

Siobhán Hapaska at Andréhn-Schiptjenko
February 18 – March 25, 2012

Andréhn-Schiptjenko is proud to present Siobhán Hapaska's first solo exhibition at the gallery.

Following her MA at Goldsmiths Hapaska has created work difficult to categorize where politics, technology, speed, travel and nature are all made reference to. Moving effortlessly between abstraction and figuration the viewer is ultimately left with the space her sculptures leave for the imagination. Her practice has long been known and celebrated for its diverse vocabulary of materials, its complex layering of narrative and its immaculately crafted, descriptive detail. Her sculptures incorporate extraordinary objects ranging from olive trees to buffalo skulls, goat skins to old socks.

This exhibition aims to give a comprehensive introduction to Hapaska's oeuvre. It includes early sculpture, such as *Want* from 1997, a wallpiece characteristic of her mid 1990s work with a white, polished, gel-coat finish, as well as two new major pieces - *The World at Daybreak* and *Downfall* that both incorporate olives and olive trees, an important presence in Hapaska's work of recent years. *Downfall* is a dried out olive tree hovering horizontally above two trays - one contains its leaves, the other some of the soils that used to cling to its roots. Being an evergreen tree with a robust root system, the unusual death of the plant suggests an unnatural force at work, hinting at historical and contemporary Middle Eastern references.

Hapaska (born 1963 in Belfast, Northern Ireland) lives and works in London. She has had solo exhibitions in recent years at the Kerlin Gallery Dublin, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York and Camden Arts Centre, London. She has also participated in various group exhibitions at venues such as Kunsthhaus Graz, Austria, Musée d'Art Moderne de Saint Etienne, Musée d'art moderne at contemporain, Toulouse, France, Deste Foundation, Athens and Magasin 3, Stockholm. In 1997, she took part in Documenta X and in 2001 she represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale.

Upcoming projects include a publication with onestarpres, a solo-exhibition at La Conservera and a solo-exhibition at MOMA Oxford curated by Mike Stanley accompanied by a substantial monograph.

Next show: Maya Eizin Öijer, March 29 – May 6.

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Siobhán Hapaska

Snow Seared, 2008

pure sheep's wool, copper, fibreglass, aluminium, English oak, Birch, coconuts, silver solder, cotton webbing

89 1/8 x 66 5/16 x 56 1/16 in. (227 x 170 x 143 cm.)

HAP00002



Siobhán Hapaska

light lives in a box, 2012

solid aluminium plate, stainless steel fittings, mirror

polished stainless steel, leather, brass,

micro mosaic limestone, olive oil, candle wicks

dimensions variable

Ed 1/6

HAP00004



Siobhán Hapaska

The world at daybreak, 2011

Steel, travertine spilt faced marble, split faced limestone, moss, aluminium

98 1/8 x 37 5/16 x 27 1/16 in. (250 x 96 x 69 cm.)

HAP00001



Siobhán Hapaska

Downfall, 2009

olive tree, slate powder in resin, fibre glass, soil, steel cable, rigging components

104 1/8 x 47 1/4 x 161 1/8 in. (265 x 121 x 410 cm.)

Ed 1/2

HAP00000

I vårt show room/In our show room



Siobhán Hapaska

Want, 1997

Fiberglass, polyester gel coat & green LED

40 5/16 x 14 3/8 x 90 5/16 in. (104 x 38 x 231 cm.)

Ed. 2/3

HAP00003