

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

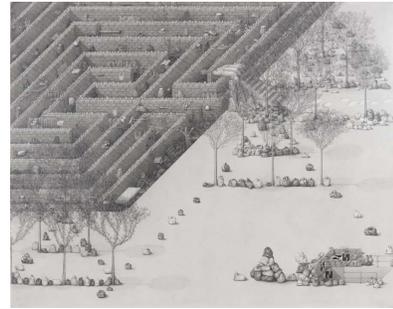
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PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

6-24 BRITANNIA STREET
LONDON WC1X 9JD
GALLERY HOURS:

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Tue–Sat: 10:00am–6:00pm



PAUL NOBLE: *Welcome to Nobson*

Thursday, 10 November–Saturday, 17 December 2011

Opening reception for the artist: Thursday, November 10th, from 6 to 8 pm

It was therefore decided to erect a civic monument on the roundabout at the outskirts of town. The monument is a large, vertical structure that spells out the friendly message "Welcome to Nobson."

—Paul Noble

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to present "Welcome to Nobson," an exhibition of new drawings and sculpture by Paul Noble.

Noble's intricate graphite drawings describe Nobson Newtown, a place composed of labyrinthine edifices and deserted topography embedded with modules of dense detail. Employing cavalier projection—a cartographical method characterized by a high viewpoint—Noble meticulously delineates a wealth of elaborate architecture and open urban spaces. These phantasmagorical landscapes allude to sources as diverse as ancient Chinese scrolls, Fabergé eggs, Henry Moore's sculptures, and paintings by Hieronymus Bosch. The encrypted fictions of Nobson Newtown are dizzyingly complex—visual articulations of the tensions between disorder, perversion, and logical schema.

The immersive drawing *Welcome to Nobson* (2008–10) is the penultimate work in Noble's expansive fifteen-year Nobson project, signifying the final stage of the related pictorial and textual narratives. Just as this monumental drawing maps the passage into the world of Nobson Newtown, two towering marble sculptures, *Couple* (2011) and *Three* (2011), act as sentries that mark an entrance to the exhibition. Transcending their base connotations, these biomorphic forms serve as three-dimensional counterparts to the characters and monuments depicted in smaller drawings such as *Ah* (2010) and *Walled Garden* (2009).

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The motifs illustrated in these works on paper also relate to details within *Welcome to Nobson*. The sturdy rectilinear brick walls of *Heaven* (2009), the delicate ornamental fencing in *Hell* (2009) and the confounding maze *This Way* (2010–11) are all isolated and magnified from the vast park of fantastical monuments and features in the principal drawing. References between and tautological cohesion within the epic cross-medium series underpins Noble's concept of Nobson Newtown as its own autonomous sphere of reality.

Paul Noble (b. 1963, Dilston, Northumberland) studied at Sunderland Polytechnic and Humberside College of Higher Education. He was one of five founding members of City Racing, an influential artists' space in London (1988–98), where he showed in 1990. Noble's work has since been exhibited in London at Cubitt Gallery (1995), Chisenhale Gallery (1998), Tate Gallery (1999), and Whitechapel Art Gallery (2004). He has also exhibited internationally at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York (2003); Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2005); Migros Museum, Zurich (2005); and Gagosian Gallery, New York (2007).

Noble lives and works in east London.

For further information please contact the gallery at london@gagosian.com or at +44.207.841.9960.