

For immediate release:

Boyfriend Material

Produced by LIANGWEST with Prem Sahib

9-17 October 2010

Private View Friday 8 October, 6-9pm

8 Egerton Gardens Mews, Knightsbridge, London SW3 2EH

Weekends 9, 10, 15-17 October, 12-5pm (Late Night: Tuesday 12 October, 6-9pm)

Weekdays by appointment only - please contact london@liangwest.com

With the generous support of the Brompton Design District, LIANGWEST are happy to announce their fifth group exhibition *Boyfriend Material*. Launching from a colloquial expression, the show looks at the role of 'attraction' in the art making experience. With a predominant interest in sculpture, the varying work included in the show will focus on the individual approach to 'attraction' and how such intangible concept could be used as material.

The exhibition further poses questions concerning the reciprocal relations between concept and material or subject matter and object. In particular, the conditions in which the line between concept and material is challenged and objects (materials) are now apprehended as more than just passive reflections of human culture, but active agents in their own right. The selected artists demonstrate a diverse sensibility towards material, presenting work that shows both a tactile understanding of physicality while inviting a broader questioning around the very nature of materiality itself.

Boyfriend Material is brought to you by artist Prem Sahib and LIANGWEST. It showcases eight emerging contemporary artists, Jonathan Baldock, Rachal Bradley, Tim Davies, Joseph Frazer, Anthea Hamilton, Richard Lockett, Prem Sahib and Jackson Sprague. To coincide with *Boyfriend Material*, online publication INTRODUCING have teamed up with graphic design studio Julia to produce the twelfth issue of their regular periodical, available on www.introducingart.com on 24 September.

LIANGWEST work with emerging talents in contemporary art.
www.liangwest.com

INTRODUCING #12 *Boyfriend Material* live on 24 September
www.introducingart.com

Special thanks to:



Julia www.julia.uk.com

Julia is Valerio Di Lucente, Erwan Lhuissier and Hugo Timm.

Biographies and images of work of participating artists:

Jonathan Baldock

Jonathan Baldock's painting and assemblage of objects have a sinister humor disorientating the perception of beauty and the grotesque. Employing a vast array of techniques from knitting, weaving, and home craft all antagonizing the perceptual reading of the work as it is often drawn from high art or classical antiquity. At times alluring or farcical, and at others socially scathing, Baldock seduces the viewer with the enigmatic juxtaposition of contrasting subject matter and material.

Graduated in 2005 from the Royal College of Art London, Jonathan Baldock (b. UK. 1982) lives and works in London. Solo exhibitions include the upcoming show at Cell Projects, London (2010), Backlit Studios, Nottingham (2009). His work has been shown recently at several group exhibitions internationally, including Viafarini, Milan (2009), 'NEWSPEAK: British Art Now', Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg (2009), Cell Project Space, London (2009), Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth (2009). Baldock is the receiver of the five-year (2010-2015) Fire Station Residency Scheme awarded by Acme studios, London.

Rachal Bradley

Rachal Bradley (b. Blackpool) graduated from Goldsmiths College in 2006 and is currently studying at Glasgow School of Art. Her work was included in group exhibitions such as AutoItalia, London (2010), I-20 Gallery, New York (2009), Harris Museum & Art Gallery, Preston (2009), 'Bad Bat performance', ICA, London (2008). She also won Commission Art on the Underground, Platform for Art in 2009 for 'Pop Will Eat Itself', installed in Piccadilly Circus Tube Station, London.

Tim Davies

Neither Sculpture nor relief, Tim explores his interests and considers potential for relevance in a context wider than his own. A recent work *Gif* consisted of a single Wellington Boot perched on tiptoe atop a tasseled, ivory silk cushion, encased within a padded red-velveteen-clad display cabinet, the whole fixed inside a walled-up Gallery. But in general his work is less opulent and he returns regularly to a particular species of sub-Designer, suburban Design object. Within this genre of pragmatic everyday (and occasional red-letter-day) ornament Davies seeks out latent psychoanalytical narrative, channelling collective yearnings for the new, the therapeutic and the exotic.

Tim Davies lives and works in London. He studied at the Slade School of Fine Art between 2004 and 2008 and at the Staedelschule, Frankfurt in 2006-07. His work has been presented in several group exhibitions including Home is the Place You Left at Trondheim Kunstmuseum (2008), Warm Summer Days, Indoors, Sandy Brown, Berlin (2009) and Being is what it is, 38 Elderfield Rd, London (2010). In 2008 he went on residency to Organhaus Artists Space in Chongqing, China through the Triangle Arts Trust and Gasworks. He currently has a solo show, *Gif*, at Sandy Brown, Berlin. Tim has recently finished an education residency at the Serpentine Gallery, London.

Joseph Frazer

Joseph Frazer's practice embraces the performing qualities of art and its negotiated place in the world. Exploring ideas of transforming and becoming, his sculptural installations often consists of three elements, devices or structure made out of cheap and disposable materials, recorded sound or spoken word and imagery. Flirting between grandeur and ridicule, Frazer's work often uses the image of himself as the theatrical focal point, in the meantime drawing motifs from classical antiquity and contemporary culture.

Joseph Frazer (b. London. 1983) graduated from Goldsmiths College in 2005, and is currently studying at the Royal Academy of Art, London. His work has been recently exhibited at Staedelschule, Frankfurt am Main (2010), Autoitalia, London (2009), Truck Art, London (2008).

Anthea Hamilton

Anthea Hamilton's themes such as music, the gendered body in fragments, an unprecedented mix of found and formed materials, as well as purely sculptural investigations into texture and equilibrium--result in an uncommonly delicate picture of late modernism.

Anthea Hamilton (b. London. 1978) lives and works in London. Her solo exhibitions have been held at IBID PROJECTS, London (2009), Studio Voltaire at Zoo Art Fair, London (2009), La Salle de Bains, Lyon (2009), Kunstverein Freiburg, Freiburg (2009), Chisenhale Gallery, London (2008), Art Statements Art Basel 38, Basel (2007). Her work has also been included in group exhibitions such as 'Newspeak: British Art Now', Saatchi Gallery, London (2009), Parkhaus, Dusseldorf, Germany (2008), 'Art Now: Strange Solution', Tate Britain, London (2008), 'Martian Museum of Terrestrial Art', Barbican Art Gallery, London (2008).

Richard Lockett

Richard Lockett's sculptural practice is concerned with investigating the signs that we perceive around us. His work attempts to display and eschew these signs so that the audience may re-perceive what is being expressed within the dialogue with the work. He often works in response to his increased awareness of the modes of channeling art and cultural media to us.

Richard Lockett (b. London. 1983) graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2006. He currently lives and works in Berlin. Lockett's work was included in several group exhibitions including 'The Blue Obelisk', LIANGWEST, London (2010), MC Motors Exhibition, London (2008), Truck Art at ART:CONCEPT, Paris (2007).

Prem Sahib

Taking the role of both artist and curator in this instance; Prem Sahib is interested in notions of encounter and presence are made manifest through works that precariously flirt with the viewer, and seemingly aspire towards an autonomous existence both through their materiality and form. His recent work reflects an interest in artifacts as a unique category of object that herald the capacity to present misleading historiographies and reify the immaterial in a tangible physical form. His most recent work has developed a more personal trope, utilizing themes such as gay cruising, disco and the paranormal as a narrative device to engage with broader issues of loss and resonance and how these are made meaningful.

Prem Sahib (b. London. 1982) graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2006, and is currently studying at the Royal Academy of Art, London. His work has been recently exhibited at 'Overzealous', LIANGWEST, London (2009), Tricycle Gallery, London (2009), Gallery Priestor/ Space Gallery, Bratislava (2008), Centre for Recent Drawing, London (2008), Art:Concept, Paris (2007).

Jackson Sprague

Currently studying at the Royal College of Art, London, Jackson Sprague explores his ambivalent relationship with decoration with his sculpture and collages. He is particularly fascinated by the idea of 'excess' in decoration, at times seductive and satisfying and at others distracting and disruptive. This elaboration can manifest itself as an overspill of signification, effecting object, image or word by altering value or attributing significance beyond materiality. In his recent work, he focused on what is diminished in the transformation of sensory experience into representation, and how this loss can be reconciled within the still object.

Previous exhibitions by Jackson Sprague (b. Devon. 1982) include solo presentations at Nordisk Kunst Plattform, Stavanger, Norway (2009) and the Prenelle Gallery, London (2005). Sprague has also participated in group projects at Hilary Crisp Gallery, London (2010), The Courtauld Institute, London (2010), Permanent Gallery, Brighton (2007), Art Los Angeles Contemporary, L.A. (2010), the two Jonnys' project space, London (2010).