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VISUAL ARTS / GALLERIES / ARTICLE

'Uncanny Memories' at Sophia Contemporary, London

BY BLOUIN ARTINFO | MAY 01, 2018



 View
Slideshow

"Flick," 2018 Genesis Belanger Porcelain; 21.6 x 10.2 x 3.8 cm
(Courtesy: Artist and Sophia Contemporary)

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VENUES

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Gallery

Contemporary

ARTISTS

Adam Parker Smith

Matthew Hansel

Matt Lipps

Sophia Contemporary will host a group exhibition titled "Uncanny Memories" at its London venue.

The group exhibition will feature young artists exploring the themes of the uncanny and surrealism through a variety of media. Six artists from the UK, the US, and France – Jonathan Baldock, Genesis Belanger, [Matthew Hansel](#), [Matt Lipps](#), Theo Mercier, and [Adam Parker Smith](#) will showcase their new and recent works. The exhibition reflects on the legacy of surrealism in contemporary art while investigating the notion of the uncanny in reference to the history of art.

Sigmund Freud had defined the concept of the uncanny first as an experience strangely familiar, confronting the viewer with unconscious, repressed impulses. The exhibition will explore this notion through 14 artworks executed in a variety of media: painting, sculpture, ceramic, mirror work, and photography. It will include bronze sculptures, porcelain and stoneware works and also photographic collages to demonstrate the widespread impact of the uncanny on contemporary artists across media and geography.

The featured artists in "Uncanny Memories" are united by a desire to reveal the odd, the strange, the surreal, and the uncanny in our contemporary societies by looking back at the history of art. [Matthew Hansel](#)'s paintings have a blend of classical imagery and cartoonish elements and a variety of art historical references. [Adam Parker Smith](#)'s whimsical sculptures on the other hand, makes use of antique, classical, and modern imagery that is a common thread in the exhibition.

Sculptor Jonathan Baldock is also an installation and performance artist. His biographical works addresses the trauma, stress, sensuality, mortality, and spirituality around our relationship to the body and the space it inhabits. Genesis Belanger tries to create delicate ceramic sculptures exploring with humor and wit the consumerist nature of contemporary society that draw on language of pop art and surrealism. [Matt Lipps](#) explores the collective memory of the audience by creating uncanny photographs that blur the boundaries between high and low artistic registers. And Theo Mercier goes for tongue-in-cheek sculptural and photographic assemblages of collaged images and found objects that playfully collapse the boundaries between high and low art, craft and industry, past and present.

The exhibition will be on view from May 11 through June 23, 2018, at Sophia Contemporary Gallery, 11 Grosvenor Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 4QB, UK Tube Station: Green Park, Bond Street & Oxford Circus.

For details, visit: <http://www.blouinartinfo.com/galleryguide/sophia-contemporary-gallery/overview>

Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek at the exhibition

<http://www.blouinartinfo.com>

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"Mountains of Ice," 2018

Adam Parker Smith

Chromed and painted resin, fiberglass, steel, iron; 162.6 x 147.3 x 50.8 cm

COURTESY: ARTIST AND SOPHIA CONTEMPORARY

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"Stick in the Eye (Brown and Blue), Bronze," 2016
Jonathan Baldock
epoxy resin; 38 x 140 cm (Brown), 38 x 87 cm (Blue)

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"Skeptics Make Bad Bedfellows," 2018
Matthew Hansel
Oil and flashe paint on linen; 152.4 x 121.9 cm, 2018

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"Head, Archival," 2015

Matt Lipps

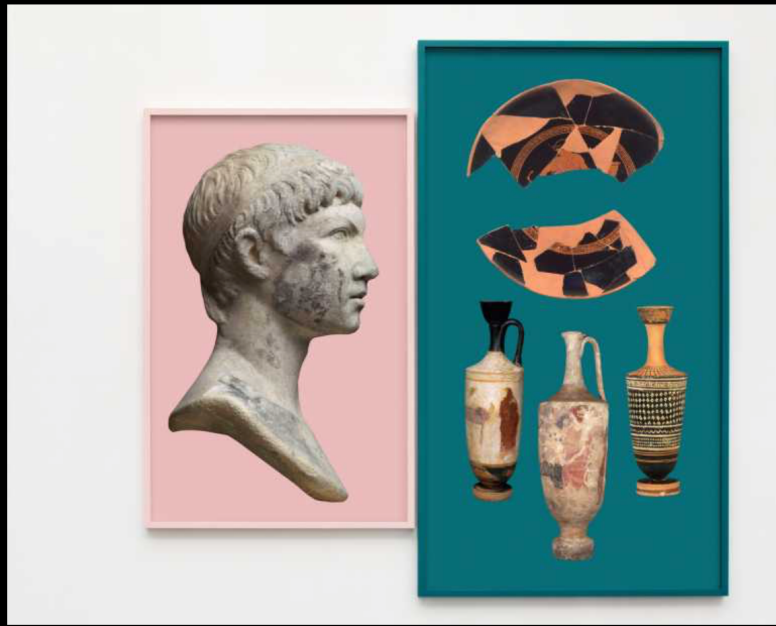
pigment print; 135.4 x 101.6 cm, 2015

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"Chef d'oeuvre de l'art n°45," 2016

Théo Mercier

Diptych, framed pictures; (left) 98 x 153 x 5 cm, (right) 203 x 5 cm, 2016

COURTESY: ARTIST AND SOPHIA CONTEMPORARY