

GAZELLI ART HOUSE

SPECTRA
WALTER & ZONIEL



© Walter & Zoniel, 2015

OPEN EYE GALLERY

PRESS PREVIEW : FRIDAY 8TH JULY

INTERACTIVE INSTALLATION : 8 - 10 JULY 2016

9 JULY - 16 OCTOBER 2016

Gazelli Art House in collaboration with **Open Eye Gallery** is pleased to present **SPECTRA**, a unique interactive performance installation by **Walter & Zoniel** as part of the Liverpool Biennial Fringe programme.

Celebrating the opening of the Biennial, the artist duo will invite the public to join them in covering the facade of Open Eye Gallery with thousands of brightly-coloured paint markings. The artists will guide the public in the creation of a new Wall Work commission using giant elaborate catapults loaded with water balloons filled with temporary paint.

Part-performance, part-installation, SPECTRA is aimed at all age groups and evokes a sense of mischief and its relationship to inspiration and creativity. In crossing the lines of what is normally sanctioned and allowed, those interacting with the work are momentarily set free of some of the constraints of the everyday norm.

By engaging a diverse audience, the interactive installation explores the dynamics of public perception of colour. In nature, one's perception of colour reflects the simplicity of this variable concept, which is dependent upon placement in relation to adjacent colouration. The usage of intensely coloured paint within the new Wall Work mirrors these shifts in perception where viewpoint is subject to constant change. By using the building as a canvas, the artists challenge their audience's opinions and expectations of the gallery structure.

The artists champion the notion that art is for everyone and thus is artistic debate. The work plays with this belief both its public nature and its practical application. The paint colours offered to each person to catapult are selected based upon their participants' opinions on art and relationship to the space. The resulting Wall Work will remain on view at Open Eye Gallery for the duration of the Biennial, thereby serving as a representation of this intrinsic debate sparked by the artists as well as a symbol of the powerful nature of the building's transformation.

SPECTRA marks a return for Walter & Zoniel to the Liverpool Biennial following their previous installation in 2014 'The Physical Possibility Of Inspiring Imagination In The Mind Of Somebody Living'. This widely acclaimed installation saw them filling a derelict building in Toxteth with live jellyfish, which only opened for public viewing each night. With thousands of people flocking to the site every evening at dusk, the installation was a testimony to incredibly rich social spirit of Liverpool's citizens, with news of the artwork spreading entirely by word of mouth.

Open Eye Gallery
19 Mann Island
Liverpool Waterfront
Liverpool, L3 1BP
www.openeye.org.uk

**OPEN
EYE
GALLERY**



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WALTER & ZONIEL

Walter & Zoniel have been collaborating and exhibiting internationally since 2008. Walter & Zoniel are a young London based Artist duo. Multidisciplinary in their practice, they work within the mediums of sculpture, photography, film and performance. Much of their work is centered on utilizing scientific process and pioneering the modern development of early photographic techniques. Their work focuses on visually charming and enticing the viewer into thought and momentary escapism, whilst dealing predominantly with the human condition, evoking a relationship and questioning between all the elements involved. All of their work carries the undercurrent of their optimism and mantra that Everything Is Possible.

www.walterandzoniel.com

@walterandzoniel

OPEN EYE GALLERY

We believe photography is for everyone and can be meaningful, informing our present and inspiring positive futures. Open Eye Gallery works with people to explore photography's unique ability to connect, to tell stories, to inquire, to reflect on humanity's past and present, and to celebrate its diversity and creativity.

Founded in 1977 Open Eye Gallery is an independent not-for-profit photography gallery based in Liverpool. One of the UK's leading photography spaces, Open Eye Gallery is the only gallery dedicated to photography and related media in the North West of England. Open Eye Gallery has consistently championed photography as an art form that is relevant to everyone. It promotes the practice, enjoyment and understanding of photography by creating challenging and entertaining opportunities to experience and appreciate distinctive, innovative photographs.

In November 2011 Open Eye Gallery re-launched in a brand new purpose-built home in one of the city's most prestigious and prominent new developments on the Liverpool Waterfront. The gallery's position at the heart of the regenerated Waterfront – next to the Museum of Liverpool and a stone's throw from Tate Liverpool and Albert Dock – cements its commitment to the city and its vibrant cultural life.

As well as presenting a programme of international, high-quality exhibitions Open Eye Gallery houses a permanent Archive containing photographs dating from the 1930s to the present day. The gallery also commissions Wall Works - large-scale graphic art installations for the external facade of the gallery.

GAZELLI ART HOUSE

Contemporary art gallery Gazelli Art House supports and presents a wide range of international artists, presenting a broad and critically acclaimed program of exhibitions to a diverse audience through international exhibition spaces in London and Baku. Gazelli Art House was founded in 2003 in Baku, Azerbaijan where it held exhibitions with Azeri artists. From 2010, having hosted conceptually interlinked off-site exhibitions across London, founder and Director of Gazelli Art House, Mila Askarova, opened a permanent space on Dover Street, London in March 2012. That same year, Window Project launched utilising the frontage of the gallery as additional display platform. In 2015, the initiative was remodelled to solely accommodate art school graduates through open call competitions three times a year. As part of Gazelli Art House's on-going commitment to art education, the gallery hosts a series of events and talks to run alongside each exhibition.

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LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL

Liverpool Biennial presents the largest festival of contemporary visual art in the UK. It takes place every two years across the city in public spaces, unused buildings, galleries and online. Liverpool Biennial 2016 runs from 9 July until 16 October and is organised as a story narrated in several episodes: fictional worlds that draw from Liverpool's past, present and future. Also showing during the Biennial are the John Moores Painting Prize, Bloomberg New Contemporaries, and the Biennial Fringe. Liverpool Biennial is underpinned by a programme of research, education, residencies and commissions. Founded in 1998, Liverpool Biennial has commissioned over 268 new artworks and presented work by over 400 artists from around the world.

Liverpool Biennial 2016

9 July – 16 October

www.biennial.com

#Biennial2016

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