

Bartha_

contemporary

Lucinda Burgess

Morphosis

9 April – 3 May

Open Day: Saturday 18 April, 12–4 pm

Bartha Contemporary is pleased to present *Morphosis*, a new exhibition by British artist Lucinda Burgess, on view from April 9th to May 3rd. The exhibition brings together new works developed during a recent residency at the Albers Foundation on the Atlantic coast of Ireland.

Morphosis centres on processes of material change, erosion, and preservation. Working across paper, found materials, and wood, Burgess explores how colour and surface are shaped by environmental exposure, time, and chance. Seawater, salt, humidity, and light function as active agents within the work, registering transformation rather than fixed form.

A key work in the exhibition, *India Red 192 – Dissolution*, consists of seven vertical strips of dark brick-red paper submerged in seawater. Salt residues remain embedded in the paper fibres, leaving crystalline traces that record immersion and gradual decay. The work is framed with archival silica to stabilise these fragile deposits, highlighting the tension between dissolution and conservation.

This concern persists in the Atlantic Series, a group of works on handmade paper that combine ink washes with salt crystallisation. Developed through repeated exposure to moisture during the residency, the series reflects the instability of coastal conditions. The exhibited works have been carefully preserved using archival framing methods to retain their material character.

Found materials come to the fore in *Salvage, Prison Cove*, a drawing made directly onto packaging recovered from the shoreline and presented unframed. Colour is addressed more systematically in *November Colour Chart*, where paired pigments, each half burnished and half matte, are mounted on birch plywood and titled according to their manufacturers' names.

The exhibition also includes new works on weathered wood battens found on site, drawn on and horizontally arranged to respond to natural side light and the irregularities of reclaimed material.

Morphosis presents a focused reflection on making as a negotiation between intention and exposure, situating Burgess's practice within a broader enquiry into colour, perception, and the quiet agency of materials.