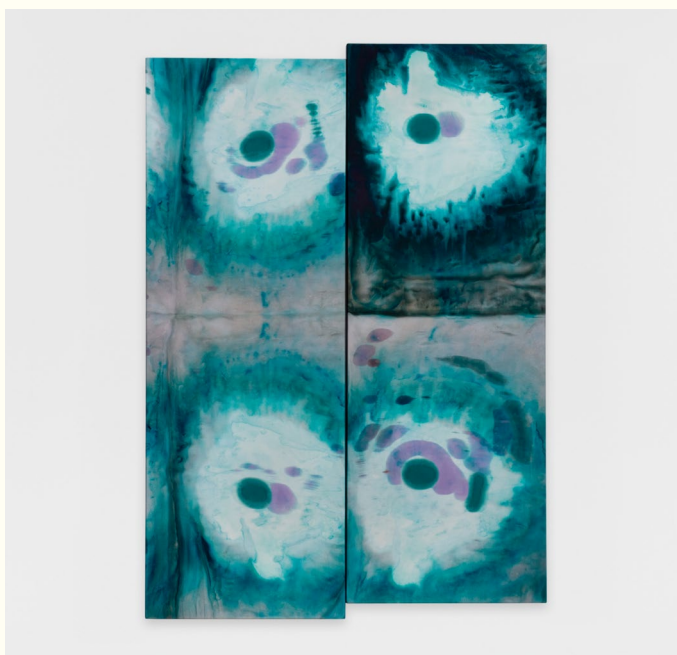


*Everything inc, 2025, kitchen sink, lightbulb, daylight, everything else, dimensions variable*

When unfolded and stretched, the material reveals forms created by how the dye has settled and dried, with no brushwork throughout. The resulting surfaces appear active and responsive, and the images resist stable interpretation, often seeming to hover between abstraction and landscape.

The exhibition also includes sculptural works created from repurposed domestic components. A steel sink fitted with a coloured internal light and a length of black, mica-speckled kitchen countertop cut with a circular aperture are reconfigured into objects that recall astronomical or geological forms. Through these transformations, Boyla highlights shifts in scale and context, and the way everyday materials associated with domestic or industrial use can carry broader symbolic or environmental implications.

A sound installation composed from a slowed and reconfigured instrumental track introduces a temporal dimension to the exhibition. Played on a loop from an enclosed, illuminated space, it creates a persistent, mechanical rhythm that reframes the viewer's movement through the gallery. A video projected onto the window in the gallery space completes the installation: what appears to be footage of shifting cosmic structures is in fact an accidental phone recording made during a cycle ride, underscoring Boyla's interest in the emergence of imagery without direct artistic control.



*Ominous destiny, 2025*  
*enamel, dye, acrylic and bleach on satin, 140 x 100cm*

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## About Max Boyla

Max Boyla (b. 1991, Edinburgh) completed his postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy Schools in London (2023). He has since exhibited widely, and his previous solo and group shows include 'An Uncommon Thread' at Hauser & Wirth, Somerset (2025). 'Crying like a fire in the sun' at Workplace, London (2024), Land, Sea, Air at Palmer Gallery, London (2024), 'Add More Fuel To Your Life' at Sim Smith, London (2023).

Central to Boyla's work is his use of satin: a synthetic fabric often produced from petroleum by-products. By employing such a material — part natural, part synthetic — he brings into relief the tensions between sustainability and petrochemical capitalism, highlighting how ecological practices and environmental compromise are often entangled.

Through this latest exhibition, Boyla continues to develop his practice as one that blurs the boundaries between illusion and reality, between the physical and the metaphysical, between surface and depth, between the domestic and the cosmic.



*All You See Is Glory, 2025*  
Enamel, dye, acrylic and bleach on satin, 200 x 280 cm

## About Palmer Gallery

Founded by Lucas Giles and Will Hainsworth in 2023, Palmer Gallery is a space dedicated to identifying and developing the strongest emerging artistic talent of today.

The gallery is situated in London's Lisson Grove, in a 2000 ft<sup>2</sup> former-factory built in the 1920's by the Palmer Tyre Company, who produced parts for the Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster Bombers during The Second World War.

The gallery programme focuses on cross-disciplinary artists working across painting, sculpture, video, performance, light and sound installation, creating an immersive exhibition space. This multi-sensory approach embraces a holistic view of contemporary art while championing an institutional dedication to framing and contextualising complex artistic practices.

Palmer Gallery's core mission is to allow artists to express themselves and thrive in an open, supportive and experimental environment; fostering a culture of creative freedom and connection among the gallery's artists and the wider community.

Please email [contact@palmergallery.co.uk](mailto:contact@palmergallery.co.uk) for high-resolution imagery, or an exhibition pre-view.



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