

Ceal Floyer

27 March – 16 May, 2014

Via Zenale 3, Milan

Ceal Floyer tests, teases and skirts around the boundaries of what art can or should be in her first exhibition at Lisson Gallery in Milan, which coincides with a major presentation of her works at Museion in nearby Bolzano (1 February – 4 May, 2014). Floyer's 2008 work, *Taking a Line for a Walk*, in which a machine that creates the white lines on sports fields is driven around and takes its title from Paul Klee's assertion in the introduction to his *Pedagogical Sketchbook* of 1923 that a drawing should be: "An active line on a walk, moving freely, without goal. A walk for walk's sake" Floyer's own meandering line through space – a performance and a sculpture, as much as a drawing – will be recreated throughout the galleries, drawing visitors downstairs. A rectangular swathe of grass in the garden, entitled *Greener Grass* (2014), will indeed – as the old saying goes – seem brighter than its counterpart in nature and more vivid than real life.

Another genre-defying sculptural work, *Press* (2014), is a single sheet of creased newsprint with the sole impression of a hot iron placed at its centre, both an attempt to iron out the imperfections in the paper and a play on the double meaning of the word 'press'. A new photographic piece and another new sculpture will also question what we are seeing and hearing, with a still image of a high-speed spinning top and an audio piece which reiterates and echoes a song concerned chiefly with the visual medium of video. Floyer's survey of work at Museion, also in northern Italy, features ten installations, including *Scale* (2007), an assemblage of speakers resembling a flight of stairs leading up to a ceiling that plays the sound of what could be ascending steps; *Drop* (2013), a video that waits for beads of water to drip (or literally a drop to drop) and *Exit* (2006) in which the artist cut out the iconic shape of the door from the sign for an emergency exit, thus creating another exit entirely.

52–54 Bell Street
London NW1 5DA
T +44 (0)20 7724 2739

Via Zenale, 3
20123 Milan
Italy

241 Eldridge Street
10002 New York
USA

lissongallery.com

About the artist

Conceptual artist Ceal Floyer is celebrated for her deft manoeuvres in everyday situations, testing the slippage between function and implication, the literal and the imagined. Working in sculpture and installation, she reconfigures familiar objects as sources of surprise and humour. In *Light* (1994), for example, a solitary unconnected bulb is lit up from four sides by slide projectors; in *Stable* (2008), the ubiquitous folded beer mat, often found wedging a dodgy table leg, is called on fourfold, to bear the load of all four table legs. Such adjustments in usage draw on an acute sense of the absurd, with an economy of language that makes a powerful argument for beauty in the detail. Viewers are nudged to double take, and on closer inspection, recognise a sparse kind of poetry. Floyer's clarity of thought and the elegantly concise presentation of her ideas resonate through all areas of her practice. The deceptive simplicity of the work is informed by Floyer's particular sense of humour and an awareness of the absurd. Floyer uses double-takes and shifting points of view to force the viewer to renegotiate their perception of the world.

Ceal Floyer was born in 1968 and lives and works in Berlin. She completed a BFA at Goldsmiths College, London (1994). Solo exhibitions include Museoin, Bolzano (2014); Kolnischer Kunstverein, Cologne (2013); DHC/ART Foundation for Contemporary Art, Montreal (2011); Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami (MOCA), (2010); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2009); KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin (2009) and MADRE, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Donna Regina, Naples (2008). Among many group exhibitions, she recently participated in the Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong and documenta 13, Kassel, Germany (both 2012). She won the Preis der Nationalgalerie Fur Junge Kunst, Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2007) and the Nam June Paik Award, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany (2009).

52–54 Bell Street
London NW1 5DA
T +44 (0)20 7724 2739

Via Zenale, 3
20123 Milan
Italy

241 Eldridge Street
10002 New York
USA

lissongallery.com

LISSON GALLERY

About Lisson Gallery

Lisson Gallery is one of the most influential and longest-running international contemporary art galleries in the world. Established in 1967 by Nicholas Logsdail, it pioneered the early careers of important Minimal and Conceptual artists, such as Sol LeWitt and Richard Long, as well as those of significant British sculptors from Anish Kapoor and Tony Cragg to a younger generation, led by Ryan Gander and Haroon Mirza. Lisson Gallery represents 45 of the most innovative and exciting artists working today, including six Turner Prize winners and many recipients of the Silver Lion at the Venice Biennale. With two exhibition spaces in London, one in Milan and an office in New York, the gallery supports and develops artists globally, including Marina Abramovic, Allora and Calzadilla, Ai Weiwei, Gerard Byrne, Liu Xiaodong, Tatsuo Miyajima, Rashid Rana, Pedro Reyes and Santiago Sierra. The *Lisson Presents* programme also extends a legacy of curatorial innovation beyond the gallery spaces, working with institutions and artists to present new initiatives around the world.

Exhibition Facts

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-6pm (closed 1-3pm) Sat by appointment

Location: Via Zenale 3, 20123 Milan

Tel: +39 02 8905 0608

Website: www.lissongallery.com

For press information and images please contact:

Paola C Manfredi Studio (Italy)

Tel: +39 02 87 23 80

Email: press@paolamanfredi.com

Gair Burton or Caroline Widmer at Rhiannon Pickles PR

Tel: +44 (0)7402 784 470

Email: gair@picklespr.com

52-54 Bell Street
London NW1 5DA

T +44 (0)20 7724 2739

Via Zenale, 3
20123 Milan
Italy

241 Eldridge Street
10002 New York
USA

lissongallery.com