

Crossroads



CANDLESTAR



March 2011 – June 2011

Hyatt Regency London – The Churchill, 30 Portman Square, London W1H 7BH

Candlestar is proud to present *Crossroads*, its fifth exhibition developed in partnership with the luxury five-star hotel Hyatt Regency London – The Churchill, the main hotel partner to Frieze Art Fair.

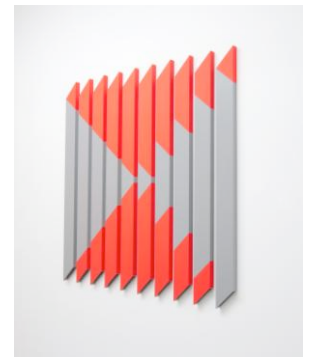
Crossroads is an exhibition celebrating the International Women's Day Centenary, that reflects the different perspectives of six female artists at work today. The selected artists have each developed a unique and precise working practice. Rana Begum is an urban romantic who finds her moments of transcendence in the myriad, hard, surreal, aesthetic wonders that emerge during any journey through a city. Kleio Gizeli sculpts intricate domestic scenes, drawing the viewer's attention to the complexity of the setting, with a somewhat voyeuristic feel. Lisa Holden integrates digital photoworks that convey a sense of aligned dual-reality. Martha Parsey paints female portraits with a defined sense of elegance. Some of her portraits have contemporary cubic elements, contrasting her more traditionally painted characters. Susan Gunn's work relies on texture, skilfully utilising a number of different materials to create tectonic contours on the surfaces of her pieces.

Finally, Carol Robertson's work is rooted in abstract conventions. There is a very precise and formulaic notion to her paintings coupled with an underlying aesthetic that hints at chance and coincidence.

The variety of works attests to the diversity of women practicing within the art world.

International Women's Day on March 8th serves as a celebration of female economic, political and social achievements. Crossroads, which coincides with the centenary celebration of International Women's Day will serve to underline the significant contribution that women artists make to the international art world.

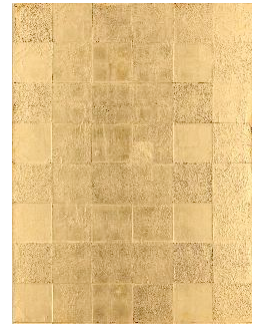
Rana Begum (b.1977) creates abstract sculptures and reliefs that reflect her experience of the urban environment. She creates mini colour fields in which slats of colour either blend or oppose each other. As the critic Nick Hackworth has said they are like visual puzzles 'full of random and momentary meetings of signs and symbols.' Begum graduated from the Slade with a MFA in Painting. She has exhibited her work internationally including Jerwood Space (London), The City Gallery (Leicester), BU Gallery (Bangkok) & The Third Line (Dubai), and a solo show at Bischoff/Weiss (London) in 2010. Her work has featured at the most recent editions FIAC, Frieze and Art Dubai.



Kleio Gizeli (b. 1978) builds staged miniature maquettes that lead the viewer into worlds and narratives that are unknown and strange. A door half-open, a glass by the bed, a leaking radiator, a man with a hat and a suitcase walking towards the door, yet forever motionless. The narrative seems to have paused in a single moment and the one which follows may contain any number of possibilities. A graduate of Central Saint Martins she has shown in exhibitions in London and Athens and Zurich Art Fair. Her most recent solo exhibition was held at Flowers Gallery in London.



Susan Gunn (b. 1965) Sir Peter Blake has described the paintings of British based artist Susan Gunn as ‘incredibly beautiful objects’. Using size and gesso, pigment and wax, she creates works of art that invite the eye to wander over a surface textured with lines and cracks. As Andrew Moore wrote in his introduction to the catalogue that accompanied her recent retrospective at Norwich Castle Museum, ‘The surface of a Gunn painting has a tectonic quality, the plates of colour having moved to create cracks and crevices, before coming to rest in a lasting ground, just as the earth has formed in moments of heat and cooling.’ Susan has received many awards for her work including the Archant Prize 2005 and the Sovereign European Art Prize in 2006 and has exhibited widely in the UK and Germany.



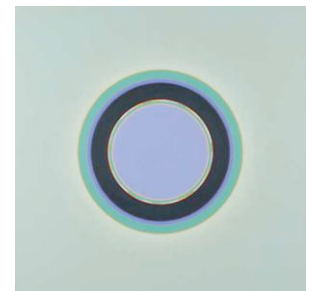
Lisa Holden (b. 1961) Lisa Holden unites imagery with hand-painted layers to create photoworks that reflect her interest and examination of her own history of adoption, displacement, and reflections of self. Holden’s works stretch the possibilities of digital photography and manipulation. Her work is represented in a number of museum and corporate collections, including the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA; Sammlung Land Tirol (Austria); GasUnie (NL); the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs; AKZO NOBEL (NL); ABN; AMRO; and Interpolis. Her solo show, I Won’t be Your Mirror: Photographs by Lisa Holden, at Diemar/Noble Gallery closed in early January 2011 to considerable acclaim.



Martha Parsey (b. 1973) Many of Martha Parsey’s languorous characters have the fascinating power of unapproachable heroines, others have an almost child-like attractiveness. Parsey assigns wistful titles to her work and places her characters in ambiguous, yet intense dramas, that are always on the verge of unfolding. A graduate of Central Saint Martins, Martha Parsey’s paintings, and films, have been exhibited widely in solo exhibitions in Berlin, Cologne and London as well as the Museum Ludwig, Aachen. Her paintings feature in many private collections were most recently shown in an exhibition at ‘Swab International Art Fair’, Barcelona in May 2010.



Carol Robertson (b. 1955) Born in England and currently residing in London, Carol is an internationally recognised painter. Her work remains firmly rooted within reductive abstract conventions, using shapes and colours to exaggerate the physical presence of her paintings. She is represented in the UK and USA by Flowers Gallery, by Galleri Weinberger in Denmark and by Peter Foolen Editions in The Netherlands. Her paintings, prints and watercolours can be found in public and private collections worldwide. Robertson exhibits prodigiously and in 2010 alone has been featured in group and solo exhibitions in Japan, London, Denmark, and Germany.



All of the works featured in Crossroads are for sale and the exhibition available for viewing until the end of June 2011. For press enquiries, please contact Candlestar:

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