

# Mathew Hale

## *THE WELCOME STRANGER*

### **Opening**

10 February 2012, 7-9pm

### **Performance**

24 February 2012, 7pm

### **THE WELCOME STRANGER #9**

Slideshow accompanying a live performance of "A Slight Ache" by Harold Pinter and a prologue by Arthur C. Clarke  
(The Harold Pinter play is called "A Slight Ache")

### **Exhibition dates**

11 February – 09 March 2012

### **THE WELCOME STRANGER: a, b, c.**

a)

'Between the ages of 3 ½ and 6 ½ I lived with my mother and sister in a small village in England called Kimpton. It was there that I first went to Kindergarten and then on to School; it was the place where I learnt to read. The most striking visual element in the village's main street was the sign on the pub; it spelt out in large capital letters: THE WELCOME STRANGER, but the picture above those big, newly legible words was perplexing to me as a small boy. The vivid painting was of a stork flying across the sky while carrying a little baby suspended from its beak, wrapped in a cloth. Why? No one had told me this was the classic answer given by embarrassed adults when asked by children the great question: 'Where do babies come from?' - which Freud describes as the origin of all human curiosity.

In my imagination I had pictured a tired traveller arriving at a strange inn by night and receiving a warm welcome; that seemed more appropriate. The baby picture did not make sense to me, so one day I asked my mother about it and I vividly remember her replying, "Because darling, a baby is a welcome stranger." Of course ... it was us!' - Mathew Hale

b)

For the stranger he welcomes, the master of the house seeks a no longer accidental, but an essential relationship. At the start the two are but isolated substances, between them there is none but accidental communication: you who believe yourself far from home in the home of someone you believe to be at home, you bring merely the accidents of your substance, such accidents as conspire to make a stranger of you, to him who bids you avail yourself of all that makes a merely accidental host of him. But because the master of this house herewith invites the stranger to penetrate to the source of all substances beyond the realm of all accident, this is how he

inaugurates a substantial relationship between himself and the stranger, which will be not a relative relationship but an absolute one, as though, the master becoming one with the stranger, his relationship with you who have just set foot here were now but a relationship of one with oneself.” - Pierre Klossowski

c)

‘When I finally understood [that I wanted a child], my angel of annunciation came upon me when I was one day walking along a sheep trodden winding path. I suddenly found myself standing quite still, gazing down at a pattern of little hoof-marks in the sun-baked mud – and a flood of contentment welled up from beneath my feet.’ -

Marion Millner

(Written or selected by Mathew Hale)

**Biography**      **MATHEW HALE**

- 1962**              Born in Swindon, Wiltshire, GB
- 1981-82**            Winchester School of Art
- 1982-85**            Goldsmith College, London University
- Lives and works in Berlin

**Selected Solo Exhibitions**

- 2012**              *Mathew Hale - THE WELCOME STRANGER*, Wentrup, Berlin  
*Mathew Hale*, Galerie Michel Rein, Paris
- 2011**              *Modern Monday: Screening of "Die Münze"*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 2010**              *WACHT SCHATZ*, Wentrup, Berlin  
*Frau Münze und Frau Münz*, Münzsalon, Berlin
- 2009**              *Statement*, Art 40 Basel, Wentrup  
*LE MONDE v DER MOND*, The Narrows, Melbourne  
*DER MOND v LE MONDE*, Peer, London (cat.)
- 2008**              *JOURNAL MURAL*, Galerie Jan Wentrup, Berlin  
*Taxi Stop FIJI*, Institut im Glaspavilion, Berlin
- 2007**              *TASUK! TSUKKU-SAN!*, Galerie Michel Rein, Paris
- 2006**              *Berlin Fluorescent*, Galerie Jan Wentrup, Berlin
- 2004**              *40 Pages from the Miriam Books by Mathew Hale*, Walther Koenig Books  
London, Rheinschau Köln  
*Make Me Mare*, Mobile Home, London
- 2003**              *DIE STADT – LA CITTA' – THE MOTHER*, DAAD Galerie, Berlin (cat.)
- 2001**              *Miriam stealing and Miriam & William*, Mobile Home, London
- 1988**              *Mathew Hale: Recent Work*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2012**            *The Poster Show*, Carlier Gebauer, Berlin
- 2011**            *Fax*, Carpenter Center, Harvard University, Boston
- 2010**            *Panorama*, Galerie Michel Rein, Paris  
*Friday 13<sup>th</sup>*, Forgotten Bar, Berlin  
*There's a tear in my beer*, West Germany, Berlin  
*Fischgrätenmelkstand* (curated by John Bock), Temporäre Kunsthalle, Berlin  
*Alles Berliner*, Niels Borch Jensen Galerie, Berlin  
*2. UM-Festival für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Musik und Literatur in der Uckermark*  
*A moving plan B – Chapter ONE* (curated by Thomas Scheibitz), The Drawing Room, London  
*Art*, (curated by Michael Craig-Martin), Haas & Fuchs, Berlin  
*Berlin – Paris*, Michel Rein, Paris  
*Katarina Burin, Mathew Hale, Matt Saunders*, Ratio 3, San Francisco  
*Berlin Box*, Kunsthalle Andratx, Mallorca
- 2009**            *Zeigen. Ein Audioguide durch Berlin*, Temporäre Kunsthalle, Berlin  
*Appaloosa*, The Forgotten Bar Project, Berlin (with Ulrich Hakel)  
*Maison pour Monsieur X*, FormContent, London (with Katarina Burin, curated by Emma Astner)  
*private view*, Städtische Galerie, Villingen-Schwenningen  
*Drawing 2009*, The Drawing Room, London  
*Free Association*, Gallery AREA 53, Vienna  
*Roots*, Wentrup, Berlin  
*Prose pour des Esseintes*, Karma International, Zurich  
*Wallis dies and goes to heaven...and the dark show returns as a ghost*, Paradise Row, London.
- 2008**            *Phoenix vs. Babel* (curated by Patrice Joly), Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard, Paris  
*London Calling*, Galerie Jan Wentrup –Temporary Space, London  
*With Love Dieter Rot, Viennabiennale 08* (curated by Alexander Hassenpflug), Offspace am Hundsturm, Vienna (Austria)  
*Pleinairism* (curated by Kitty Scott), i8 gallery, Reykjavik (Island)  
*18* (curated by Saim Damircan), Center, Berlin  
*Honey Honig* (In collaboration with Susan Morris, curated by Alexander Hassenpflug), Auto Italia, London  
*The Dark Show* (curated by Katie Guggenheim), The Wallis Gallery, London  
*UNDERWOOD* (curated by Marc Hulson), Ballhaus Ost, Berlin

- PAST-FORWARD* (curated by Vincent Honorè), Project Space 176 / Zabłudowicz Art Projects, London (cat.)
- 2007** *Our Period, Mathew Hale and Susan Morris*, Five Years, London
- 2005** *36 x 27 x 10, White Cube Berlin*, Palast der Republik, Berlin  
*Pale Ramon, Analix Forever*, Geneva (curated by Matt Saunders)  
*Very early pictures*, Luckmann Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2004** *Chaim Soutine, The Happy Sailor*, London
- 2003** *Biennale Venedig, Utopia Station*, Venedig  
*Bonobos*, Niels Borch Jensen Galerie, Berlin  
*addiction*, 15 Micawber Street, London
- 2002** *Biennale Montréal 2002*  
*PizzaExpress Prospects*, Eссор Gallery, London
- 2001** *The difference between You and Us*, Five Years, London  
*My Friends*, Tromsø Kunstforening, Tromsø
- 2000** *Sleight of Hand*, Five Years, London  
*John, I'm only dancing*, The Margaret Harvey Gallery, University of Hertfordshire, St. Albans
- 1999** *Itinerants*, The View Gallery, Liverpool  
*Sublime: The Darkness and the Light*, Hayward Gallery, National Touring Exhibition of Arts Council Collection, John Hansard Gallery, Southampton and seven further venues in the UK
- 1998** *United in Death*, Cambridge Darkroom Gallery, Cambridge
- 1997** *On Boredom*, Virtual exhibition on CD Rom, launched at the I.C.A., London (in co-operation with Cambridge Darkroom Gallery, Cambridge)
- 1992** *Let Me Look*, San Miniato
- 1990** *Now for the Future, The Arts Council Collection, Recent Acquisitions*, Hayward Gallery, London  
*River*, Goldsmith Gallery, London
- 1989** *Trigon '89, "Aktuelle Kunst"*, Neue Galerie & Künstlerhaus, Graz

**1985**            *85° Show*, Serpentine Gallery, London

**1984**            *New Contemporaries*, I.C.A. London

## Awards

**1987**            Whitechapel Artists Award

## Public Collections

Arts Council Collection of Great Britain

## Catalogues and books

**2010**            *A Moving Plan B - Chapter ONE*, ed. Thomas Scheibitz, Köln/London, 2010  
*Fischgrätenmelkstand*, ed. by Temporäre Kunsthalle Berlin/ Angela Rosenberg,  
John Bock, Köln, 2010  
*Art*, ed. by Michael Craig-Martin, Berlin, 2010

**2008**            *Past-Foward*, ed. by Vincent Honoré, London 2008

**2007**            *Pages 97 and 98 of Mrs. Gillray*, *VMAN Magazine*, issue 9, ed. fall/ winter 2007,  
page 132- 133

**2004**            *PiSsinG InK: 80 Pages from Miriam Books by Mathew Hale*, DAAD, with text by  
Jeffrey Eugenides, Jordan Kantor and Friedrich Meschede, Berlin 2004  
*The Frieze Art Fair Yearbook*, London 2004

**2003**            *Dreams and Conflicts: The Dictatorship of the Viewer*, Venedig 2003

**2002**            *Dopo buzzati: Artissi tra pittura e fumetto*, ed. by Roberto Roda, Mantua 2002

**2001**            *My Friends*, ed. By Tromsø Kunstforening, text by Per Kvist, Tromsø 2001

**1999**            *Sublime: The Darkness and the Light*, Hayward Gallery National Touring Exhibition,  
with text by Jon Thompson und Christopher Kool-Want

- 1998** *United in Death*, Camebridge Darkroom Gallery, Cambridge 1998
- 1992** *Let Me Look*, San Miniato 1992, with text by Stella Santacatterina and Jon Thompson
- 1989** *Trigon '89, "Aktuelle Kunst"*, ed. by Neue Galerie, text by Marc Francis, Graz 1989
- 1988** *Mathew Hale: Recent Work*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, text by Jon Thompson, London 1988

## Selected articles

- 2010** Silke Hohmann, *Fräulein Wurst unter Palmen*, Monopol, December 2, 2010  
Gareth Harris, *Art Basel Miami Beach*, Financial Times, November 26, 2010  
Silke Hohmann, *Miami feiert die Rückkehr der Skulptur*, Baseler Zeitung, December 4, 2010  
Tobias Timm, *So war die Kunst noch nie zu sehen*, DIE ZEIT, July 8, 2010  
Astrid Mania, *Klettern auf dem Spassgerüst*, artnet.de  
Chris Sharp, *Review in: Flash Art International*, July-Sept 2010, page 113  
Niklas Maak, Peter Richter, Mascha Kuchejda, *Kampftag der Künstlerklasse*, Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, May 2, 2010, page 53  
Sam Williams, *Interview with Mathew Hale*, Exberliner, May 2010, page 35
- 2009** Nicole Büsing/Heiko Klaas, *Hier tummeln sich die Stars von morgen*, kunstmarkt.com, June 12 2009  
[http://www.kunstmarkt.com/pagesmag/kunst/\\_id185133-/marktberichte\\_detail.html?q=%20](http://www.kunstmarkt.com/pagesmag/kunst/_id185133-/marktberichte_detail.html?q=%20)  
Larne Abse Gogarty, *Matthew Hale: Der Mond v Le Monde*, Art Monthly, issue june 2009, page 36
- 2008** *Christy Lange, Institut im Glaspavillon*, Frieze issue 119, November-December 2008, page 53
- 2006** *Finden, machen, erzählen*, taz, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2006, page 28
- 1988** Lynne Cooke: *Mathew Hale: Recent Work at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, London*, Art International, Winter 1988