

Art Night Associate Programme 2017: Cache by Candida Powell-Williams at London's iconic Devonshire Square
Presented by Bosse & Baum

Art Night 2017, East London, July 1
Central Courtyard, Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YE
(entrance via New Street or Harrow Place)
18:00- 00:00, Free entry

Bosse & Baum is pleased to present Candida Powell-Williams's interactive site-specific installation at Devonshire Square's historic Central Courtyard, as part of Art Night's 2017 Associate Programme.

Taking place for the first time alongside the second edition of Art Night, the Associate Programme features a roster of nocturnal events by 31 local organisations and site-specific projects by 29 independent artists and curators in locations across the East End, as far spread as the Docklands and London Fields, opening up the city in unique and creative ways for the night of Saturday 1 July 2017. The participants were invited via an Open Call to reflect on the history and future of the area, emphasising the urban environment and contributing to the late-night celebratory spirit of Art Night.

The origins of Devonshire Square form the starting point of Candida Powell-Williams' sculptural and performative intervention. The complex of warehouses, built by the East India Company in the late 1700s, stored luxury goods mostly from Bengal. Powell-Williams' work for this project draws imagery from the textiles housed there and mixes them with cultural references as well as the site's contemporary uses, folding into and combing the past with the present. The work, a series of sculptural jigsaw-like rug pieces, explores the disintegration and fragmentation of patterns as a means to reflect on our present day relationship to the site's history. Powell-Williams' installation will be animated by an interactive performance taking places throughout the evening.

Candida Powell-Williams, said:

"This year's Art Night theme has a particular resonance with my own research. I am always interested in engaging my audience in the history of their surroundings as a way of considering identity and informing our future. I am delighted to have developed a new work specifically responding to the interesting and at times difficult history of East London. "

Patrizia Sechi, Customer Experience & Events Manager, said:

"Devonshire Square is the perfect place to host the striking art work from Candida Powell-Williams. The courtyard, which is steeped in London's history and surrounded by the estates historic buildings will provide a strong backdrop as well as being the inspiration for Candida's engaging art. Art Night is a unique opportunity for Londoner's and tourists alike to experience bodies of work in situ, which have been influenced by their surroundings. Devonshire Square's central location at the heart of the City makes it a fantastic destination for art lovers on the Art Night."

Art Night 2017 is held in collaboration with the Whitechapel Gallery and curated by independent curator and writer Fatoş Üstek. The festival is generously supported by international auction house Phillips.

Candida Powell-Williams' project for the Art Night 2017 Associate Programme is kindly supported by Devonshire Square.

For further press information on Associate Programme please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ART NIGHT

Art Night 2017 will see London's East End transformed with free art and music by some of the world's leading artists for the night of **Saturday 1 July 2017**. Audiences will be able to experience a trail of art, architecture, dance, design and music throughout the night. Art Night 2017 is in collaboration with the Whitechapel Gallery and curated by independent curator and writer **Fatoş Üstek**. The festival is generously supported by international auction house **Phillips**.

Art Night was inspired by the international Nuit Blanche movement, first initiated in Paris in 2002. From Riga to Toronto, via Melbourne and Tokyo, this free-to-attend nocturnal celebration of arts and the city was staged in more than 30 cities worldwide and keeps expanding around the globe.

BOSSE & BAUM

Bosse & Baum is a contemporary art gallery founded in 2013 by Alexandra Warder and Lana Bountakidou. The gallery space is located in a former cricket bat factory, and is based in Peckham, London. The gallery promotes new developments in arts and culture, curating site-specific exhibitions, supporting emergent practitioners of art, with a focus on audience development in contemporary visual arts and culture. The gallery has a strong focus on performative art practices, with an active events programme which accompanies exhibitions, bringing current discourses to the attention of new audiences both in the local community and internationally.

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CANDIDA POWELL-WILLIAMS

The artist Candida Powell-Williams borrows historical and absurd narratives to create sculptural installations, which also function as platforms for performance and interactive activities. Beginning with research she seeks out misunderstandings, coincidences and the cumulative error of storytelling. The artist manipulates her chosen narratives as though they were physical matter - puckishly plucking mythological, art historical and pop-culture references from disparate eras and folding these moments from the past into the present. Powell-Williams uses a range of materials to make prop-like sculptures akin to drawing in their use of line and characterized by their wobbly geometry, rough surfaces and the intimacy of the handmade. The forms are drawn from memory, which acts as an editing tool, and only the most significant aspects are made real and consequently some sculptures become caricatures, whilst others appear abstract mixing representation and symbolism exploring how we summarise memory into emblematic motifs and our tendency to imbue objects with meaning beyond their existence. The resulting installations are whimsical theatrical staging's condensing a multitude of historical

incidents into a singular moment. They are often animated with frenzied, repetitive performances collaborating with choreographers and musicians renewing and testing our relationship to the spectacle as well as the sacred and profane.

Candida Powell-Williams (b. 1984, London) Lives and works in London. Since graduating from the Royal College of Art in 2011, the artist has had solo exhibitions including *The Vernacular History of the Golden Rhubarb*, Bosse & Baum (London, 2017), *Lampy*, *The Barefooted Father*, *Lupercalia Live Performance*, Bosse & Baum (London, 2016), *AVATAR*, Gate Theatre (London, 2015), *Glissando*, Bosse & Baum (London, 2014), *Coade's Elixir – an occupation*, Hayward Gallery (London, 2014), *Sleight*, Lewisham Arthouse (London, 2012).

Recent group exhibitions and performances include *PIC Art Fair* (Melbourne, 2016), *Cue Collision*, *House of Egorn* (London, 2016), *DentalFlux Poetry Library* (London, 2013), *Hot Stones*, *Wet Areas*, *Fast Melons* (Vienna, 2013); *Muster Point*, ASC (London, 2013), *Please be Quite*, British School in Rome (Rome, 2013); and *Tourist Information Point*, *Supercollider* (Blackpool, 2013). In 2013 Powell-Williams completed a yearlong residency at the British School in Rome, having been awarded the Sainsbury Scholarship in Painting and Sculpture. Other awards and residencies include the Lewisham Arthouse graduate studio award (20011-12), CASS Student Sculpture Award (2011) Cite de Internationals Paris studio award (2010). Upcoming projects include *Cache for Art Night 2017 Associate Programme* and *Frieze Live*, London 2017.

ABOUT DEVONSHIRE SQUARE

Tucked between Liverpool Street station and Spitalfields, Devonshire Square is a thriving campus comprising of 630,000 sq. ft. of office space, shops, homes, restaurants and bars, based around the 18th Century warehouse complex of the East India Company. It is a true hidden gem and major draw for London foodies, who flock to the square to sample the gastronomic delights of the likes of Pitt Cue, Marco Pierre White Steak & Alehouse and Cinnamon Kitchen. <http://www.devonshiresq.co.uk/>

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

- > Website: www.artnight.london
- > Twitter: @artnightldn
- > Instagram: @artnightldn
- > Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/artnightlondon>
- > Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1846866528923628>
- > Unique Hashtag: #artnightldn

Please tag Bosse & Baum, Candida Powell-Williams, Devonshire Square, Art Night, Whitechapel Gallery in social when possible:

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- >Website: www.candidapowell-williams.com
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- < Website: www.devonshiresq.co.uk
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