

Spike Island

PRESS RELEASE

SPIKE ISLAND 2020 EXHIBITIONS AND COMMISSIONS



Pacita Abad

Life in the Margins

18 January to 5 April 2020

The first exhibition in the UK by artist Pacita Abad (1946–2004). Curated in collaboration with artist Pio Abad, the exhibition includes over 20 large-scale 'trapunto' paintings and other works on fabric made between 1983 and 2002. Characterised by their vibrant colour and intricate construction, these works combine a broad range of styles, subjects and techniques, from social realist tableaux incorporating indigenous textiles to richly detailed abstractions inspired by Korean ink brush painting, Indonesian batik and Papua New Guinean macramé.



Eric Baudelaire and Alvin Curran

When There's No More Music to Write

25 April to 21 June 2020

A two-person exhibition by artist and filmmaker Eric Baudelaire and composer Alvin Curran. Curated in collaboration with music historian Maxime Guitton, the exhibition includes a new film commission



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40

exploring how Curran's life and work intersects with the radical political movements emerging in Italy, and around the world, during the 1970s. Presented in partnership with CRAC Occitanie and Bristol New Music, and supported by Fluxus Art Projects.



Lucy Stein

Wet Room

25 April to 21 June 2020

The first major UK solo show and a new commission by artist Lucy Stein, comprising a new series of coffin-scale paintings, deities carved from soap, and a fully functioning, hand painted wet room. Building on a lasting engagement with goddess culture, witchcraft and idea of the 'anima', the exhibition is based on Stein's research into the ancient, womb-like Neolithic passages unique to West Cornwall.



Denzil Forrester

Itchin & Scratchin

4 July to 6 September 2020

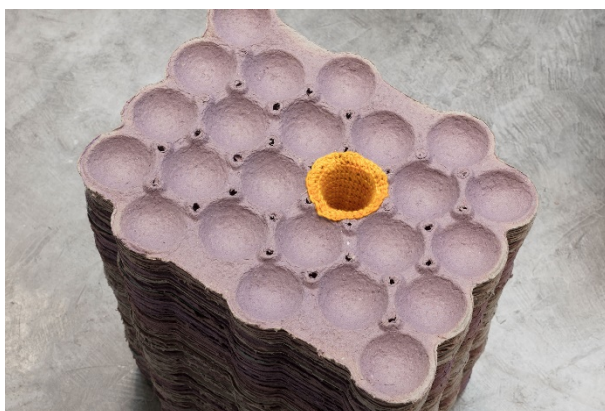
A solo exhibition by painter Denzil Forrester, including new and existing paintings and works on paper that capture the vibrant energy of the dimly lit dancehalls of 1980s London and the present-day open-air clubs of Jamaica in vivid colour. Presented in partnership with Nottingham Contemporary.



Amitai Romm

4 July to 6 September 2020

A major new commission and the first UK solo exhibition by artist Amitai Romm. Often combining archaic, mundane and high-tech materials and references – from trilobite fossils to biotech membranes and household spices – Romm makes drawings, sculptures and installations as forms of science fiction.



Veronica Ryan

19 September to 13 December 2020

A major exhibition of new works by British artist Veronica Ryan (b. 1956, Montserrat). Supported by The Frelands Foundation, this is Ryan's largest and most ambitious exhibition in the UK to date. Ryan's work draws on her enquiries into ancestral history as well as experiences of place, home, memory and loss. In her sculptures and installations, Ryan brings together a wide range of techniques and materials that vary from cast forms in plaster, clay, bronze and aluminium, to more ephemeral found materials such as dried flowers, fruit, feathers and dust.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS AND COMMISSIONS FOR 2021

Candice Lin

Pigs and Poison

23 January to 21 March 2021

A major new commission and solo exhibition by LA-based artist Candice Lin, comprising a virtual reality animation, flesh-like sculptures and a large-scale medieval trebuchet. Commissioned by Spike Island, Bristol; Guangdong Times Museum; and Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth.

Adam Khalil and Bayley Sweitzer

Nosferasta

23 January to 21 March 2021

A new film commission by filmmakers Adam Khalil and Bayley Sweitzer. Commissioned and produced by Gasworks, London and Spike Island,



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40

Bristol, as part of the European Cooperation project 4Cs: From Conflict to Conviviality through Creativity and Culture, co-funded by Creative Europe and the Royal College of Art.

Peggy Ahwesh

3 April to 13 June 2021

The first retrospective exhibition by artist and filmmaker Peggy Ahwesh, curated in collaboration with London-based scholar and critic Erika Balsom.

– Ends –

For further information and high-resolution images please contact Jane Faram, Communications Manager at Spike Island on jane.faram@spikeisland.org.uk or +44 (0)117 9292266.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

IMAGES

1. Pacita Abad, *The Sky is Falling, the Sky is Falling* (detail) (1998) Oil, plastic buttons and beads, painted cloth on stitched and padded canvas. Work courtesy the Pacita Abad Art Estate. Photograph courtesy Pioneer Studios, Manila.
2. Eric Baudelaire, *When There's No More Music to Write* (2020) Film still. Courtesy the artist.
3. Lucy Stein, *Her Comfort Zones 2* (2019) Glazed ceramic bisque tiles on marine plywood. Courtesy the artist and Gregor Staiger, Zurich.
4. Denzil Forrester, *Dub Dance* (1993) Oil on board. Copyright Denzil Forrester. Courtesy the artist and Stephen Friedman Gallery, London.
5. Amitai Romm, *Parable* (2017) Steel, neodymium magnets and flexicalymene trilobites. Photograph courtesy Julia Jaksch
6. Veronica Ryan, *Arrangement in Layers, Stacking Up Moments III* (2016-19). Recycled avocado trays, seeds, orange wool and cotton crochet. Installation views, Veronica Ryan: *The Weather Inside*, Paula Cooper Gallery (2019). Copyright Veronica Ryan, courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York. Photograph courtesy Steven Probert.

BIOGRAPHIES

- **PACITA ABAD**
Born in the Philippines in 1946, Pacita Abad studied painting at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C. and the Arts Student League in New York. Her work has been featured in solo exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila; National Museum, Jakarta; Hong Kong Arts Centre; Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila; Bhirasri Museum of Modern Art, Bangkok; The National Museum for Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; and the National Center of Afro-American Artists, Boston, among others. She has participated in numerous group exhibitions, including: *Asia/America: Identities in Contemporary Asian American Art*, a travelling exhibition organised by the Asia Society, New York (1996); *Beyond the Border: Art by Recent Immigrants*, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York (1994); *La Segunda Bienal de la Habana* (1986); and the *2nd Asian Art Show*, Fukuoka Art Museum (1985). Her work can be found in the collections of Tate Modern, London; M+ Museum, Hong Kong and the National Gallery of Singapore. She died in Singapore in 2004.
- **LUCY STEIN**
Lucy Stein (b. 1979, Oxford, UK, based in St. Just, Cornwall) studied at the Glasgow School of Art, and later at De Ateliers, in Amsterdam. Recent solo exhibitions include *£10.66*, Palette Terre, Paris (2018); *KNOCKERS*, Galerie Gregor Staiger, Zurich



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40

(2018); *Crying the Neck*, NICC Brussels (with Nina Royle) (2017); *On Celticity* (organised with Paola Clerico), Rodeo Gallery, London (2016); *Moonblood/Bloodmoon* at Galerie Gregor Staiger (2015); *Retention* (with Shana Moulton), Gimpel Fils, London; *Big Farmer*, Piper Keys, London (both 2014). Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Bonington Gallery, Nottingham (2019), Mendes Wood DM, Brussels; Tate St Ives (both 2018); Damien & The Love Guru, Brussels; TULCA festival, Galway, Newlyn Gallery, Penzance (all 2017); Union Pacific, London; Le Bourgeoise, London (2016); UKS, Oslo, François Ghebaly, Los Angeles (2015); Migros Museum fur Gegenwartskunst, Zurich; and The Approach, London (both 2014). In 2017 she co-organised *Fuck you where's my Suger*, a two-day festival celebrating depression and hysteria at Cafe Oto in London with Mark Harwood. In 2016 she co-curated *NEO-PAGAN BITCH-WITCH!* at Evelyn Yard, London with France-Lise McGurn. In 2015 she organised the multimedia performance event *The Wise Wound* at Tate St Ives and Porthmeor studios.

- **ERIC BAUDELAIRE**

Eric Baudelaire (b. 1973, Salt Lake City, Utah, based in Paris, France) is a visual artist with a research-based practice incorporating photography, printmaking and video. He studied political science at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Recent solo exhibitions include *Faire avec*, Centre Régional d'Art Contemporain Occitanie, Sète, France (2019); *Walked the Way Home*, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (n.b.k.), Berlin (2018); *The Music of Ramón Raquello and his Orchestra*, Witte de With, Rotterdam, The Netherlands (2017); *The Secession Sessions*, BAMPFA, Berkeley (2015); *FRMAEOWRK*, Fridericianum, Kassel (2014); *Now_Then_Here_Elsewhere*, Beirut Art Center, Lebanon (2013); and *Hammer Projects: Eric Baudelaire*, HAMMER, Los Angeles (2010). His work has been included in group exhibitions at Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France; Kunstmuseum Bonn (both 2019); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2018); MAXXI, Rome; Portikus, Frankfurt am Main (both 2017); Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid (2016); and Raven Row, London (2015). He has participated in the Whitney Biennial (2017); the Front International Cleveland Triennial (2018); Sharjah Biennial (2017); and Biennale de Montréal (2016). His films have circulated widely in film festivals including Locarno, Toronto, New York, FID Marseille and Rotterdam). In 2019 he received a Guggenheim Fellowship.

- **ALVIN CURRAN**

Alvin Curran (b. 1938, Providence, Rhode Island, based in Rome, Italy) has realised a long and fruitful career as a composer, performer, installation artist, writer, and teacher in the American experimental music tradition. He studied with Ron Nelson, Elliott Carter and Mel Powell, and co-founded the group *Musica Elettronica Viva* in 1966 in Rome. He has taught at Rome's National Academy of Theater Arts; Mills College, Oakland and the Mainz Hochschule für Musik, Frankfurt am Main. Recent projects include: *Concerto for Bathtub and Orchestra* (2017); the disintegrating installation – *Pian de Pian Piano* (2017); *Maritime Rites Rome* – for musicians on rowboats (2017); *A Banda Larga* – a street symphony (2018). He has performed at the Teatro Colon (2017); Big Ears Festival (2017); The New York Armory (2018), and collaborated with poet Clark Coolidge (Other Minds Festival, 2018), pianist Ciro Longobardi, and stage director Achim Freyer (on *Der Goldene Topf*, 2019). He has published articles in the New York Times, Musiktexte, The Contemporary Music Review, amongst others, and released more than thirty solo and and sixty



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40

collaborative recordings. A book about his work, *Alvin Curran: Live in Roma* (2011), was edited by Daniela Tortora, and in 2015 Curran published *the alvin curran fakebook*, an illustrated compendium of more than two hundred (mostly) notated pieces. In 1975 he won the Logos Award, in 1995 the Leonardo Award for Excellence, and in 2004 he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship. He is currently a consultant for the American Academy in Rome.

- **DENZIL FORRESTER**

Denzil Forrester (b. 1956, Grenada, based in Truro, UK) studied at the Central School of Art, London in 1979 and at the Royal College of Art, London in 1983. Recent solo exhibitions include *A Survey*, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London (2019); *From Trench Town to Porthtowan*, Jackson Foundation, St. Just (2018); *White Columns*, New York; *Tramps*, London (both 2016), all curated by Peter Doig and Matthew Higgs; *Two Decades of Painting*, The Edward Wilmot Blyden Project (2002); *Memory and Images*, Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery (1996). His work has been included in group exhibitions at Somerset House, London (2019); Tate Britain, London; Metro Pictures, New York (both 2017); Royal Academy of Arts, London (2000); The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York (1997); Barbican Art Gallery, London (1995); Whitechapel Gallery, London (1986) and Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (1984). He was awarded a scholarship by the British School at Rome in 1983-85 and a Harkness Fellowship in New York in 1986-88. Forrester's commissioned work, *Brixton Blue*, a reinterpretation of his seminal work *Three Wicked Men* (1982), is currently installed at Brixton Underground station in South London.

- **AMITAI ROMM**

Amitai Romm (b.1985, Jerusalem, based in Copenhagen, Denmark) studied at the Jutland Art Academy, Akademie der Bildenden Künste Vienna and the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts. Recent solo exhibitions include: *Macula Lutea*, VEDA, Florence (2019); *Hibernation*, Tranen, Gentofte (2017); and *How shall the sea be referred to*, Bianca D'Alessandro, Copenhagen (2016). His work has been included in group exhibitions at Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Vermillion Sands, Copenhagen (both 2019); the Dorothea Von Stetten Award, Kunstmuseum Bonn (2018); Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2017); New Galerie, Paris (2015). In 2018 he was the recipient of the Niels Wessel Bagges Kunstfond and in 2017 he received the Grosserer L.f. Foghts Fond. Romm is a co-founder of Diakron, a studio for transdisciplinary research and practice, and Primer, a platform for artistic and organisational development, located in the headquarters of the global water technology company Aquaporin in Kgs. Lyngby, Denmark.

- **VERONICA RYAN**

Veronica Ryan (b. 1956, Plymouth, Montserrat, based in New York and the UK) studied at St. Albans College of Art and Design; Bath Academy of Art in Corsham Court; The Slade School of Art at University College, London, and The School of Oriental and African Studies at London University. Ryan's solo exhibitions include *The Weather Inside*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York (2019); The Hepworth Museum, Wakefield; The Art House, Wakefield (both 2017); *The Weather Inside*, The Mattress Factory, Pittsburg (2011); *Archaeology of the Black Sun*, Salena Gallery, Long Island (2005); *Quoit Montserrat*, Tate St Ives, Cornwall (2000); *Compartments/Apartments*, Camden Arts Centre, London and Angel Row, Nottingham (1995), and Arnolfini, Bristol (1987). Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Castlefield Gallery, Manchester; Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne (2019);



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40

Nottingham Contemporary (2017); Henry Moore Institute, Leeds (2009); The Brooklyn Museum, New York (2007); Tate Modern, London (2005); Tate St Ives, Cornwall (1998); Bard College, New York (1995); Paula Cooper Gallery, New York (1992); Hayward Gallery, London (1990); Kettle's Yard, Cambridge (1988); Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (1985). Ryan has been the recipient of numerous awards and prizes, including most recently the 2019 Pollock Krasner Grant and the 2018 Freelands Award.

- **ADAM KHALIL AND BAYLEY SWEITZER**

Adam Khalil is an artist and filmmaker from the Ojibway tribe born in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; and Bayley Sweitzer is a filmmaker from Southern Vermont. Recent screenings include the Museum of Modern Art, Anthology Film Archives, and e-flux in New York; the Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis; LACMA, Los Angeles and Tate Modern, London. Their works have also featured at the Whitney Biennial, Toronto Biennial and Sundance Film Festival.

- **CANDICE LIN**

Candice Lin was born in 1979 in Concord, Massachusetts, and has lived and worked in Los Angeles since 2005. Her recent solo exhibitions include the exhibition cycle *A Hard White Body* at Bétonsalon, Paris; Portikus, Frankfurt; and the Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago, as well as solo exhibitions at Gasworks, London; 18th Street Art Center, Los Angeles; and Human Resources, Los Angeles. Lin has been included in prominent recent group exhibitions including the 2018 Taipei Biennale; the 2018 Athens Biennale; Made in L.A. 2018, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; New Museum, New York; Sharjah Biennial 2017, Beirut; and SculptureCenter, New York. She is the recipient of several residencies, grants and fellowships, including the Louis Comfort Tiffany Award (2017), the Davidoff Art Residency (2018) and Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship (2009). In 2018 she was appointed to the faculty of the University of California Los Angeles Department of Art.

- **PEGGY AHWESH**

Peggy Ahwesh is an American experimental filmmaker and video artist. Born in 1954 in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, she received her B.F.A. at Antioch College, Ohio. Retrospective exhibitions include: *Girls Beware!*, Whitney Museum of American Art (1997); Filmmuseum, Brussels; Anthology Film Archives, New York; *Peggy's Playhouse*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University; others. Screenings: Whitney Biennial (1991, 1995, 2002); New York Film Festival (1998, 2007); Flaherty Film Seminar (2003); Pompidou Center (2002, 2004). Festivals include: Berlin; London; Cairo; Toronto; Rotterdam; and Creteil, France. *Certain Women* (codirected with Bobby Abate) was an official selection at the Rotterdam International Film Festival and the opening night film at the New York Underground Film Festival (2004). Other films include *Martina's Playhouse*, *The Deadman* (codirected with Keith Sanborn), *Strange Weather*, and *Nocturne*, all in Museum of Modern Art's permanent collection. She has received grants from Jerome and Guggenheim Foundation fellowships, Alpert Award in the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, Art Matters. She teaches Film and Electronic Art at Bard College, New York.

- **ABOUT SPIKE ISLAND**

Spike Island is an international centre for the development of contemporary art and design, located close to Bristol's



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40

harbourside. It is a place where artists and the public can meet, enabling audiences to engage with artists' research and production. Within the 80,000 square foot building, Spike Island offers visitors a year-round programme of internationally relevant exhibitions, events and activities, as well as providing working space for artists, designers and creative businesses. The link between the production and presentation of art on this scale and under one roof is unique within the UK. Spike Island's programme emphasises the commissioning of new ambitious work and often provides artists their first significant gallery exhibition in the UK. Spike Island Exhibition Services support the development of commissions, including in-house post production facilities for artists' film and video, audio visual technical services and equipment provision for ambitious moving image installations, on site fabrication workshops, resin rooms, skilled art technicians and fabricators.

www.spikeisland.org.uk

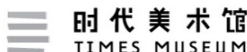


Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**CENTRE RÉGIONAL
D'ART CONTEMPORAIN**

**Nottingham
Contemporary**



GASWORKS



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Spike Island Artspace Limited
Registered charity no. 1003505
Registered in England
and Wales no. 2624621
VAT no. 650 5760 40