



Space Unfolding:

A group exhibition exploring different conceptions of space

Espacio Gallery **15-20 May 2014**

159 Bethnal Green Road, London, E2 7DG

Private View: Thursday 15 May, 6 - 9pm

Artist Talks: Saturday 17 May, 2 – 4:30pm

Rachelle Allen-Sherwood. Jean Carabine. Caroline Hall. Gillian Holding. Jonathan Kelly Chapman. Junko O'Neill

There is a pleasing synchronicity attached to the notion of a group of artists showing work independently exploring different conceptions of space at a gallery called Espacio. It also nicely underscores the theme of the exhibition itself, exploring how such a broadly defined space is relevant to most visual artists, however tangentially. For some, it is the initial conceptual or formal concern, and for nearly all artists the final viewing space is an essential consideration.

Space Unfolding presents paintings by six British and international emerging artists from a wide range of backgrounds. A superficially disparate body of work is presented to allow for coherent interaction and response to the theme of space and a dialogue of unexpected connection. During the opening weekend of the exhibition the artists will be individually speaking about their work, their influences and methodologies.

Speaking ahead of the exhibition, artist, Junko O'Neill says, "Despite quite distinctively different styles and approaches to our work we are all interested in the notion of space though not always expressed. For instance, it was fascinating for me to discover during a panel discussion with Rachelle that she too is influenced by Japanese notions of space. Our individual notions complement each other well because whereas she is formally concerned with painting elements with empty space, I paint empty space itself attempting to give a space of nothingness potential".

Her fellow artist, Gillian Holding adds, "My short response to what interests me particularly would be the oddness of the everyday; but even here, my everyday sense of place is all about a psychological response to a specific space. So it is always there, an unconscious preoccupation."

The exhibition is organised by Junko O'Neill and Gillian Holding.

Space Unfolding will take place at Espacio Gallery from 15-20 May 2014.

Exhibition opening hours: 11am - 7pm (except Tuesday and Wednesday 11am - 5pm)

For more details, images or interviews, contact

Gillian Holding 07952 240291 or mail@gillianholding.com

Alternatively, visit

www.spaceunfolding.wordpress.com

www.espaciogallery.com

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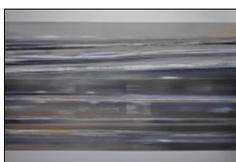
Notes for Editors



Rachelle Allen-Sherwood was born in Tokyo and spent most of her life in Okinawa. Using traditional Japanese Sumi ink, she references Asian calligraphic processes to explore the notion of space as the interface between dualities such as microcosm/macrocosm. In 2011, she gained her BA in Fine Art from University of Greenwich, with First Class Honours. In a Jotta interview, Jasper Joffe singled her out as 'One to keep an eye on'. Shortlisted by Charlie Smith London for ANTHOLOGY 2011, she exhibited with the Fabelists Art Collective throughout 2012. Her work is currently showcased with FR Contemporary in Switzerland, as well as in private collections around the world. Collectors include the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams and British Olympic Equestrian Emily Baldwin. Rachelle is currently based in London.



Jean Carabine is an artist and an academic researching and documenting what makes creativity possible. Since 2012, Jean has been working with artists, creative practitioners and art groups/organisations in the North of England and Ireland on several studies as part of a larger pilot project 'Creative Practices and Processes' which explores the different social, environmental, psychological and material factors that facilitate creativity. Her current work explores the way time transforms the past, to both obscure it and to make it visible anew. Graduated from Fine Art at Leeds Metropolitan University in 2019, where she was awarded the Spectrum Painting Prize, Jean has exhibited, presented and performed widely in the UK, Europe and the USA. A member of East Street Arts, her studio is at Smart Studios, Leeds.



Caroline Hall worked as a television reporter and presenter for the BBC for 15 years before moving to Berlin in 2000 with her family. She graduated from Winchester School of Art with a first class honours degree in Visual Art in 2005 and completed a Masters in Painting in 2007. Her work explores the different spaces occupied by video and painting. Every painting Caroline creates is an attempt to capture a landscape which is on the move. She has been a named finalist in the Agora and Alpan Painting Prizes in New York, and in 2011, her work was shortlisted for the British Threadneedle Prize. She has exhibited throughout the UK and abroad and held several solo exhibitions in London's East End. She works from her studio/gallery in Winchester.



Gillian Holding was born in Chester and is based variously in Leeds, London and Paris. She is a studio member and a trustee of East Street Arts, an artists' organisation in Leeds and an alumnus of Debut Contemporary in London. Her mixed media work explores the absurdities and oddnesses of the mundane and everyday and ranges from large scale drawing and site-specific installations to digital and conventional-media painting and drawing. Since graduating from Leeds Metropolitan University in 2009 with first class honours and the Historical and Critical Studies Prize, Gillian has exhibited juried festivals and group shows in the UK, Italy and the US and has had solo shows in Leeds, Bradford, Birmingham and London. Her next solo show is scheduled in New York for December 2014. She was shortlisted for the Woodgather Art Prize 2011 and was a silver medal winner in Art Labology 2013.



Jonathan Kelly Chapman is a young artist who has travelled extensively and pulled influences from across the USA and Europe. His quiet and methodical approach to life is always reflected in his work, where despite the sometimes busy and overbearing subject matter, his paintings retain an eerie calm. Jonathan graduated in 2006 from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne before going on to complete his Masters at Winchester School of Art in 2010. He was selected for the Northern Graduate exhibition at the Curwen & New Academy Gallery in London in 2016 has been represented by the gallery at the Affordable Art Fair. Since 2011, Jonathan has founded and curated the Art in the Ark exhibition programme in Basingstoke and continues to show his own work in Newcastle, Winchester and London.



Junko O'Neill gained her MA and BA from Winchester School of Art, where she was given the Stephen Heffer Memorial Award in 2008. Born in Tokyo, she draws her inspiration from the Japanese spatial and temporal concept of 'Ma', with space considered to be fundamentally void. She was shortlisted for the Celeste Prize 2011 and Kudos International 2013. Her work 'The Intervals' that she created for Winchester Cathedral as a part of Winchester's biennial art festival, *10 Days*, in 2013, was displayed for an extended period at the cathedral's special request. After her successful solo show in 2013, her second solo show is scheduled for November 2014 at the Coningsby Gallery in central London. She now lives in Winchester and a resident artist of the Sorting Office studios in Eastleigh, Hampshire.