

ART14 London

28 February - 2 March 2014
Olympia Grand Hall

Olympia Grand Hall Hammersmith Road London W14 8UX | mobile +33 (0) 6 61 15 99 91 | STAND: K5
Opening hours : Friday, February 28th & Saturday, March 1st : 11 am - 7 pm | Sunday, March 2nd 2014 : 11 am - 5 pm
Tube station : Kensington High Street | Parking : Olympia's parking | www.artfairslondon.com

HELENE SCHMITZ | BENTE SKJØTTGAARD | MAIBRITT ULVEDAL BJELKE | PIPALUK LAKE



PIPALUK LAKE (born in 1962 in Denmark, where she lives and works)

The glass artist Pipaluk Lake pursues to give form to these movements and opposing notions of elevation, lightness, suppleness as well as their contrary: the weight of the invisible force of gravity. Water, ice, air, wind, fabric, flesh, vegetation or rock, many associations to suggest the immaterial, movement, substance and the living. Forms are born from a sharp and open dialog between matter, process, strength of will and experience. With her training spanning over four disciplines : wood sculpture, textiles, metalware/jewellery and glass, Pipaluk Lake plays with a large scope of knowledge in order to fuse glass plates (windowpane), metals (plates, thread or oxides), enamels, colourings and atypical materials, creating works that span from the small to the monumental scale.

Lake's very atypical universe has been widely awarded and is represented in numerous public collections : **V&A, London, Corning Museum of Glass, New York State - Glasmuseum Alter Hof Herding, Germany - Boston Museum of Fine Arts - Kunstindustrimuseet, The Danish Arts Foundation and the New Carlsberg Foundation in Denmark.** Pipaluk Lake has exhibited throughout Europe, as well as in China, Korea, Canada, the United States and Australia. Several institutions have hosted a solo show of her work : the Danish Glass Museum Glasmuseet in 2011 (exhibition prized by the Danish Arts Foundation) and, in 2012, the prestigious exhibition's place **Sophienholm in Copenhagen**. She has also participated in the *Perturbations* exhibition at the Musée Fabre, Montpellier (2012).

The GALERIE MARIA LUND has presented 3 exhibitions of Pipaluk Lake (2008, 2010 and 2012).

HELENE SCHMITZ (born in 1960 in Stockholm, where she lives and works)

Kudzu project.

Renamed « the wine that devoured the South », the Kudzu is increasing exponentially since it was introduced in the United States at the end of the 19th century. Quickly, the Kudzu came to be considered an invasive plant, absorbing spaces, transforming the landscape into an abstract, infinite, horrifying, yet also very captivating sculpture.

Following her work on the hostile nature's fascinating beauty, (*Living rooms, Sunken gardens and Carnivores*) Helene Schmitz has captured long shots of these ghostly landscapes, with a chamber camera's, bringing life to images that grab the spectator to better confront him with a nature that is beyond our grasp.

Helene Schmitz has been regularly exhibiting her work since the 1990s, mostly in Scandinavia, where the institution has shown a growing interest for her work, in particular *Fotografiska, Stockholm* (2011) or the *Dunkers Kulturhus* (Helsingborg, Sweden) that will show a monographic exhibition of her work in 2015.

In France, she has been exhibited the *Institut Suédois (Mois de la Photo, 1996)*, at the *Palais Rameau* in Lille (*Transphotographiques 2010*), and at the *Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire* in 2011. The GALERIE MARIA LUND has presented two solo shows of the artist since 2010. Her work has also been shown in the United States, in South America and in Japan.

Part of her activity is dedicated to the publication of books (*A passion for Systems, 2007, The Rolander project, 2011*). Besides the *Publishing Prize* that she has won two times, she was nominated twice for Sweden's most prestigious literary prize, the *Augustprize*. With the *Kudzu project*, she was selected as a finalist of the *Prix de la Photo Camera Clara 2013* (France). The prize will be followed by a show at *Dupont Images* (Paris) in March 2014.

BENTE SKJØTTGAARD (born in 1961 in Denmark, where she lives and works)

Bente Skjøttgaard's new productions belong to a **body of work that spans several years on clouds and celestial fields**. The scientific source of inspiration morphed into a personal, imaginary and light park of clouds. White and fluffy, in "marshmallow" pastel tones or in dark brown, they are created by thin coils of clay set on their stems. Recently, she has introduced in these works the idea of mirrors, which refers to those of double and reflection, or the whirlwind that topples time and our physical environment in a few instants. Ceramics, a quintessential matter of nature and vehicle of culture, become with Bente Skjøttgaard a ludic and perceptive medium to "show" what is so omnipresent that we tend to forget it. **The Bente Skjøttgaard's sculptures have joined the collections of the V&A, London, the *Fond national d'art contemporain*, Paris, the *Musée National de la Céramique*, Sèvres, the *Musées de Châteauroux* and of a number of public collections in Northern Europe. The artist regularly exhibits in Europe, including in France at the *Biennales de Châteauroux* (2009 and 2011) and *Vallauris* (2010); the **GALERIE MARIA LUND** has presented five exhibitions between 2004 and 2013.**

In 2009 and 2011, she also exhibited at the *Biennale de Châteauroux* and in 2010 at the *Biennale de Vallauris* (sculpture section). With the exhibition platform *Copenhagen Ceramics* that she co-created in 2012 in Copenhagen, she has collaborated on the exhibition *TERRES - Copenhagen ceramics invites* shown at the **GALERIE MARIA LUND** in partnership with le Palais de Tokyo, during Summer 2013. Bente Skjøttgaard has also been exhibited in the United States as well as in South Korea (*KIAF* 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 - *Gyeonggi International Ceramics Biennale* 2009 and 2011).

MAIBRITT ULVEDAL BJELKE (born in 1967 in Denmark, lives and works in England)

For the past twenty years, Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke has been exploring painting, focusing solely on the process, colour and matter, as well as her physical and intellectual involvement. Her work shows both rigor and great freedom, where the act of painting itself, the spreading of luminous matter, becomes respiration.

Since 2009, Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke creates artworks inspired by *Tangram* - a solitary Chinese 'brain teaser' game : through a system of combinations where triangles, squares, circles and rectangles are either superimposed or in juxtaposition, the work can deploy itself, in theory, to infinity.

Following the games system of interlocking geometric shapes, she has produced a series of square or round paintings, each one made up of several triangles. From the central diagonal to the edges, the artist places fine paint drippings made in retention through small concentrated movements that are both deliberate and mastered. Whereas up until now the drippings were the 'unintentional witnesses' of her large movements, they have become the expression itself, replacing the stroke that seeks freedom and momentum. If the choice of colours remains spontaneous and free, their playfield is determined by Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke's 'tangram'. The drippings lead from the centre towards the top and bottom, inversely - or in juxtaposition. Through this system of combinations, in theory, the work can deploy itself to infinity. Thus, the artist once more succeeds in defying the pictorial space, using a process which is both systematic and open. The result attracts and intrigues. The intensity of light emerging from the artworks releases a jubilatory feeling. The experimentation of form, the optical game of colour and the dense sometimes impenetrable surfaces constitute a challenge for sight and spirit. The **GALERIE MARIA LUND** has welcomed 5 exhibitions by Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke (2004, 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2011), that are part of an impressive career initiated at ENSBA, Paris (1988-1993) with the professors Pierre Matthey, Jan Voss, Claude Viallat and the Navajo Indian Joe Ben Junior. Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke works have been shown in numerous exhibitions in France, Switzerland, the United States and Denmark where she originates from - in gallery's (Galerie Suzanne Tarasiève, Galerie Zürcher, Galerie Weinberger, DCA Gallery, Galerie Proarta, Galleri Gl. Lejre, Galleri Banja Rathnov) - and in institutions (Galerie Municipale de Vitry - prize winner in 1999 - and Kunstcentret Silkeborg Bad with *Paper revisioned*). Equally, there are numerous articles in the press (amongst others *Connaissances des Arts*, *AZART*, *le Nouvel Obs*, *Politiken*, *Jyllandsposten* and *Børsen*). In 2004, a program was dedicated to her on France Culture (interview by Marie du Bouchet in *Etats d'art*). In 2008, Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke was invited by the *Josef and Anni Albers Foundation* (Connecticut) for an artist residency. A catalogue retracing Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke work over the last ten years was published in 2007.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Since 1999, the **GALERIE MARIA LUND** exhibits and promotes international contemporary artists both in France and abroad. The choice of artists is based on quality criteria. In a context where the limits of art are difficult to define, we attach great importance to the combination of a strong concept, an immense effort and implication together with a real know-how as well as being ourselves very motivated and convinced by the work. These requirements have led to a program bringing together diverse formal approaches and subjects through a large choice of media (painting, drawing, photo, video, installation and sculpture). The artistic direction of the gallery follows two axes: narrative as well as a particularly strong relation to matter, for figurative or abstract work.

The gallery supports its artists in their collaboration with public and private institutions, and in the elaboration of commissioned work for specific places (companies, hotels, private residences).

The gallery regularly participates in contemporary art fairs: *KIAF* (Seoul), *Drawing Now* (Paris), *SLICK* (Paris) and *ART ON PAPER* (Brussels).

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