

AUDREY REYNOLDS

Anote

OUTPOST

2 July to 21 July

12 noon to 6pm daily

Opening View: Friday 1 July, 6 - 9pm

Open to public - admission free

OUTPOST proudly presents *Anote*, a solo exhibition of work by London-based artist Audrey Reynolds.

Incorporating paintings, sculptures and carpet works, Audrey Reynolds' visually austere installations function as non-spaces, where ephemeral mark-making, domestic fixtures and sculptural structures collectively address the operations of time.

Working intuitively, Reynolds' seemingly casual approach to mark-making belies the integrity of each painted stain, smeared lump of Plasticine and found material fragment, which cumulatively seek to reconfigure aspects of history across a series of surfaces. Like half-remembered anecdotes, Reynolds' material traces evidence a relationship to the past, with selected paintings frequently referring to art historical 'originals'. The large relief 'A Convalescence' references a similarly titled painting by Gwen John, appropriated by Reynolds as a visual setting for her work. Here, Reynolds reconfigures selected aspects of the original across muted plywood surfaces: the mustard yellow polka-dot background, a feathered brown streak outlining a tufted crown of hair, a splash of blue paint for a skirt, a decorative scroll for an armchair. Although vague in composition, these reliefs enable subtle traces of figures, interiors and alternative realities to be glimpsed in the present moment.

The minimalist plinth, an orthodox convention of museum display, is another key component of Reynolds' work. In *Anote*, two small, squarish structures are positioned on the floor either side of a pink carpet. Their surfaces emptied of precious objects; both platforms are seemingly redundant in purpose. Reduced in scale and coated in household paint, these modest 'underplinths' are recovered from their institutional origins and repositioned by the artist as intrinsically sculptural objects.

Likewise, the fixture of a fitted carpet is also offered fresh attention. A plush, dusty rose coloured 'Curbelow' straddles the width of the gallery, softening and, to a degree, domesticating, the clinical exhibition space. 'Curbelow' – possibly a play on 'furbelow' describing the decorative frills on a woman's skirt – is a term invented by Reynolds to give clues to her reattribution of aesthetic value here, balancing ambiguously between utility and frivolity.

The domestic realm is further emphasised via the inclusion of a sound piece. Based on conversations between the poet Megan Watkins and the artist, this spoken word recording animates *Anote* with the intimacy and informality of female conversation. With Reynolds speaking both parts of the dialogue, this semi-stream of consciousness takes the form of a dreamlike narrative, wandering aimlessly and without purpose. As an audible fixture in the room, this work adds a sense of intimacy and interiority to the space, whilst also touching on latent interests in women's experience and female subjectivity.

Reynolds' paintings, sculpture and carpets evidence the enduring visibility of marks, traces and the narrative potential of stains, which are ultimately tied to an interior context. As Jonathan Griffin points out "a stain belongs, by and large, in private and indoors. In our homes these stains accumulate, shaped by their inhabitants, they work in concert to tell stories of reality and fiction".

Audrey Reynolds is an artist living and working in London. She studied at Bath College of Higher Education and completed her MA at Chelsea School of Art, London. Selected solo exhibitions include *Arcade*, London (2009), *Fordham*, London (2007), *Parlour*, London (2006) and at *1000000mph* (2004). Group exhibitions include: *Personal Use*, Cafe Gallery projects, London (2011); *Head*, *The Approach*, London (2010); *The Antique Wardrobe*, MOT international, London (2009); *Songs of Love and Hate*, Ancient & Modern, London (2008); *60th Anniversary*, Gimpel Fils, London (2006); *Fordham*, Netwerk, Belgium (2006); *Full English*, MOT, London (2003); and a collaboration with Rosie Cooper for *Temporary Secretary* at Fordham. She also devised and curated *The One Picture Gallery* at the Savoy Café (2008) and as part of London's *Spice Festival* (2007). Audrey Reynolds is represented by Ancient & Modern, London.



LOTTERY FUNDED

For more information please contact questions@norwichoutpost.org

OUTPOST/10b Wensum Street/Norwich/NR3 1HR

Tel: +44 (0) 1603 612428

questions@norwichoutpost.org

www.norwichoutpost.org

 Norfolk County Council

Charity Number 1109254