

# Anton Kern Gallery

## Sarah Jones

For Immediate Release

March 1 – April 7, 2018

Opening reception: Thursday, March 1 from 6–8pm

*In Jean Cocteau's post war film Orphée (1950) there is a beguiling moment when the then modern day Orpheus, standing in front of a full length framed mirror in his room, slides his hand through his own reflection. This once hard glassy impermeable surface becomes viscoelastic, transmutes into liquid; the fragile portal through which Orpheus moves into a parallel other world.*

For her fifth exhibition at Anton Kern Gallery, London-based artist Sarah Jones introduces a new body of work that shifts between studio and location, night and day, limits and limitlessness. Her subjects are re-presented in two sizes; a small format for her still-lives and a large format for photographs made outside the studio. These new works explore artifice, the complex relationship between reality and imagination, between the fixed and the hallucinatory.

Using a large format field camera, and working with both black and white and color film, Jones' works depict a range of subject matter that share a sense of impermanence; cut flowers, cultivated plants, upended glass objects, water cascading down a waterfall. A horse is photographed from one side and then the other, fixing a transitional moment when its coat changes from grey to white. The water of an ornate fountain, located in Regent's Park, is suspended mid-stream as if iced over. The surfaces of Jones' subjects are both waxy and slippery, often disappearing into a distinctly black photographic matte space, and often appearing out from it.

Only seemingly incongruous, these images are drawn together by the artist's specific camera framing that references the *Cabinet of Curiosities*. Popular in the mid 1700s, displays of disparate objects based in fact and the fantastical represented the collector's own 'theater of the world' or 'memory theater'. Sarah Jones' new photographs reframe our already cultivated natural world alongside an often glassy illusory one where nature is heightened and cultivated again through the photograph. Sliding between black and white and color, from still life to subjects in specific locations, Jones builds a distinct, peculiarly photographic, sealed world with its own logic, temporality and reduced space and palette. She stretches time, to slow down and extend silence and reverie.

Commenting on her technique, Jones has said: "The cinematic lighting technique of 'day for night' merges the everyday with the space of dream. It offers a metamorphosis, a transition... 'Cascade' comes from cascare, to fall. It implies being in between states, in suspension. The photograph holds this in liquid stasis, like amber." (Sarah Jones, Special Artist's Project, frieze.com, 2017)

Sarah Jones has exhibited in numerous international museum and gallery exhibition since the early 1990s. Her work has been featured in solo exhibitions at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (2013); National Media Museum, Bradford (2007); Huis Marseille Foundation for Photography, Amsterdam (2000); Museum Folkwang Essen, Essen (1999); Centre for Photography, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain (1999); Museum Reina Sofia, Madrid (1999); Le Consortium, Dijon, France (1997). Recently, her work was included in group exhibitions at the Fondazione Fotografia Modena, Modena (2017); Le Consortium, Dijon (2015); National Gallery, London, and CaixaForum Barcelona and CaixaForum Madrid (2013); Museum Folkwang, Essen; Galeria de Arte do Sesi, Sao Paulo (2012); Turner Contemporary, Margate; Victoria & Albert Museum, London; and Tate Liverpool, Liverpool (2011). Jones' work is included in the collections of Le Consortium in Dijon; Museum Folkwang in Essen; Minneapolis Institute of Arts in Minneapolis; Tate, and the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, among many others. Jones is a Reader in Photography at Royal College of Art, London.



Sarah Jones, *Cabinet (XIX) (Glass)*, 2018, C-Print mounted on aluminum, 27.5 x 22 inches.

### Gallery Hours

Tuesday through Saturday  
10am – 6pm

### Press Inquiries

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### General Inquiries

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