

# Spike Island

PRESS RELEASE  
NANCY LUPO  
***SEVERAL CHICKENS LATER***

Saturday 30 May to Sunday 6 September 2026



Spike Island presents *Several Chickens Later*, Nancy Lupo (b.1983, Flagstaff, AZ)'s largest exhibition in the UK to date, including new sculptures that probe aspirations, ambiguities and material culture. In her work, which encompasses sculpture, video, writing, sound, drawing, painting, performance and architecturally specific installation, Lupo reflects on how collective fantasies and emotions become embedded in form. She often describes her work as being scripted or held together through a thin thread of narrative which she explores through writing that she publishes as zines.

Her first novel, *Meow Meow Real Estate*, is central to the exhibition. It will be published in full and distributed for free on this occasion. In this book, Lupo recounts the story of a woman looking for an apartment. The search is both literal and existential. An epic drama of regular things, dreams and distortions are intertwined. The trajectory comes to an end in *The Clock House*, a storied Victorian flat located in the residential neighbourhood of Chelsea, in London.

*I wonder what she wears now that she actually has a place. I used to be a horse but now I can finally stop running. I wept for days but then once I got inside it was a party. I took a taxi with my two suitcases but everyone already had plans. I wanted to drink champagne and sleep on the floor but ended up going out and small talking about other things.\**



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What is left once projections turn into possession?

The exhibition *Several Chickens Later* prolongs the reverie and the longing for domesticity. It refuses a reality-check, and loops back into wistful illusion. Although the mirage is tired, its feeble flame still somehow persists.

A corpus of newly commissioned installations, playing with the scale and industrial grandeur of Spike Island's galleries, evokes the fragility of our endeavours, and the futility of our fantasies.

Nancy Lupo, *Several Chickens Later* includes a work co-produced by Spike Island and the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation (London). With thanks to Raven Row (London).

The exhibition is generously supported by the Nancy Lupo Commissioning Circle.

\* extract from *Meow Meow Real Estate*, by Nancy Lupo

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Nancy Lupo (b. 1983, USA) received her BFA from The Cooper Union, New York City, NY and her MFA from Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Selected solo exhibitions of Lupo's work include: *Meow Meow Real Estate*, Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation, London (2026); *Tom*, Stadtgalerie Bern (2026); *Disko*, Kevin Space, Vienna (2025); *Princessletthewind*, Kunstverein für Mecklenburg und Vorpommern, Schwerin, Germany (2025); *Scripts for the Pageant* at the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego, CA (2019); *The Square at Noon* at the Visual Arts Center in Austin, TX (2019) ; *Parent and Parroting*, Swiss Institute, New York City, NY (2016). Her work has previously been acquired by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA and Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw. In 2024, she has been appointed as a professor at Kunsthochschule Mainz. She lives and works in Berlin.

— ENDS —

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## ABOUT SPIKE ISLAND

- Spike Island supports, produces and presents contemporary art and culture across an 80,000 square foot former industrial building in Bristol. Its diverse artistic programme includes free major exhibitions, events and engagement activities taking place on-site and online. Championing outstanding work by emerging and underrepresented local, national and international artists, the programme enhances access to contemporary art for audiences from all backgrounds.
- Alongside its public offer, Spike Island directly supports artists through new commissions, over 70 subsidised studios, and sector leading artist development opportunities that widen access to its programme and facilities. Its Exhibition Services business supports the bespoke production and installation of artists' film and video throughout the UK and internationally. Spike Island is home to a dynamic community of hundreds of artists and creative businesses, working in flexible, affordable workspaces, alongside UWE Bristol's Fine Art department, Spike Print Studio, and café bar Emmeline. [www.spikeisland.org.uk](http://www.spikeisland.org.uk)

## IMAGE CAPTION

- Nancy Lupo, *Meow Meow Real Estate* at the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation (2026). Courtesy of Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation and the artist