

WHITE LINES

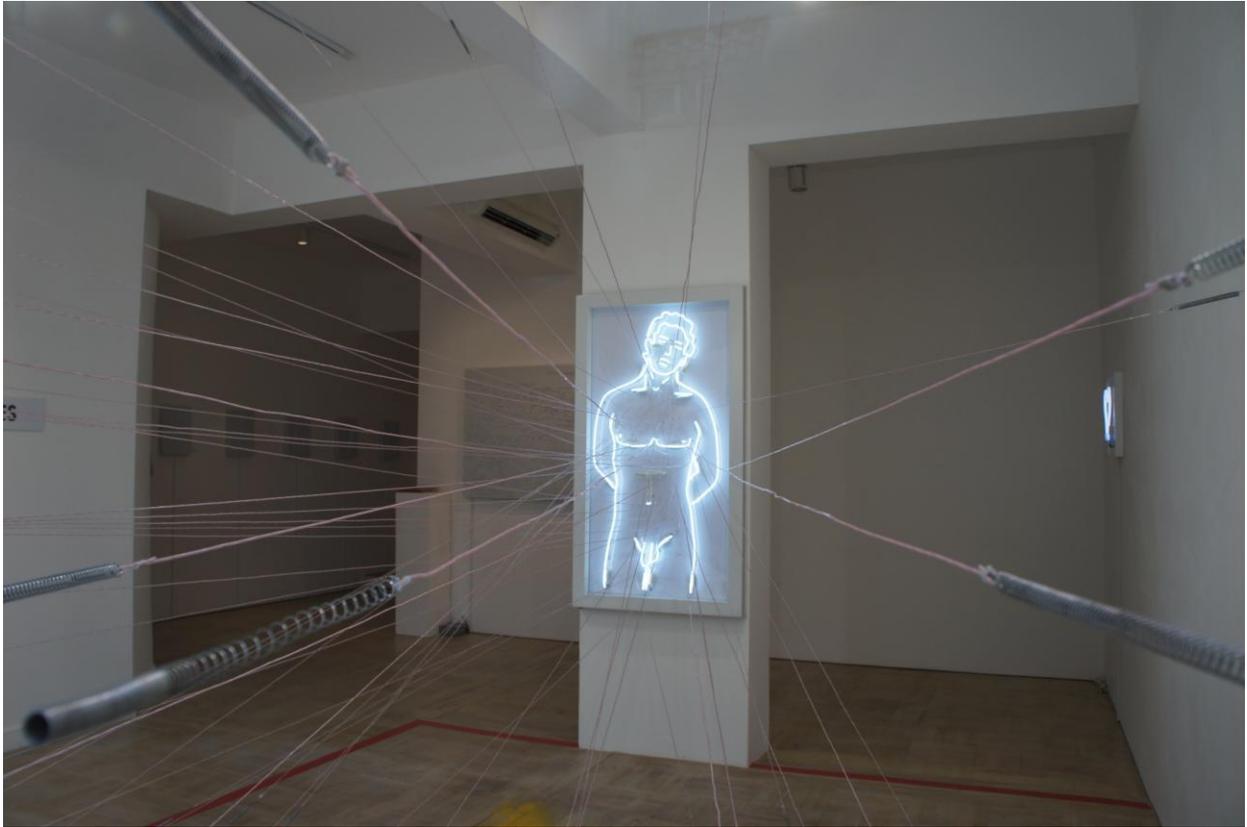
**KORKOS GALLERY, PRINCE'S TERRACE, MID LEVELS, HONG KONG
11 MARCH – 14 APRIL 2011**

Jonathan Thomson is pleased to present "White Lines", an exhibition of new works in new media that celebrate light as the source of sight and beauty.

All of the works in this exhibition employ electroluminescent (EL) wire. Electroluminescent wire was invented and first patented just 12 years ago in 1999 but recent improvements make it more appropriately a 21st Century substance. It has various layers around a phosphor-coated copper core that glows continually 360° along its length when a current is applied to it. In most of these artworks the wire is "embroidered" onto sheets of white aluminium composite. These works, which change their appearance from hour to hour depending on the ambient light, blur the distinction between drawing and sculpture.

The centrepiece of the exhibition is a powerful installation in traditional glass neon and electroluminescent wire called *Saint Sebastian: Requium Lux Aeterna* that references the laser guided targeting systems used in modern warfare. Dozens of EL wires were strung from the figure to stainless steel springs attached to the gallery's plate glass front window so that every passer-by was placed in the line-of sight position of a shooter aiming at his target. But at the same time these lines of light may also be read as a spirit emanating from the figure and bathing the viewer and everything around him in the ineffable ecstasy of a martyr's gift.

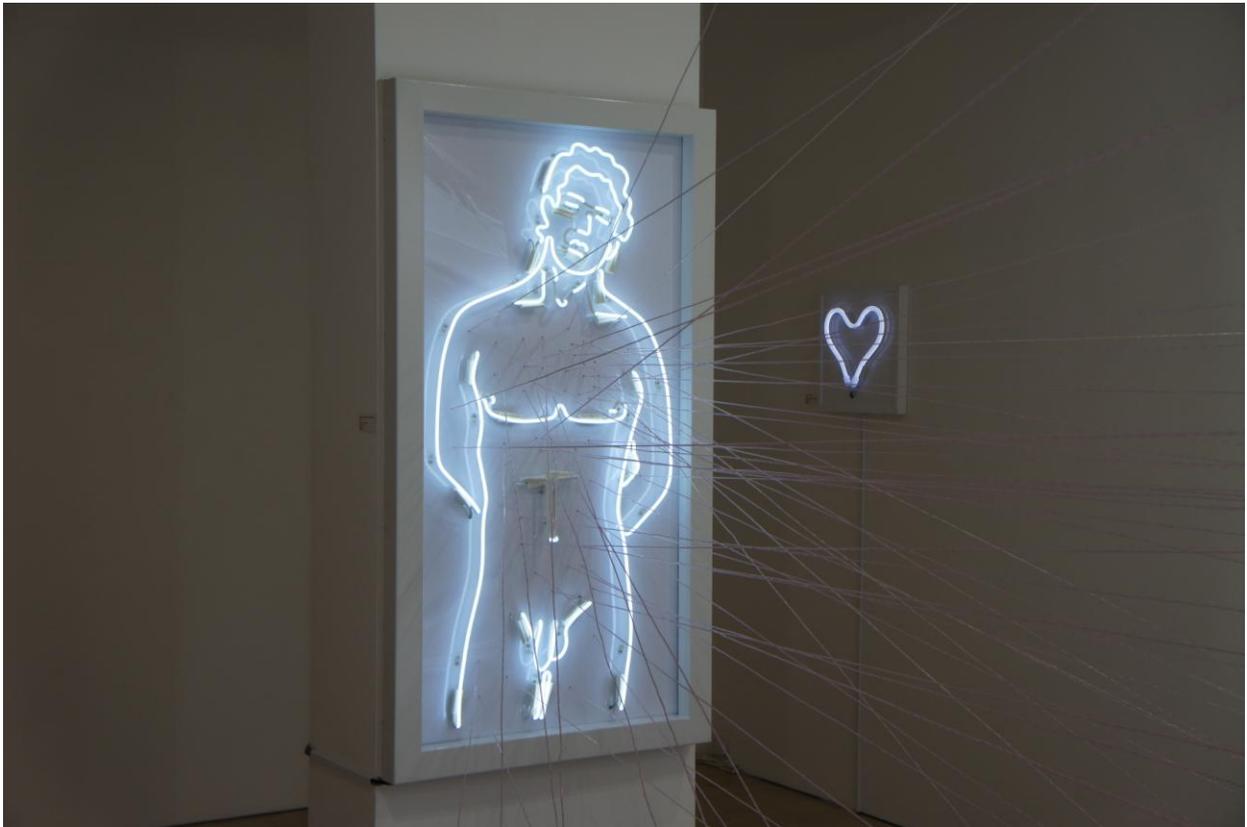
In other works Thomson uses the human figure and clouds to explore fundamental ideas about beauty. His work highlights the joys and sorrows of life and love. Beauty is relative to different times and different cultures and all too often the delight it gives us is tempered by the fact that it too, like laughter and music, the perfume of flowers and the bloom of youth, will fade. All things must pass, but in our hearts and minds, that which we find beautiful is a possession for all eternity.



Jonathan Thomson
Saint Sebastian Requiem Lux Aeterna
2011
White Neon on Acrylic in Steel Frame, Electroluminescent Wire, Stainless Steel Springs
Size Variable



Jonathan Thomson
Saint Sebastian Requiem Lux Aeterna
2011
White Neon on Acrylic in Steel Frame, Electroluminescent Wire, Stainless Steel Springs
Detail



Jonathan Thomson

Saint Sebastian: Requiem Lux Aeterna

2011

White Neon on Acrylic in Steel Frame, Electroluminescent Wire, Stainless Steel Springs

Detail



Jonathan Thomson
Amor Vincit Omnia
2011
LED Neon on Wood
43 x 43 cm
Artist's Proof



Jonathan Thomson
EL009 The Celestial Court
2011
Electroluminescent Wire on Aluminium
101 x 101 x 5 cm