

For immediate release

CAROL BOVE

June 8–August 4, 2018
24 Grafton Street, London

Private view: Thursday, June 7, 6–8 PM
Press view with the artist: 10 AM



May, 2018

David Zwirner is pleased to present an exhibition of new sculptures by Carol Bove, marking her third solo show with the gallery. Spanning two floors of the 24 Grafton Street location in London, the exhibition will feature new sculptures that expand on her investigations of materiality and form.

Characterized by compositions of various types of steel, Bove's ongoing series of "collage sculptures," begun in 2016, amalgamates theoretical and art-historical influences across time periods and disciplines, much like the Chicago Imagists of the 1960s, whose collagist aesthetic combined disparate styles and techniques. To create these abstract assemblages, Bove combines, in differing permutations, geometric tubing that has been crushed and shaped at the studio, found metal scraps, and a single highly polished disk. Luminous color is applied to parts of the composition, transforming the steel—more commonly associated with inflexibility and heft—into something that appears malleable and lightweight, like clay, fabric, or crinkled paper.

The works on view (all 2018) elaborate on the artist's earlier sculptures, with more complex forms that twist, fold, and bend into postures that belie their material construction. Bove manipulates steel to varying degrees, rendering gentle folds in some, and extreme, almost anthropomorphic contortions in others. Their contrasting textures—matte, glossy, or rough—create a further sense of visual play, heightening the surface tension throughout.

Direct and improvisational, the artist's sculptures recall Anthony Caro's bolted and welded forms, John Chamberlain's crushed sculptures, Mark di Suvero's Abstract Expressionist configurations, and Louise Nevelson's accumulated assemblages, just as Bove's interest in color and its perceptual effects can be linked to Josef Albers's study of this subject in his foundational book *Interaction of Color* (1963). However, as the art historian Johanna Burton notes, "Bove brings things together not to nudge associative impulses into free play driven by the unconscious, but rather to conjure a kind of affective tangle that disrupts any singular, historical narrative."¹

Born in 1971 in Geneva to American parents, Carol Bove was raised in Berkeley, California, and studied at New York University. She joined David Zwirner in 2011. In 2015, *The Plastic Unit* marked her first solo exhibition at the gallery's London location, which was followed in 2016 by *Polka Dots*, her first solo show with the gallery in New York; a catalogue accompanied the exhibition and included an essay by Johanna Burton.

Bove's large-scale sculptures are often exhibited outdoors and in public spaces. From June 14–17, Bove will debut her largest sculpture to date at the 2018 edition of Unlimited at Art Basel. In 2017, the artist's sculptures were installed in the Betty and Edward Marcus Sculpture Park at Laguna Gloria, The Contemporary Austin. That same year, her work was on view in *Women of Venice* at the Swiss Pavilion at the 57th Venice Biennale, where she was invited to respond to the legacy of Swiss artist Alberto Giacometti. The artist's steel-beam sculpture *Lingam* (2015) was installed in City Hall Park in New York as part of the 2016 summer group exhibition *The Language of Things*, organized by Public Art Fund, and in 2013, she created a series of sculptures specifically for the High Line at the Rail Yards in New York.

In 2014, the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, in collaboration with Museion, Bolzano, Italy, and Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle, Belgium, organized a two-person exhibition with Carol Bove and Carlo Scarpa. Her work has also been the subject of solo exhibitions at

prominent institutions that include The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2013); The Common Guild, Glasgow (2013); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2010); Horticultural Society of New York (2009); Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin (2006); Kunsthalle Zürich (2004); Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston (2004); and Kunstverein Hamburg (2003). Major group exhibitions include documenta 13, Kassel, Germany (2012); 54th Venice Biennale (2011); and the Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2008).

Between 2009 and 2013, Bove was a clinical associate professor of studio art in Steinhardt's Department of Art and Art Professions at New York University.

Work by the artist is represented in permanent collections worldwide, including the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas; Fonds régional d'art contemporain (FRAC) Nord-Pas de Calais, Dunkerque, France; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and the Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut. She lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

¹ Johanna Burton, "Rebounding," in Carol Bove: Polka Dots. Exh. cat. (New York: David Zwirner Books, 2016), p. 62.

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