

Media information: Monday 2 April 2012

BALTIC | 39

SWITCH

Selected by Phyllida Barlow

Media Preview Thursday 5 April from 2.00pm

Launch Party Thursday 5 April, 6.30pm

Public Opening Friday 6 April, 12.00noon

SWITCH, selected by internationally renowned artist **Phyllida Barlow**, is the opening exhibition at **BALTIC 39**, a new hub for contemporary art located on **High Bridge** in the heart of **Newcastle upon Tyne**. The exhibition features 13 artists based in London and will open to the public on **Friday 6 April 2012**.

SWITCH builds upon ***What do artists do?***, a time-based project organised by **Barlow** in **2008** that examined the notion of change in artistic practice and the role of the exhibition. The exhibition at **BALTIC 39** explores further the processes an artist navigates in the act of making and prioritises such moments over any completed object or final outcome. The disparate practices presented, spanning performance, sculpture, drawing, photography and film-making, will be shown, and often made or modified, in a setting that demands the re-consideration of an artwork's centre.

The exhibition also provides a stage to investigate the relationship between the work and its audience; when should an audience see an artwork, what is it that the audience should experience and how does an audience modify the processes of making? Rather than simply locating a studio situation within the gallery, the exhibition aims to offer its participants, both artists and audience members, a common arena in which to share, test and understand the performative complexities of artistic production.

The exhibition will culminate in a weekend of performances and events, details of which will be announced soon.

EXHIBITING ARTISTS:

Anna Barham

Born in 1974, **Barham** graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2001. Her work spans a variety of media including sculpture, performance, video and drawing. For ***SWITCH***, **Barham** presents a new video work that will be revised and updated during the course of the exhibition.

Jason Dungan

Born in 1978, **Dungan** graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2003. For ***SWITCH*** he will present an evolving and silent projection of webcam videos. Originally conceived as an online YouTube stream, the work has been adapted for the purposes of this show.

Elliot Dodd and Steffen Levring

Dodd born 1978 and **Levring** born 1982, graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2002 and 2008 respectively. They are especially interested in the intensity of sound. For the opening night of **SWITCH**, and again during the exhibition's closing weekend, they will flood the gallery in low frequency sound to create an 'extreme base heavy physical sensation'.

Iain Hales

Born in 1977, **Hales** graduated from the Edinburgh College of Art in 2005 and from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2009. Using disparate materials, Hales will present **The Sacred and Profane Love Machine** 2012, a floor-based composition of sculptural elements which will be adapted and regrouped during the course of the exhibition.

Brigid Lowe

Born in 1965, **Lowe** teaches at the Slade School of Fine Art. For **SWITCH** she will remake **Evidence** 1999-2012, a floor-based installation that exists as an archive of invitation cards to several thousand private views around the world.

Sophie Michael

Born 1985, **Michael** works in both film and photography. She is currently studying at the Royal Academy Schools after graduating from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2008. For **SWITCH** she presents a double photographic image, **Pink Wall/Blue Wall** 2011. A new 16mm film will be made during the course of the exhibition to be presented later.

Luke McCreadie

Born in 1985, **McCreadie** graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2008 and 2011. He works with film and sculpture, spanning and combining a range of different media. For **SWITCH**, **McCreadie** presents a projected screen-based work entitled **Does the Object Stare Back?** 2012. He will also realise a collaborative performance for the opening of the exhibition and again during its closing weekend.

Fabian Peake

Born in 1942, **Peake** is an artist and writer. For **SWITCH**, Peake has constructed a large wall-based work which incorporates both image and text. The work is in part a document of its own making, composed of images of **Peake** moving through the space during its creation as he was periodically caught on camera.

Florence Peake

Born in 1973, **Peake** has an MA in Contemporary Performance Making from Brunel University. Her work and performances are of an interdisciplinary nature, often involving painting, drawing, sculpture as well as found objects. For **SWITCH**, **Peake** presents **STUPID STUPID** 2012, a sound-based work and will stage a collaborative dance performance in the gallery later on in the exhibition period.

Roy Voss

Born in 1960, **Voss** graduated from Maidstone College of Art in 1983 and Goldsmiths College in 1992. For **SWITCH** he presents **Love in Another Country** 2012, a two-part sculpture which takes the form of a lighthouse presented on a circular table-like form. These are separated, prompting dialogue between the two gallery spaces.

Eleanor Wright

Born in 1984, **Wright** graduated from Chelsea College of Art and Design in 2007 and from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2010. For **SWITCH** she presents **PROW** 2012, a combination of floor-based sculptures and panels that loosely reference both the arch of the **Gateshead Millennium Bridge** as well as the jewellery of **Zaha Hadid**.

Maria Zahle

Born in 1979, **Zahle** graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2005 and the Royal Academy Schools in 2009. For **SWITCH**, **Zahle** will create a series of wall-based 'stripe' works that will be painted directly to the walls of the gallery. The paintings will appear in the space in different places and at different times over the course of the exhibition.

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For further information please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Phyllida Barlow: Born in Newcastle upon Tyne. Studied at Chelsea College of Art, London 1960 – 1963 and Slade School of Fine Art London 1963 – 1966.

Forthcoming exhibitions: New Museum, *siege*, New York NY, Henry Moore Institute, *Phyllida Barlow : Bad Copies*, Leeds, England, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany, Hauser & Wirth, New York NY (2012).

Recent exhibitions include: Hauser & Wirth, *RIG*, London, England, Kunstverein Nürnberg, *Cast*, Nuremberg, Germany (2011) and Studio Voltaire, *BLUFF*, London, England, V22, *SWAMP*, London, England, BAWAG Contemporary, *STREET*, Vienna, Austria (2010). In 2004 Barlow exhibited *PENNINSULAR* at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, of which BALTIC 39 is a subsidiary.

Recent group exhibitions include: Lokremise, *Human Capsules. Eight Female Artists from the Ursula Hauser Collection*, St. Gall, Switzerland Mystetskyi Arsenal, First International Biennale of Contemporary Art: *The Best of Times, The Worst of Times. Rebirth and Apocalypse in Contemporary Art*, Kiev, Ukraine (2012), Art Cologne, *Open Space*, Cologne, Germany Haus der Kunst, *Sculptural Acts*, Munich, Germany Museum Ludwig, *Before the Law*, Cologne, Germany Kettle's Yard, *ARTISTS for Kettle's Yard*, Cambridge, England Limoncello Gallery, *Young British Art*, London, England Johann Koenig, *Sculpture is three-dimensional artwork created by shaping or combining hard materials ...*, Berlin, Germany, Henry Moore Institute, *United Enemies: The Problem of Sculpture in Britain in the 1960s and 1970s*, Leeds, England (2011). Serpentine Gallery, *Nairy Baghramian and Phyllida Barlow*, London, England Kunstmuseum Basel, *Old Ideas*, Basel, Switzerland Bergen Kunsthall, *Under One Umbrella*, Bergen, Norway, CoExist Galleries, *Phyllida Barlow & Fiona MacDonald*, Essex, England, Modern Art, *Everynight, I go to Sleep*, London, England, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, *Displaced Fractures – Über die Bruchlinien von Architekturen und ihren Körpern*, Zurich, Switzerland (2010).

BALTIC 39

31 – 39 High Bridge, Newcastle upon-Tyne NE1 1EW

Admission to BALTIC 39 is free.

Opening hours: Wednesday – Sunday 12.00 – 18.00 except Thursday until 20.00

www.balticmill.com/39

BALTIC 39 is a collaboration between funders **Newcastle City Council** and **Arts Council England** and new operating partners, **BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art** and **Northumbria University**.

It was created from an existing six story warehouse building built in 1905. The structure of the building was largely preserved, with the introduction of three modern interventions, although the building has been designed to retain its original industrial feel.

The architectural concept for the building was created by Austrian Architects, Jabornegg & Palffy, with detailed design by the Newcastle office of Atkins Global. The Structural Engineer was White Young Green. Newcastle City Council provided the Mechanical and Electrical design and the overall Project Management was undertaken by JPM Consultants. The main contractor was Rok Building Ltd.

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead is a major international centre for contemporary art situated on the south bank of the River Tyne in Gateshead, England. BALTIC presents a constantly changing, distinctive and ambitious programme of exhibitions and events, and is a world leader in the presentation, commissioning and communication of contemporary visual art. BALTIC has welcomed over 4 million visitors, since opening to the public in July 2002.

BALTIC 39 is supported by:



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