



**PRESS RELEASE**

## **FORWARD PROGRAMME: 2017-2018**

### **MICHAEL ARMITAGE: THE CHAPEL 13 DEC 2017– 23 FEB 2018, MAIN GALLERY**

From 13 December 2017– 23 February 2018 the South London Gallery presents *The Chapel*, a solo exhibition of new work by London-based, Kenyan-born artist Michael Armitage, his first major solo show in a public gallery in London.

Made with the chapel-like qualities of the SLG's main space in mind, Armitage's new series of seven large-scale paintings explore the ambiguous boundaries between religion, folklore and social consensus, particularly in relation to issues of mental health in East Africa. Drawing on historical and contemporary news stories, internet gossip, and the artist's own experiences of Kenya, the paintings blend dream-like figuration with compositional references to Titian, Gauguin and other masters of Western art history. Painted in layers on Ugandan lubugo bark cloth, the texture and ruptures within this distinctive material are integrated into Armitage's colourful surreal imagery, the surface beauty of which often belies the disturbing subject matter upon which it is based.

*Michael Armitage: The Chapel* is accompanied by a publication with essays by Mukami Kuria and Roger Malbert, and a conversation between Michael Armitage and Margot Heller, Director of the SLG.

*With thanks to White Cube*

### **ILONA SAGAR: CORRESPONDENCE O 13 DEC 2017 – 25 FEB 2018, FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES**

In her first institutional solo show in the UK, Ilona Sagar presents *Correspondence O*, a multi-faceted work exploring the history of the Pioneer Health Centre in Peckham and its subsequent conversion into a gated community. Sagar's moving image installation expresses the complex, changing landscape of public health and the social shift towards a more egocentric, user-focused and technology-infused understanding of wellness. The work is informed by her extensive research into the archives of the Pioneer Health Centre held by the Wellcome Trust and Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), and contemporary medical research conducted by the Behavioural and Clinical Neuroscience Institute at the University of Cambridge. The exhibition is accompanied by a publication.

*Correspondence O* has been co-commissioned and produced in partnership with *The Ballad of Peckham Rye*. Supported by a Wellcome Arts Award. Sound Partner: Bowers & Wilkins

### **ADAM LINDER SERVICE NO.5: DARE TO KEEP KIDS OFF NATURALISM 28 FEB – 11 MAR 2018, MAIN GALLERY**

The SLG presents the UK premiere of a new commission by the LA and Berlin-based choreographer, dancer and visual artist Adam Linder. The most ambitious of his choreographic "services" to date, *No.5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism* extends for fifty hours across ten days as four performers occupy the SLG's main gallery, utilising modular costumes to create ever-changing architectonic formations that reconsider the relationship between their theatrical sensibility and the exhibition space. Linder's practice explores the notion of choreography as an economically viable public service in the form of physical, performed labour, drawing on the disciplinary sensibilities of visual arts and its inscribed histories.

See [www.southlondongallery.org](http://www.southlondongallery.org) for performance times.

*Service No.5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism* is a co-production of South London Gallery and Kunsthalle Basel.

**STUDIO OOMK AND OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL  
28 FEB – 11 MAR 2018, FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES**

Gallery visitors are invited to enter a community printing press in the First Floor Galleries, co-developed with children from Oliver Goldsmith Primary School and Studio OOMK. The spaces are hosting a programme of workshops and events exploring local and personal heritage to critically reconsider who has access to our archives and histories. The programme has evolved from a six-month residency with children aged 5–11 attending a local After-School Club and is part of *Evidence of Us*, the SLG's new strand of heritage activity.

*Evidence of Us is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund*

**MAGALI REUS  
23 MAR-27 MAY 2018, MAIN GALLERY**

In March 2018 London-based Dutch artist Magali Reus will present a major body of new work, produced in partnership with Bergen Kunsthall and shown in different configurations at each venue.

In a new series of meticulously produced sculptures, Reus integrates references to objects recognisable from our everyday experience into ostensibly abstract forms. Reproducing conventionally analogue gestures through complex casting and moulding techniques, she establishes a sculptural language which seems to be in a state of perpetual transition between different temporal stages: frozen in the process of becoming (mid-render), caught in the midst of a function (mid-use), or in a state of restoration, ruin or abandonment.

*Commissioned and produced by Bergen Kunsthall and the South London Gallery.  
Supported by the Mondriaan Fund and Arts Council Norway.*

**LUIZ ZERBINI  
7 JUNE – 26 AUGUST 2018, MAIN GALLERY & FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES**

Luiz Zerbini is one of Brazil's most established contemporary artists, known for his vivid works on canvas which draw on a range of themes from the abstract to landscapes, cityscapes, and domestic scenes using a range of techniques and styles. For his first solo show in a UK public institution, Zerbini will show a series of large-scale paintings referencing modernist architecture, contemporary culture and elements from the natural environment. These will be presented with a series of abstract works on canvas positioned around a sculptural centre-piece. The exhibition will also present Zerbini's 35mm film and slide works.

For further information and high resolution images please contact:

**Anna Jones, Head of Communications** on **020 7703 6120** or email

**Anna.Jones@southlondongallery.org** or **Freya Jewitt, Communications Officer** on **020 7703 6120** or email **Freya.jewitt@southlondongallery.org / press@southlondongallery.org** (not for publication)

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**About the South London Gallery**

The South London Gallery (SLG) is an internationally renowned public institution with an established reputation for its programme of contemporary art exhibitions, film and performance events, with integrated education projects for children, young people and adults. Over the past decade the exhibitions programme has featured solo shows by established international figures such as Katharina Grosse, Ellen Gallagher, Thomas Hirschhorn, Rashid Johnson, Gabriel Kuri, Rivane Neuenschwander, Roman Ondak, Amie Siegel, Erik van Lieshout and Lawrence Weiner, as well as those by younger and mid-career artists such as Alice Channer, Michael Dean, Thea Djordjadze, Ryan Gander and Oscar Murillo. Group shows bring together works by established and lesser-known British and international artists, whilst an ongoing residency programme provides opportunities for artists to develop a new body of work and exhibit at the SLG.

Over the next year the South London Gallery will be expanding into the former Peckham Road Fire Station and is currently fundraising to enable its renovation and transformation into a cultural

centre which will be an annexe to the SLG's main site. The new gallery, archive and cultural centre will open to the public in September 2018. The Grade II listed building, dating from 1867, was generously donated to the SLG in recognition of the pressing need to expand its programmes, impact and long term sustainability. The project has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant of £1,650,000 thanks to National Lottery players. The £4m project has also received a substantial grant from the Mayor's London Regeneration Fund as well as funding from a number of trusts, foundations, individuals and commercial galleries to raise a total of £3.6m. The gallery is now embarking on the final stage of its fundraising campaign to secure the final £400,000 to cover restoration costs and establish a fund for the future running of the building.

### **Opening Hours**

The gallery is open Tuesday–Sunday 11–6pm, except Wednesdays and the last Friday of the month until 9pm. Closed Mondays. Admission is free.

T: @SLG\_artupdates

I: @SouthLondonGallery

F: South London Gallery

