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James Ireland
*Continual
Improvement*

2007

Steel, glass with vinyl
printing, poster, quartz,
nuts, screws, washers
60 (h) x 60 (w) x 20 (d) cm

Estimate:
£2,500 — £5,000

British, 1977
Lives and works in London;
BA (Hons) Fine Art, Ruskin
School of Drawing and Fine
Art, Oxford, 1999

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James Ireland makes sculpture that combines a minimalist aesthetic with the concerns of representing landscape in art, through unlikely and unexpected means. His sculptures often combine materials that have little connection to the natural world, such as steel, plastic or glass with organic elements in playful juxtapositions and provisional arrangements. Bringing together a minimalist, abstract aesthetic with industrial materials and a few lonely twigs and branches, he is able to convey notions of epic natural phenomena such as mountains, waterfalls or sunsets.

Ireland's work investigates our contemporary perceptions of nature and questions how landscapes have conventionally been represented in art history. In doing so, it demonstrates that there is still scope to make revelatory contemporary work from this traditional genre.