



Berlin, 18th April 2008

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to invite you to the opening of the following exhibitions:

**NATHALIE LATHAM**

**safeguarding – a work in progress**

Studio 2

**Discussions with the artist** in the exhibition (English):

At 6 pm on **May 3, 4, 10, 11** and **18**

**LUCA TREVISANI**

**It's oh so strange**

**When centimetres feels like miles**

Studio 3

**JOINT OPENING**

**Wednesday, 30th April 2008, from 7 pm**

2nd – 18th May 2008, Wed – Sun, 2 – 7 pm

(Closed on 1st May)

**NATHALIE LATHAM** travels to very different countries all over the world, seeking to understand the universal quality within the manifold forms of human experience and to express it by artistic means. She devotes time to the people she meets, becoming involved with them and documenting their living conditions, cultures and emotional concerns with the help of photography, video recordings and texts. Latham wants her artistic work to contribute to the reduction of existing prejudices and to sharpen its recipients' awareness of each individual's shared global responsibility for humanity as a whole, for the conservation of our environment, and for a universal yet diverse cultural heritage that is under threat in many places.

Latham's installation *safeguarding* in Studio 2 is part of a long-term project of the same name that documents manifold ways of preserving cultural heritage. In an analogy to the travels of the artist, in safeguarding the viewer crosses between different countries and cultures.

Five video projections and a series of large-format photos, presented as a round tour, examine the conditions and problems in these countries: the poverty of certain groups of the population in India and the contrasting spiritual wealth of the country, for example, or the destruction of the environment in China, where it is impossible – as a consequence of either tradition or politics – to discuss

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certain issues openly. Nathalie Latham also attempts to lend her voice to the displaced people and refugees of the world: another video work presents an impressive account of a refugee's life and suffering in the universally comprehensible language of expressive dance, interpreted by a young Russian dancer on a bridge in the middle of Paris.

Nathalie Latham uses her photos, videos and texts to create vivid and extremely beautiful images, which direct the viewer's attention to ecological problems and human destinies, but also to the beauty of our world and its diversity of cultures.

**NATHALIE LATHAM** \*1969 in Brisbane, Australia, lives and works in Paris and Berlin.

She studied at the universities of Kyoto and Sydney (Master of Asian Studies - Japanese).

Exhibitions and group exhibitions incl.: *Passing Through*, Ffotogallery Cardiff, Wales (2005); *Do You Vote*, Trace Gallery Weymouth, England (2005); *Photographer's Network 06*, Siegen; *Galleri Image*, Aarhus, Denmark; *Centrum för Fotografi*, Stockholm (2006); *Do you vote?* Houses of Parliament, London (2007). In 2007/2008, Nathalie Latham has a fellowship from the Australia Council for the Arts and is participating in our International Studio Programme for twelve months.

**LUCA TREVISANI's** works are experiments aiming at a definition of the diverse relations between space, object, architecture and the viewers within it. Partly, they are manifest as performances in real time with audience participation, or else they take the form of sculptures and photographs documenting past experiments.

Trevisani's objects often resemble hand-made apparatuses or bizarre experimental set-ups, and they sometimes illustrate fundamental physical laws such as the principle of communicating tubes. Movements and alterations within a system are governed by a sequence of cause and effect. One question posed by Trevisani is whether this also applies to the viewer of a work.

Characteristic of his conceptual starting point, therefore, is a continuing notional dialogue between the theories and works of other artists or scientists and his own work, between documentation and creation, and between two- and three-dimensionality. Luca Trevisani's work follows the principle that a 'void' does not exist in nature, that things never begin at zero point - in other words, something is always there already, whether it is a seed, a cell, a photograph or an artwork. When centimetres feels like miles involves the spatial conditions of the exhibition space in the presentation's form, transforming Studio 3 into a walk-in installation with various sculptures, which - as often in Trevisani's work - are made of ultra-light, stable and malleable materials such as balsa wood or fibre-glass. Following nature's example, these objects display very few right-angles. This makes When centimetres feels like miles into an equally sensual and intellectual experience, also illustrating the artist's thesis that space cannot be reduced to geometric units of measure: "The attempt to bring space back to measure, geometry, is always destined to fail, the obsession of measuring the world, due to its utopian impulse for order, is condemned to endless repetition." (Luca Trevisani)

**LUCA TREVISANI** \*1979 in Verona, studied art history in Bologna and currently lives in Berlin.

Individual exhibitions incl.: *Giò Marconi*, Milan; *Mehdi Chouakri*, Berlin (2008); *Pinksummer*, Genoa (2006); *Equal*, Viagarini, Milan (2004). Group exhibitions incl.: *Manifesta 7*, Rovereto (2008); *Sydney Biennale*, Online (2008); *Space for your future*, MOT, Tokyo (2007); *On mobility*, Premio furla per l'arte, Bologna (2007); *The importance of not being seen*, Galerie Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin (2007).

Luca Trevisani won the FURLA Prize, presented by Viagarini, in 2007. At present, he is participating in our International Studio Programme.