WITH THANKS TO

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This guide is available as a large print guide, and an easy read guide. Please ask a member of the SLG team.

LIST OF WORKS

MAIN GALLERY

Centre
painted wood, metal, ticket, fishing pole, plaster, calcium carbonate, plastic sheeting, wall street journal and financial times newspapers and light

Walls
Shelf With Buckfast Bottle And Tray (Baby Doll Version), 2023
painted wooden shelf and tray, Buckfast wine bottle, Buckfast wine, isopropyl alcohol

Shelf With Buckfast Bottles And Saucers (Baby Doll Version), 2023
painted wooden shelf, Buckfast bottles, Buckfast wine and isopropyl alcohol, saucers

Shelf With Cactus Jack Bottles, Shoulder Position (Champ Version), 2023
painted wooden shelf, Cactus Jack bottles, Cactus Jack wine, isopropyl alcohol, saucer

Shelf With Cactus Jack Bottles, Stomach Position (Killer Version), 2023
painted wooden shelf, Cactus Jack bottles, Cactus Jack wine, isopropyl alcohol, saucer

mixed media on paper

OUTSIDE

Outside, 2023
UV printed on mesh banners

FIRE STATION

Fire Station Forecourt
Small Cup (Sink Version), 2008/2023
video, 12:51

Fire Station Entrance, Ground Floor
Mat, 2023
sheet marigold

Gallery 1, Ground Floor
Small Cup (Sink Version), 2008/2023
video, 12:51

Gallery 2, Ground Floor
Space Between The Letter Drawings (SLG Version), 2013 (26) drawings*

Gallery 3, First Floor
Shelf With Pink Hospital Carafe And Straw (D-Goony Version), 2023
painted wooden shelf, pink hospital carafe, plastic straw

Gallery 4, First Floor
Shelves With Buckfast Bottles, 2023
Hospital Carafes And Saucers (Veronica Version), painted wooden shelves, Buckfast bottles, Buckfast wine, isopropyl alcohol, hospital carafes, saucers and light

mixed media on paper


All works courtesy of the artist.

VISITOR INFORMATION

SHOP
Browse gifts, books and prints in the SLG shop in the Main Building and online. Every purchase supports the SLG.

CAFÉ
Enjoy delicious coffee, sandwiches, baked goods and more from South London Louie, Main Building, 65–67 Peckham Road.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES
We offer free events for children and families, and young people throughout the year. Visit the What’s On section of our website to find out more.

GARDENS
The Orozco Garden is situated behind the Main Building and is open to all Sat – Sun, 11am–6pm. Pick up a free garden trail in the Fox Reception. The Fox Garden is accessible via the café in the Main Building and is open year round.

ACCESS INFORMATION

The SLG has step-free access throughout its public spaces and accessible toilets in all three sites.

Baby change facilities are available on the ground floor of the Main Building and on the first and second floors.

Large print resources and sensory maps are available.

Registered service animals are welcome in all areas of the SLG.

Chairs are available to borrow in the exhibition spaces, please ask a member of our team.

Magnifying glasses, ear protectors, ear plugs and a folding wheelchair are available to borrow, please ask a member of our team.

OUR SPACES

Main Building
120m
Peacham Road

Fire Station

POPE.I: HOSPITAL

South London Gallery

Main Gallery & Fire Station Galleries
21 Nov 2023 – 11 Feb 2024

21 Nov 2023 – 11 Feb 2024

South London Gallery is a registered charity no.312160. It is registered as company no.04720002 (SLG Trustee Ltd)
Since the 1970s, Chicago-based American artist Pope.L (1953–) whose working practice has explored society, politics and contemporary culture through performance, installation, video, painting and writing. His work grapples with themes in language, gender, race, economics and community, establishing him as one of the most influential artists of his generation.

Some of Pope.L’s most well-known works include performances involving consumption, business, love, food, cutting, eating, walking, sleeping, hitting, and swallowing; films; and consumer goods and interventions into public space. In the 1970s, Pope.L, who is of African American and Puerto Rican descent, became known for his commitment to social engagement by directly confronting the realities of the world around him. His early performances were centered on the act of walking and swallowing consumer goods, which he referred to as “ingesting capitalism.” This practice allowed him to explore the relationship between the body and society, and to critique the consumption of goods in a way that was both provocative and accessible.

Pope.L’s work is also notable for its use of language and its incorporation of absurdist and often hard-hitting performances, some of which have included his family members being homeless and facing hunger. His work has been described as “ruffling the feathers of power” and has been presented in different venues, including galleries, museums, and public spaces.

Pope.L’s work has been exhibited at many significant institutions, including the Rubell Family Collection, the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, and the University of Iowa Museum of Art. His work has also been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions, and he has received numerous awards and commissions for his work.

The use of language – and sometimes the absence of it – is central to Pope.L’s work. The title of his 2000 performance piece, “Flouring,” is a play on the numerous connotations of the word “flour.” In many of Pope.L’s works, language is combined with visual elements to create a sense of the indeterminate and the ephemeral.

Pope.L’s work is also notable for its use of food as a material. In works such as “Baby Cup” and “Small Cup,” Pope.L uses food to create installations and performances that comment on issues such as consumerism and waste. In “Baby Cup,” Pope.L constructed a small cup from a bag of rice, which he then filled with water and displayed in a gallery. The cup was intended to be a symbol of the commodification of human life and the exploitation of labor.

In “Small Cup,” Pope.L created a small cup from a bag of blueberries, which he then filled with water and displayed in a gallery. The cup was intended to be a symbol of the commodification of human life and the exploitation of labor. Pope.L’s work often examines the ways in which power and wealth are concentrated in the hands of a few, and how these systems of power are maintained through the commodification of goods and services.

Artists Biography

Pope.L (1953, Newark, New Jersey) studied at Pratt Institute and Montclair State College, where he received a BFA in 1978. He also participated in the Independent Study Program at the Whitney and received an MFA in 1991 from Rutgers University.

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