

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HANS-PETER FELDMANN



#### 20 MAY-21 JUNE 2020 SIMON LEE GALLERY, ONLINE VIEWING ROOM

Simon Lee Gallery is proud to present an online exhibition of works by German artist Hans-Peter Feldmann.

Since the 1960s, Düsseldorf-based Feldmann has amassed a prolific collection of photography, painting, postcards, knick-knacks and everyday ephemera. With the majority of his work untitled and undated, he gives away as little empirical information as possible to his audience, instead encouraging an unbiased viewing experience, unbound by context.

With surprising humour and subtle intervention, Feldmann systematically reconstructs existing images and objects to reflect on representation and the construction of ideologies. In doing so, he challenges the boundaries of high-art and disrupts long-held assertions of the artist's role as a unique creator. In *One Pound of Strawberries* thirty-four colour-photographs of individual strawberries demonstrate the artist's urge to document, and thus celebrate, the ordinary.

The engrossing *Wunderkammer*, or Cabinet of Curiosities, presents three glass vitrines in which Feldmann has laid out, with great intent, an assortment of object, all apparently unrelated, aside from their ability to spark Feldmann's curiosity: a Magritte-esque pipe, an old telephone, a tap, a hipflask, a shaving brush, an open lipstick, children's shoes, a microscope, dentures, a large silver spoon, a bulldog clip, folding spectacles, boxing gloves, a mousetrap, a perfume bottle, handcuffs and a lightbulb. *Wunderkammer* opens up the artist's private, encyclopaedic world: an anthology of objects or visual impressions of biographical significance.

The exhibition also features the multi-part painting installations, Seascapes and A Story. Mined from auctions, secondhand shops and markets, these simply grouped works open up a space for viewers to make connections and associations between otherwise discrete images, creating a disjuncture between intention and reception, while simultaneously bestowing upon them new life and narrative meaning. These form part of a consistent strand of the artist's practice, involving the appropriation and modification of historic oil painting. This creeping nostalgia for a life that never was is supplanted by uncanny alternative narratives, reminding us of the power of images in the creation of personal mythologies.

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### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **About Hans-Peter Feldmann**

Hans-Peter Feldmann was born in 1941 and lives and works in Düsseldorf, Germany. His work has been shown extensively internationally and has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions and projects, including at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (2017); Sammlung Philara, Dusseldorf, Germany (2016); C/O Berlin, Berlin, Germany (2016); Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark (2015); The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel (2013); Serpentine Galleries, London, UK (2012), which travelled to BAWAG Contemporary, Vienna, Austria (2012) and Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany (2013) and Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain (2010), which travelled to Malmö Konstall, Malmö, Sweden (2010), Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany (2010), Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Germany (2010) and the Arnolfini, Bristol, UK (2007-2008). Feldmann was awarded the Hugo Boss Prize for the Arts, in association with the Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY in 2010. His work is housed in major private and public collections including S.M.A.K., the Municipal Museum of Contemporary Art, Ghent, Belgium; Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark; Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain; Tate, London, UK; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY and Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY.

### **About Simon Lee Gallery**

Founded in London in 2002, Simon Lee Gallery represents artists of diverse generations whose practices explore a wide range of media, from sculpture and painting to video and photography, and who share a broad interest in an exploration of the conceptual. Aiming to provide a significant international audience for its artists, the gallery also regularly punctuates its programme with historical exhibitions and curated group shows, which present shifts in contemporary art practice and thought, whilst broadening the dialogue with artists outside of the gallery's core programme. In addition to its UK activity, in 2012 the gallery opened a space in Hong Kong, which introduced its artists to a wider public in Asia, with a fully independent programme. In 2014, Simon Lee Gallery opened an office and private viewing space in New York. In 2017, this space was re-launched with a year-round programme of exhibitions and events, showcasing the work of emerging and established artists in dynamic group and solo exhibitions.

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter: @SimonLeeGallery www.simonleegallery.com

Image: Hans-Peter Feldmann, A Story, Oil on canvas, Each (from left to right): 39.5 x 65 cm (15 x 25 in.); 125 x 101.5 cm (49 x 40 in.); 24.5 x 23 cm (9 5/8 x 9 in.) Courtesy © Hans-Peter Feldmann.

For further press information, images and requests please contact Zoe Gorrell: zoe@simonleegallery.com / +44 (0) 207 491 0100.

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