

Vilma Gold

6 MINERVA STREET LONDON E2 9EH T+44 (0)20 7729 9888 F+44 (0)20 7729 9898 WWW.VILMAGOLD.COM

TRISHA BAGA: ROCK

5 APRIL – 20 MAY

OPENING WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Vilma Gold is delighted to present the first UK solo exhibition by New York artist Trisha Baga (b. 1985, Venice, Florida). Titled **Rock**, the exhibition will comprise two new video installations and a series of paintings on lenticular holograms.

Baga is a young artist working mainly in video and performance. In terms of technology, plot and resources however, her approach to making is inclusive, playful and highly improvisational, so that her practice begins to unfix such distinctions. Though precarious by its nature, this tack also thrives on the possibility that arises when everything around becomes potential material for narrative making.

Named after the historical Pilgrim landing site in Massachusetts, the video installation **Plymouth Rock** sees Baga attempting to sympathise with it as a body that has been broken up. She considers how this degradation has happened both physically, as it has traveled, but also in terms of its subjection to layers of human meaning over time. The work consists of a video projected on to a collection of paintings and objects in close proximity to one another. Conveyed through various mediums, the piece will also feature other antagonists such as voice, the sea, lines and colours. Like the act of looking, the video becomes potential body, or carrier, for these disparate elements and forces. As its projection either illuminates or disregards them, the idea that they might finally come together to form an affective and harmonious composition is suggested and retracted in turn. A state of rhythm and beauty is desired yet perpetually disaggregated, not unlike the fate of the rock itself. Baga's fantastical videos are characterized by an approach to narrative that is open and intuitive. Here, tangential ideas on the rock's ancient origins as part of Africa are pursued, as well as its progressive relocation to tourist attraction pelted by coins, mugs and rubbish. Furthermore, she also gives over the film's structure to her understanding of the sequence of events at Plymouth Rock as an applied mathematics. **Hard Rock** on the other hand is a 3D video projected onto objects and ceramics on the floor with a 3D image of a rotating cardboard box above them. Here Baga looks at how the 3D projection on top of the objects works to negate their real objecthood whilst the representation of the cardboard box above them only appears more monumental.

Throughout her work Baga's interests lie with the "common things" that surround us, using these, enthusiastically, to guide phenomenological compositions about the act of looking and recognizing and the potentiality that might lie in the gap between. Her work could be described as foregrounding distraction as a methodology. The screen of her videos often becomes a surface in its own right. Rarely treated with preciousness, filmed footage becomes rather malleable as it is covered with objects and filmed again, subjected to screen effects, split, mirrored or flipped around to reveal a different surface, a different world, beneath. As such her approach to narrative might be compared to the logic of browsing online and hyperlinks, and is one that admits the space to drift, notice and find, with technological processes charting her course as she goes.

Trisha Baga was born in Venice, Florida (1985) and lives and works in New York. Next month Kunstverein Munchen will mount the first solo museum exhibition of Trisha Baga's work. In the past her work has been shown at PS1, Artist's Space, Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI), Anthology Film Archives, Greene Naftali, and Gavin Brown's enterprise in New York. Baga will present Pedestrian Mysticism a new performance work at The Cornerhouse Manchester on Friday 30 March (<http://www.cornerhouse.org/art/art-events/between-commissions-by-hayley-newman-patricia-baga>)

For further information please contact Katharina Zimmer: katharina@vilmagold.com (020 7729 9888)

Next exhibition Nicholas Byrne, 2 June – 15 July

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Trisha Baga

Born 1985, Venice, FL.

Lives and works in New York, NY.

2007- 2010 Milton Avery School of Art at Bard College, MFA
2008 Atlantic Center for the Arts, New Smyrna Beach, FL
2003- 2007 The Cooper Union School of Art, New York, NY, BFA

Solo Exhibitions

2012 Kunstverein Munchen
Vilma Gold, London

Group Exhibitions

2011 The Great White Way Goes Black, Vilma Gold, London
Performative Screening, Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI), New York, NY
Hasta Manana, Greene Naftali, New York, NY
Rectangle with the Sound of Its Own Making, The Fourth Wall at Vox Populi, curated by Cecilia Dougherty, Philadelphia, PA

2010 En el Barrio de Gavin Black through evas arche un der feminist in the back room of Gavin Brown Enterprise; curated by Pati Hertling, New York, NY
In the Company of; Housatonic Museum, curated by Terri Smith, Bridgeport, CT
The Pursuer; Greene Naftali Gallery, New York, NY
Greater New York Cinema Program; PS1, Long Island City, NY
Beside Himself; curated by Terri Smith, Ditch Projects, Springfield, OR
Hardcorps: Movement Research Festival 2010; Center for Performance Research, Brooklyn, NY
Alphabet Soup; The Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD
A Failed Entertainment: Selections from the Filmography of James O. Incandenza; The Leroy Neiman Gallery at Columbia University, New York, NY

2009 Adventures Close to Home; curated by Peggy Ahwesh, Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY
Los Solos II; curated by Bonnie Jones, The Load of Fun Theater, Baltimore, MD
The Fuzzy Set; curated by Pilar Conde, LAXART, Los Angeles, CA
Then and Now, curated by Marlene McCarty, LGBT Community Center, New York, NY

2008 Our Bodies, Our Selves; curated by A.L. Steiner, El Centro Cultural Montehermoso, Monte hermoso, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain
Between Us... curated by Meghan Dellacrosse, Leo Koenig Gallery, Andes, NY
Salad Days 3, Artist's Space, New York, NY
Intermission, Art-In-General's Audio in the Elevator Program, New York, NY

2007 Thank God for My Beautiful Black Locks of Golden Black Hair, Cooper Union's Houghton Gallery, New York, NY

Performances

2012 Pedestrian Mysticism, Cornerhouse, Manchester

Commissions

2009 Love Affair of the Painter Balla and a Chair, Futurist Life: Redux for Performa09, Anthology Film Archives and SFMoMA
iShowU09, Alexander McQueen for Target Launch Event, curated by Sofia Hernandez

Awards

2008 Joan Mitchell Foundation Scholarship, Atlantic Center for the Arts
2007 MFA Fellowship, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY

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Bibliography

- 2012 Kathleen Reinhardt, "MEET New York-based artists Trisha Baga", Kaleidoscope, March 2012
- 2011 Rosales, Espranza, "Hands On", Mousse, Vol. 31, December 2011, p. 110 - 111
Rutland, Beau, "Hast Manana", Artforum, Vol. 50, No. 2, 2011, pp. 313-314.
<http://fourthwallatvox.blogspot.com/2011/01/patricia-baga.html>, Patricia Baga, Fourth Wall,
January 2011
- 2007 Allen Strousse, Viral Video, <http://www.artinfo.com/news/story/26142/viral-video/>
26 November 2007