

ADAM DIX

b. 1967, London, England
Lives and works in London

Executed in a series of glazes in a muted colour palette, the works of artist Adam Dix seem frozen in a timeless vacuum. They appear at once folkloric, like snapshots of a Nixonian era of home television and like scenes taken from the 1969 moon landing. In one work we see a sepia-toned tableau of individuals bowing down before oversized computer consoles. In another, *The Hive*, Dix presents us with a triptych of idol worship, cult-like adulation and a vision of the future as though imagined through a 1950s lens. In *Do You Receive Me* (opposite), members of a conformist society appear to exalt a simultaneously futuristic and primitive deity. 'I want my work to convey a sense of unified, heightened worship and compliance,' says Dix. His work concerns itself with

the disconnect between communications technology and the communal human space of communication. In his imaginary dystopia, 'society is consumed by the device, and the phone mast or satellite dish take on the character of "totem"'. His painted visions are reminiscent of Stanley Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey*, or 1970s political anxiety films, such as *Logan's Run* and *Newsroom*, as well as the found lithographic printed material of the 1950s to which the artist regularly turns for inspiration. In bringing to the fore the proliferation and mediation of communications devices that compel constant connection, Dix's works—with their multitude of strange, appropriated imagery—offer a salutary comment on today's society and what the future may hold.



'I see a disparity between the desire to communicate and the isolation that technology can engender. By using science fiction and religion, and by exploring ritual and ceremony, I emphasize a secular celebration of communication.'

Above left: *Receive Thy Message*, 2011, ink and oil on panel, 57 x 57 cm (22½ x 22½ in.)

Above right: *Charmed Circle*, 2011, ink and oil on canvas, 87 x 87 cm (34¼ x 34¼ in.)

Opposite: *Do You Receive Me*, ink, fluorescent pigment and oil on canvas, 65 x 90 cm (25½ x 35½ in.)

