

WHITE CUBE

Bermondsey

Press Release

Christian Marclay

28 January – 12 April 2015

In January 2015, White Cube will present a major solo exhibition by Christian Marclay, including a range of new work and a lively programme of weekly performances.

Continuing Marclay's long-standing interest in the relationship between image and sound, the exhibition is comprised of a series of works on canvas and paper that feature onomatopoeia taken from comic books. Unlike earlier instances of sound mimesis in his work, these focus solely on the wet sounds suggestive of the action of painting. Combining cartoon-strip imagery and the dripping, pouring and splashing noises associated with gestural abstraction, the works ironically bridge a gap between art movements as distinct as Abstract Expressionism and Pop Art. This is also reflected in the method in which they have been made; a combination of painting overlaid with screen printing.

A further set of onomatopoeia is put in motion for the first time in a large-scale video installation which projects across four walls. To make the work, the artist collated a lexicon of the sound effects made by characters in superhero stories. The scanned swatches were then animated using the software programme After Effects in a dynamic choreography that suggests the acoustic properties of each word. 'Boom', for example, is no longer static on the page, but bursts into life in a sequence of colourful explosions, while 'Whoosh!' and 'Zoooom!' travel at high speed around the walls. The work fuses the aural with the visual, and immerses the viewer in a silent musical composition.

The aqueous motif introduced with the paintings runs throughout the exhibition, surfacing in a number of new works that allude to everyday life. In a new video installation entitled *Pub Crawl* (2014), the artist coaxes sound from the empty glasses, bottles and cans that he finds abandoned on the streets of East London, during early morning weekend walks. In a series of projections that run the length of the gallery's corridor, these discarded vessels are hit, rolled and crushed, forming a lively sound track that echoes throughout the space.

A programme of weekend performances led by London Sinfonietta, will take over a large section of the gallery and run for the duration of the exhibition. London Sinfonietta and Marclay will work together with some of the world's most renowned contemporary composers and improvisers to stage performances, including new compositions and live improvisation sessions. The exhibition will also feature The Vinyl Factory Press, a unique hydraulic vinyl pressing machine created by The Vinyl Factory, and screen printing equipment operated by the London printmakers Coriander Studio. Audiences will be able to witness on site the unique process of producing vinyl records, from the initial recording of the concerts to cutting and pressing the records and printing the sleeves.

Christian Marclay was born in California in 1955. He lives and works in London and New York. He has exhibited widely, including solo exhibitions at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2010), Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain, Geneva (2008), Cité de la Musique, Paris (2007), Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden (2006), Barbican, London (2005), Walker Art Centre, Minneapolis (2004), Seattle Art Museum, Seattle (2004), Tate Modern, London (2004), Fridericianum, Kassel (2003), UCLA Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2003), The Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami (2002), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2002) and the Kunsthaus Zurich (1997). Group exhibitions include 54th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia (2011), British Art Show 7, Nottingham (2010), Yokohama Triennial, Japan (2009), Platform 2009, Seoul (2009), Vancouver Art Gallery, (2008), Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2007) Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon (2007), Musée d'Art Contemporain, Avignon, France (2005) and SITE Santa Fe, New Mexico (2003). He was awarded the Golden Lion at the 2011 Biennale di Venezia for his video work *The Clock*.

Performances start at 3 pm – 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Preview weekend: Saturday 31 January 2015, 10am — 6pm and Sunday 1 February 2015, 12 — 6pm.

White Cube Bermondsey is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am—6pm and Sunday, 12—6pm.

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