

press release

## **DARIA MARTIN**

### ***At The Threshold***

**30 January – 13 March 2016**

**private view: Saturday 30 January 6.30 – 8.30 pm**

Maureen Paley is pleased to present the latest film by Daria Martin in her second solo exhibition at the gallery.

*At The Threshold* (2015) is the second of three short films inspired by Martin's research into a form of heightened physical sensitivity called *mirror-touch synaesthesia*. People with this neurological condition feel a palpable sensation of touch on their own bodies when they see another person, or even an object, being touched. Some synaesthetes also experience mirror-pain, mirror-movement, mirror-breathing or even mirror-emotion - extending the sharing of senses to a blurring between self and other. Martin aims to capture some of these feelings and ideas in the structure, dialogue and images that form *At The Threshold*, as well as through its articulation in the medium of 16mm film.

While synaesthesia has inspired artists, composers and writers for centuries, *mirror-touch* is a recent discovery that offers new perspectives on the relationship between the social and the visual. *At The Threshold* - which follows on from *Sensorium Tests* (2012), was written by Martin in collaboration with playwright Simon Stephens and theatre director Joseph Alford uses thirteen interviews with mirror-touch synaesthetes and the 1950's film genre of melodrama, as inspiration. Martin has edited a volume, *Mirror-Touch Synaesthesia: Thresholds of Empathy With Art*, (with contributions by Rabih Mroué, Giuliana Bruno, Brian Massumi, and others), that will be published by Oxford University Press in June 2016. Recent solo publications include *Sensorium Tests* (published by MK Gallery, 2012) and *Daria Martin* (published by Kunsthalle Zürich / Kunstverein in Hamburg by jrp ringier, 2006). The concluding chapter of the film trilogy, *Theatre of the Tender*, will be completed this year.

Previous solo exhibitions include *One of the Things That Makes Me Doubt*, ACCA: Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, Australia; *Sensorium Tests*, MK Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK, 2012; *Three M Commission: Minotaur*, touring exhibition at MCA Chicago, New Museum, New York, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA, 2009 – 2010; *BP British Art Displays 1500 – 2008*, Tate Britain, London, UK, 2008; *S.M.A.K.*, Ghent, Belgium, 2007; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 2006; *Daria Martin*, Kunsthalle Zürich, Switzerland and *Soft Materials*, The Showroom, London, UK, 2005.

Recent group exhibitions include *14th Istanbul Biennial SALTWATER: A Theory of Thought Forms*, Istanbul, Turkey, 2015; *Exercises in Empathy*, Site Gallery, Sheffield, UK, 2015; *Hiller/Martin: Provisional Realities (Daria Martin and Susan Hiller)*, California College of the Arts, Wattis Institute, San Francisco, USA, *How the Tangible Shapes the Mind*, Kunstverein Nürnberg, Nürnberg, Germany and *10<sup>th</sup> Shanghai Biennale*, Shanghai, China, 2014; *Man-Space-Machines: The Theatre Experiments of the Bauhaus*, Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, Dessau, Germany, 2013; *In the Holocene*, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, 2012; *Animism*, Generali Foundation, Vienna, Austria, *Blockbuster: Cinema for Exhibitions*, curated by Jens Hoffman, Masin, Museo de Arte de Sinaola, Sinaola, Mexico, touring to Macro, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Monterrey, Mexico and *Danser Sa Vie*, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France, 2011; *A Nude Man's City*, Museum of Modern Art, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2010; *Manifesta 7*, Trentino, South Tyrol, Italy, 2008 and *Tate Triennial*, Tate Britain, London, UK, and *PERFORMA07*, New York, USA, 2007 and *Choreographic Turn*, (Daria Martin and Peter Welz), MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, US, 2006.