



PRESS RELEASE

KATHARINA GROSSE: THIS DROVE MY MOTHER UP THE WALL
28 SEP – 3 DEC 2017, MAIN & FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES, ADMISSION FREE
OPENING PREVIEW WED 27 SEP, 6.30-8.30PM

For her first institutional solo exhibition in London, Katharina Grosse presents a new work, *This Drove my Mother up the Wall*, painted in situ at the South London Gallery.

Grosse's large scale and site-specific works engulf both interior and exterior spaces, unhindered by the traditional boundaries of the pictorial field.

In the South London Gallery's main exhibition space, Grosse has made the void the dramatic centre of her project, masking the floor with a large foam stencil, then painting over it and the surrounding walls. Once she removes the stencil, a bright, white area of floor is revealed, untouched by the veils of colour and broad, propulsive marks spreading to all sides. This filtering technique is also evident in Grosse's recent canvas works, where stencils are placed over areas of the canvas at various stages of the painting process, resulting in chromatic layers that record her thoughts and actions.

To accompany the painted installation, Grosse has selected two documentary films to be screened in the first floor galleries, intended to frame her creative practice and research interests. In the short documentary from the series *Women Artists* (2016) by Claudia Müller, Grosse curates a fantasy exhibition by eight other female artists and discusses her selection of artists and artworks, the relationship between their practices, and guides the viewer through a virtual realisation of her ideal group exhibition.

The second documentary film is *The Gleaners and I* (2000), by Belgian director Agnès Varda, a source of inspiration for Grosse's South London Gallery installation that deals with the marginal, the residual, and the invisible. Filming with a hand-held camera and narrating the film herself, Varda travelled around France, profiling gleaners, from those who follow the country harvests through to urban scavengers, such as the bricoleur artist who finds objects and transforms them into sculpture, and Varda herself, who ponders the gleaning nature of digital filmmaking.

Grosse was born in 1961 in Freiberg, Germany, and now lives and works in Berlin. Her work has been featured in international solo and group exhibitions, as well as major arts projects and biennales. Grosse's most recent site-specific installations include *Rockaway!* for MoMA PS1's "Rockaway!" program (2016) and *Untitled Trumpet* for the 56th Biennale di Venezia (2015). Notable solo exhibitions include "Constructions à cru," Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2005); "Atoms Outside Eggs," Serralves, Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto (2007); "Hello Little Butterfly I Love You What's Your Name," ARKEN—Museum for Moderne Kunst, Copenhagen (2009); "Two younger women come in and pull out a table," De Pont Museum of Contemporary Art, The Netherlands; "WUNDERBLOCK," Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas both (2013); "yes no why later," Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow (2015); and Museum Frieder Burda, Germany (2016).

With thanks to The Henry Moore Foundation and Gagosian.

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ACCOMPANYING EVENTS

Katharina Grosse and Stefan Schneider: Tiergarten
Sun 1 Oct, 8pm, £7/£5 conc, Main Gallery

Katharina Grosse and musician Stefan Schneider (Kreidler, to rococo rot) present the UK premier of *Tiergarten*, a performance based upon material from their recent collaborative LP named after

the park in central Berlin. Playing together, the artists move between analogue synthesizers and spoken word, “interacting, communicating, contemplating, complementing each other through their instruments and intuitions”.

open-talks: Katharina Grosse

Wed 29 Nov, 7pm, £5/£3 conc, Camberwell College of Arts

In conversation event with Katharina Grosse discussing her practice and her solo exhibition at the South London Gallery. *open—talks* is a series of talks conceived by the SLG and Camberwell College of Arts offering an alternative curriculum that synthesises the current interests and research focus of both institutions.

There are a limited amount of free tickets available for students from Camberwell College of Arts.

Exhibition Tours

Daily, 1pm & Last Fridays, 7pm, Free

Join the SLG's gallery assistants for an informal, drop-in tour of the current exhibition.

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 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 2018. The Grade II listed building, dating from 1867, was generously donated to the SLG to respond to 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.

PRESS CONTACT

For further information and high resolution images please contact:

Freya Jewitt, Communications Officer on **020 7703 6120** or email

Freya.jewitt@southlondongallery.org / **press@southlondongallery.org**

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