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OLIVE SIOBHÁN HAPASKA ANDRÉHN-SCHIPTJENKO PARIS 30 NOVEMBER 2019 - 18 JANUARY 2020

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It is with great pleasure that Andréhn-Schiptjenko Paris announces the opening of Olive by Siobhán Hapaska, Saturday, November 30th between 6 - 8 pm in the presence of the artist.

Hapaska has over the past almost three decades created original and formally complex work difficult to categorize. Moving effortlessly between abstraction and figuration the viewer is ultimately left with the space her sculptures and installations leave for the imagination, allowing for a more abstract reflection. Her practice has long been known and celebrated for its diverse vocabulary of organic and synthetic materials, its complex layering of narrative and its immaculately crafted, descriptive detail.

Without directly addressing political issues Hapaska's work oftentimes references issues of territory and cultural identity, alienation and solitude, often with an element of humour and hopefulness and never with cynicism. Her materials are all charged with history and sometimes conflicting meanings. Olive presents one large seminal sculpture in Hapaska's œuvre, in which the artist in part returns to the smooth fiberglass surface of her earlier work.

The olive tree is a recurrent element in Hapaska's work. Generally associated with peace and human resilience, it has symbolic value for Islam, Christianity and Judaism alike. Olive is enigmatic in its form and reflects numerous elements characteristic of her work — the meticulous attention to detail, the simultaneous use of organic and industrial materials and maybe more importantly the simultaneous familiarity and strangeness of the object. It is worth noting that Hapaska has a strong and personal investment in her materials and makes everything herself.

Hapaska (born 1963 in Belfast, Northern Ireland) lives and works in London and Rotterdam. Upcoming projects include solo-exhibitions at Kunst Museum St Gallen, Switzerland and at Douglas Hyde Gallery in Ireland in 2020 as well as a permanent installation at Chateau Lacoste France. Recent projects include solo exhibitions at John Hansard Gallery, University of Southampton, UK, (2019) Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2015) and Magasin III Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm (2013-2014).

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Her work has also been shown in numerous group exhibitions such as, among others, *Dreamers Awake*, White Cube, Bermondsey, London, UK, (2017) The Hepworth Wakefield, UK, (2017), *Forecast of the Next Century*, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University (2017), the Azerbaijan Pavilion, 56th Venice Biennale, Astralis at Espace Louis Vuitton, Paris (2014). In 1997 Hapaska participated in Documenta X and in 2001 she represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale.

For further information and images please contact paris@andrehn-schiptjenko.com

Next exhibition: Annika von Hausswolff (25.01.2020 - 14.03.2020)

Our exhibition program at the Institut Suédois 11 rue Payenne 75003, Wednesday - Sunday / 12:00 - 18:00

Altarpiece, Santiago Mostyn (17.10.2019 - 15.12.2019) Theresa Traore Dahlberg (19.12.2019 - 16.02.2020) Annika Larsson (20.02.2020 - 19.04.2020)

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Siobhán Hapaska

Olive, 2014

olive tree canopy head, olive tree trunk base, olive tree root ball, aluminium, fibre glass

93 $11/16 \times 79 \ 7/8 \times 62 \ 15/16 \ in.$ (238 x 203 x 160 cm)

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Siobhán Hapaska Olive, 2014 (detail)

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Siobhán Hapaska

Want, 1997 Fiberglass, polyester gel coat & green LED 40 5/16 x 14 3/8 x 90 5/16 in. (104 x 38 x 231 cm)