

Whitechapel Gallery presents the D. Daskalopoulos Collection, Greece

10 June 2010 – 5 June 2011, Gallery 7

As part of its programme to open up important art collections to the public the Whitechapel Gallery presents a series of four displays drawn from the D. Daskalopoulos Collection, Greece, one of the foremost European collections of contemporary art. Jointly titled, *Keeping It Real*, these displays go on view from 10 June 2010 – 5 June 2011 in the dedicated Collections Gallery.

The D. Daskalopoulos Collection consists of over 400 major works with a particular focus on the last 30 years and key works from earlier periods. Important artists represented in the Collection include Louise Bourgeois, Marcel Duchamp, Robert Gober, David Hammons, Mona Hatoum, Mike Kelley, Nikos Kessanlis, Martin Kippenberger, Sherrie Levine, Sarah Lucas, Cady Noland, Dieter Roth, Kiki Smith, and Rosemarie Trockel. Rivane Neuenschwander, Seth Price and Kelley Walker are but some of a younger generation of artists on show.

Devised by Achim Borchardt-Hume, Chief Curator, Whitechapel Gallery, *Keeping It Real* is conceived as a sequence of four micro-exhibitions, with each one building on the memory of its predecessor. They bring together a selection of works whose meaning is deeply rooted in the materials employed by the artists; from Duchamp's readymade and Gober's wax sculptures to Arturo Herrera's collages and Sam Durant's mirror painting.

The Corporeal, 10 June – 5 September 2010, foregrounds works which examine the human body as a site of psychological, social and ideological struggle. Gender identity and desire are frequent themes as are intimations of mortality. This display includes two emblematic works from the Collection: Louise Bourgeois' *Fillette (Sweeter Version)* (1968 -99) and Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain* (1917 - 64), as well as key works by Marina Abramovic, Robert Gober, David Hammons, Sherrie Levine and Sarah Lucas.

Beyond Painting, 17 September – 5 December, focuses on works that use the language of abstraction to probe the medium of painting beyond the conventional confines of paint on canvas. An installation by David Hammons enters into dialogue with works by artists as diverse as Lynda Benglis, Robert Gober, Kori Newkirk, Dieter Roth and Daniel Subkoff.

Current Disturbance, 17 December 2010 – 6 March 2011, is a single installation by Mona Hatoum of the same title dating from 1996. The work's physical presence is amplified by the sound of electric current feeding the flashing lightbulbs trapped in a grid of metal cages. This is the first presentation in London of this landmark work by Mona Hatoum.

Material Intelligence, 18 March – 22 May 2011 presents artists whose work draws on readily available images for a more playful engagement with the notion of materiality. These range from a series of collages by Martin Kippenberger to the wall-mounted silhouettes of Seth Price and Kelley Walker's digitally manipulated brick paintings.

Achim Borchardt-Hume, Chief Curator, Whitechapel Gallery, said, 'Collectors have always played a vital role in securing and sustaining a lively and diverse artistic landscape. Having unrestricted access to a collection as significant as the D. Daskalopoulos Collection has

Press Release

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enabled the Whitechapel Gallery to trace a particular sensibility in art of the past three decades while bringing rarely seen artworks into the public domain.'

The presentation of the D. Daskalopoulos Collection is part of the Whitechapel Gallery's ongoing programme of opening up collections that are rarely seen by the public. Exhibitions are displayed in the dedicated Collections Gallery, one of the new spaces in the recently expanded building which opened in April 2009. It follows the presentation of 5 displays from the British Council Collection from April 2009 – May 2010. The Whitechapel Gallery's programme of collection displays is supported by specialist insurer Hiscox.

Notes for Editors

- The Whitechapel Gallery has for over a century, organised exhibitions by drawing from public and private collections including those of artists. The earliest introduced art from all over the world, including exhibitions of Chinese (1901), Japanese (1902), Indian (1904), Jewish (1906) and North African and Middle Eastern (1908) art and life. Throughout the 20th century the Whitechapel continued to show private collections, including the Graham Robertson Collection of works by William Blake (1934); Harvey Collection of Old Masters and Powel Collection of early engravings, watercolours and drawings (1936); Dr WM Crafton Collection of Old British Masters, including Constable, Gainsborough and Turner (1941); *Five Centuries of European Painting*, which drew from the Bearsted, Cook and other collections to present works by Giotto, Hogarth, Titian, Memling and Rembrandt among others (1948); and the Bearsted Collection in 1955, which included works by Bosch, Breughel, Cuyp and El Greco.
- It follows the presentation of 5 displays from the British Council Collection from April 2009 – May 2010, curated by artists Michael Craig-Martin, Jeremy Deller and Alan Kane, and Paula Rego, and broadcaster Tim Marlow. The final display in Spring 2010 results from an international competition for curators.
- Dimitris Daskalopoulos is a business entrepreneur. He is today the Chairman of DAMMA Holdings SA, a financial services and investment company. He is the Chairman of the Board of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV). He is also member of the Board of Directors of The National Bank of Greece and of the Mytilineos Group of companies. He has served as the chairman of the Federation of Greek Food Industries (1999 - 2006) and as board member of the Athens Chamber of Industry and Commerce and numerous other business associations and corporations. He has been active as member of the European Round Table of Industrialists (1998 - 2008), the President's Council for International Activities at Yale University (2004 - present), the Young Presidents Organization and the Chief Executives Organization. As the principal owner, CEO and Chairman, Dimitris Daskalopoulos oversaw since 1983 the transformation of a family dairy business into VIVARTIA S.A., Greece's largest food company, with leading brands in dairy, bakery, frozen foods and restaurants and 13,000 employees in 29 countries. He sold the business in 2007. He is a collector of contemporary art, member of the Board of Trustees of the Guggenheim Foundation and active in the Tate International Council and the Leadership Council of the New Museum. Dimitris Daskalopoulos holds a B.A. in Management Studies from the Athens School of Management and an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management. He is fluent in English and French.
- *Keeping It Real* is conceived by the Whitechapel Gallery and curated by Achim Borchardt-Hume, Chief Curator, Whitechapel Gallery.
- A fully-illustrated publication introducing each of the 4 exhibitions is published by the Gallery in June 2010.
- The Whitechapel Gallery's programme of collection displays is supported by specialist insurer Hiscox.

Visitor Information

Keeping It Real, 10 June 2010 – 5 June 2011, Whitechapel Gallery. Admission free. Opening times: Tuesday – Sunday, 11am – 6pm, Thursdays, 11am – 9pm. Whitechapel Gallery, 77 – 82 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX. Nearest London Underground Station: Aldgate East, Liverpool Street, Tower Gateway DLR. T + 44 (0) 20 7522 7888
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