

Performance Exchange

PERFORMANCE EXCHANGE—PRESS RELEASE

Venues across London, new dates to be announced.

KEY MESSAGES

- *Performance Exchange* is a dispersed performance programme presented in commercial galleries around London - originally planned for over three days in July 2020.
- Producing innovative acquisitions documents for each performance to create detailed and clear routes to collecting works.
- Offering three regional museums acquisitions, and promoting cross-sector & national conversation between the London art market and regional museums.

LIVE PROGRAMME

Performance Exchange is a new dispersed performance programme in commercial galleries. Each gallery will present a work from an artist they represent and, alongside this, international galleries will present performances within host galleries around London.

London galleries including Founding Galleries *Seventeen*, *Arcade* and *VITRINE*, plus *Goodman Gallery*, *Hollybush Gardens*, *Kate McGarry*, *Koenig London*, *Union Pacific*, *Sadie Coles*, and *Richard Saltoun* will present new commissions and existing works to create a programme which includes a wide range of live moments across scales, modes and generations. International presentations include *Marcelle Alix* and *Galerie Sultana* (both Paris), *Zeno X* (Antwerp) and *Ellen de Bruijne*, (Amsterdam).

Confirmed artists include 2019 Turner Prize winner *Helen Cammock* for *Kate McGarry*, renowned experimental theatre-maker and artist *Tim Etchells* for *VITRINE*, international artists *Paul Maheke* for *Galerie Sultana* and *Goodman Gallery*, and *Ruth Proctor* for *Hollybush Gardens*, and emerging artists *Marijke de Roover*, who recently had her UK premier at the 2019 DRAF performance evening, for *Arcade*, and *Urara Tsuchiya* for *Union Pacific*.

The final list of artists and galleries, will be announced in autumn 2020.

DIGITAL ACCESS TO ACQUISITION INFORMATION

Performance Exchange aims to generate new forms of support for collecting performance art and its ephemera across a range of scales, modes, durations and generations. To make this happen, each performance will be accompanied by a digital acquisition document offering a clear and detailed description of the specificities of how to acquire the work.

Together the set of bespoke acquisitions documents will make up a unique and innovative digital guide to the programme, the purchasing and support of performance art that merges aesthetic, economic, and practical factors.

Performance Exchange Digital Acquisition Information are made possible thanks to support from Art Fund.

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

Three UK public museum partners—*Towner Art Gallery*, Eastbourne, and *Leicester Gallery* at De Montfort University and *Grundy Art Gallery*, Blackpool—will each acquire an artwork from the programme, supported by an acquisitions fund, and with a view to their presentation in 2021.

Museum Acquisitions create new audiences for artists and provide important long-term legacy for their practice. Importantly through its acquisitions programme, *Performance Exchange* brings together commercial galleries, public museums, curators and collectors to create a cross-sector network to explore sustainable futures.

Joe Hill, Director of *Towner Art Gallery* said:

“We are thrilled to be a museum partner for Performance Exchange and to be working with such high calibre galleries and their rosters of artists. The project is an innovative model for showcasing performance art in the capital in summer 2020 but also one which will leave an important legacy for regional museums and audiences both across the UK and further afield, one not available before now. We have consciously and strategically been adding moving image works to the Towner’s Collection of over 5000 works recently and are excited to see how the Collection can journey in yet another new direction through this project. “

PUBLIC TALKS

Originally hosted at Mortimer House, a private member’s club in central London, a series of talks in winter and spring 2020 took collectors on the journey of how this art form fits with other mediums, and supported a cross-sector conversation between regional museum curators, gallerists and collectors around economies, support and acquisition of performance.

Since lockdown, we have partnered with David Roberts Art Foundation to organise a series of online conversations. As organisations both being dedicated to performance and event-based art practices, this collaboration was born from the need to keep supporting these practices, perhaps now more urgently than ever. In creating this platform together, we wanted to share artistic projects and ideas with our audiences, whilst thinking through different cultural infrastructure that work for performance in times of social isolation and into the future..

Performance Exchange Talks are made possible with funds from Arts Council England.

NOTES TO EDITORS

DIRECTOR

Rose Lejeune—Rose Lejeune is a curator and researcher exploring collecting contemporary art with a specific interest in commissioning and collecting context-based, social and performative practices.

In addition to regular writing and public speaking on these topics, current and recent projects include a year-long series of new acquisitions commissions at the *Victoria Museum and Gallery*, Liverpool, consultancy for the *Pitt Rivers Museum*, University of Oxford and *Gallery Lejeune*, a performance and exhibition project in her home.

Rose is also the Associate Curator for the *Delfina Foundation’s Collecting as Practice* programme where she developed the groundbreaking programme that looks at the politics and economics of global collections.

Rose’s current curatorial activities have developed following a decade of experience working with public organisations throughout the UK and in particular working closely with artists to commission for non-gallery situations. This includes as Curator at *Art on the Underground*, and Education Projects Curator at the *Serpentine Gallery*.

Rose holds a BA in Philosophy and Art History, and an MA in Curating Contemporary Art from the *Royal College of Art*. Finally, Rose is currently a PhD candidate in Curating at *Goldsmiths College, University of London*, where her research focuses on curatorial frameworks for performance art in, and out, of the art market.

FOUNDING GALLERIES

Arcade—Established by Christian Mooney in 2008, *Arcade* offers both a programme of exhibitions and a constantly evolving platform of performances, live events, talks and publications. Through this range of formats *Arcade* aims to find new modes of presentation and to represent some of the complexities of the contemporary art scene today; exploring new developments in international contemporary art, across a range of practices, media and concerns.

With exhibition spaces in London and Brussels, the gallery programme is structured around the solo presentations of the represented artists, complemented by a program of 2 person and group exhibitions. The gallery artists' practices can be loosely divided into two approaches: that of thinking through an articulate and sensitive making process; and a more research and theoretical based practice incorporating ephemeral and performative elements within which live events are an integral part of the program with artists such as Jeremiah Day and Marijke de Roover working primarily in the medium and others including Can Altay, Chiara Camoni and Anna Barham incorporating it as a significant part of their practice.

Seventeen—*Seventeen* exhibits works by emerging artists, with a particular focus on moving image. Founded in 2005 the gallery was initially located in Shoreditch in East London and moved in 2014 into a larger, more versatile 3000ft space in Dalston. The program has demonstrated a commitment to video, screen based work and experiments with new digital technologies and the majority of represented artists have a significant video component to their practice. More recently, it has consistently supported artists examining possibilities with interactive and performative media such as virtual reality, 3D video, web-browser specific works and photography and video dealing with the digital including David Blandy's 360 degree video presented on VR and large-scale video installations by Jon Rafman. Other represented artists include Emily Perry, Justin Fitzpatrick, Larry Achiampong & David Blandy, Patrick Goddard, Rhys Coren and Susan Collis.

VITRINE—*VITRINE* is focused on artistic experimentation and development; material-, process- and installation-led practice at its core. *VITRINE* operates a hybrid business model encompassing both commercial gallery and non-profit projects. The gallery was founded by Alys Williams in London in 2012 (grown from a project space launched in 2010) and in Basel in April 2016. Establishing a strong reputation as a selector and nurturer of new talent, *VITRINE* invites and fosters the development and presentation of new work in spaces in London, UK, and Basel, Switzerland; at art fairs internationally; and through off-site projects in collaboration with partner organisations. *VITRINE* nurtures a rigorous commitment to artist development and represents a growing number of international artists.

VITRINE's spaces promote a new model of exhibition-making, encouraging experimentation and installation. Whilst enclosed behind glass, the works extend beyond its boundaries into the surrounding public space. Exhibitions are viewable 24/7 and *VITRINE* commissions SCULPTURE AT a publicly funded public sculpture programme on Bermondsey Square (since 2014) as a complementary programme.

MUSEUM PARTNERS

Leicester Gallery at De Montfort University—*Leicester Gallery* opened to the public at the end of 2016 at De Montfort University. It provides a rich resource for the city and beyond giving new and established audiences unique opportunities to experience and participate in exhibitions and projects by world-class artists and designers.

Towner Art Gallery Eastbourne—Collecting and exhibiting contemporary art for almost 100 years, *Towner Art Gallery*, Eastbourne, sits where the coast and the South Downs meet. Led by Director Joe Hill since 2018, *Towner* presents exhibitions of national and international importance for audiences in Eastbourne, the UK and beyond, showcasing the most exciting and creative developments in modern and contemporary art. *Towner* develops and supports artistic practice and collaborates with individuals, communities and organisations to deliver an inclusive, connected and accessible public programme of live events, film and learning. *Towner's* collection of almost 5000 works is best known for its modern British art – including the largest and most significant body of work by Eric Ravilious (1903-1942) – and a growing collection of international contemporary art.

Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool—*Grundy Art Gallery* is Blackpool's art gallery and offers a year round programme of contemporary visual art exhibitions and events including solo and group exhibitions together with talks, workshops and educational activities. The gallery is housed in a Grade II listed Carnegie building and has a collection that was founded in 1908, following a bequest by brothers John and Cuthbert Grundy. Today the collection includes works by established artists such as Martin Creed, Tracey Emin, Laura Ford, Gilbert and George, Brian Griffiths, Augustus John, Haroon Mirza and Eric Ravilious alongside works by regionally based emerging talent such as Joe Fletcher Orr and Louise Giovanelli. *Grundy Art Gallery* is supported by *Blackpool Council* and also receives regular funding as one of *Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations*.

TALKS AND EVENTS PARTNERS

DRAF — DRAF (David Roberts Art Foundation) is an independent, non-profit organisation for contemporary art dedicated to the transformative forces of the art encounter. DRAF has welcomed over 130,000 visitors to thought-provoking and challenging international programmes including exhibitions, commissions, performances and discussions, since it was founded in 2007.

DRAF provides an enriching and progressive platform for artistic and critical rigour connecting artists, writers, cultural producers and the public. Fostering creative partnerships with institutions across the UK and abroad, we nurture and support the discovery of new ways of thinking and risk-taking through our commissions and presentations of ambitious work.

Mortimer House—Housed in a majestic six-floor Art Deco building in the heart of London's Fitzrovia, *Mortimer House* provides a new experience for those who wish to create, work and unwind in equal measure. Founded upon a philosophy of providing holistic balance in work and life, it is intended to satisfy the needs of both the head and the heart. Intuitively designed team offices, meeting rooms, event spaces, living room, terrace, studio and gym effortlessly meld mid-century design touches with the classicism of the original building, providing an intimate membership experience. *Mortimer House* is also home to ground floor restaurant *Mortimer House Kitchen*, which is open to the public and serves exceptional Mediterranean cuisine.

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Supported using public funding by

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