

## The Zeitgeist Open Exhibition

**16 November** Press Preview is 5-6pm. General Preview 6-9pm

**17 November - 1 December** Exhibition continues Thursday - Saturday 12-5pm

**30 November** Late opening for SLAM Last Fridays 6.30-8.30pm

**Saturday 1 December** Artists and Curators in Dialogue, 4-5pm

**Bond House Project Space**, ASC, Goodwood Road, New Cross, London, SE14 6BL

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The Zeitgeist Open Exhibition is a compelling view of a cross section of critically engaged artists who are currently producing profound and intriguing works.

From the 557 images received, the five judges – all artists, themselves - Graham Crowley, Alistair Gentry, David Kefford and Zeitgeist founders, Rosalind Davis and Annabel Tilley looked at all 557 works before finally selecting the following 41 artists:

Annabel Dover, AnnaMaria Kardos, Anthony Carr, Axel Bottenberg, Ben Coode-Adams, Ben Cove, Bob London, Carol Wyss, Catalina Barroso Luque, Chiho Iwase, Clare Mitten, Connie Sides, Corinna Spencer, Daniel Slater, Debbie Lawson, Giulia Ricci, Heather Miller, Helen Donnelly, Jack Hutchinson, Kate Murray-Browne, Kate Russo, Lauri Hopkins, Louisa Chambers, Louise Mackenzie, Marina Velez, Mark Sadler, Max Gimson, Michele Fletcher, Peter Jones, Reginald Aloysius, Robert Worley, Sarah Filmer, Sarah Jeffries, Sarah West, Sasha Bowles, Shelley Rae, Steph Goodger, Susan Francis, Timothy Shepard, Tom Butler and Una d'Aragona.

We discovered in all the selected artists “*A cherished and obsessive practice*” Ben Coode-Adams. As well as Melancholia, fantasy, identity, macabre, dreamlike people, places. There is absurdity and there is death. There is mystery and sharp realisation. Familiar and yet devastatingly unfamiliar spaces. Morbidity and things verging on the grotesque. Seriousness, playfulness. Joy....

All the work was seen, and scrutinised carefully on the basis of image alone – artists were *not* judged on their CV, age, art-school history, gallery connections or art-world renown.

These 41 artists have between them all a stunning array of achievements. We could tell you that these artists have international careers, they come from across the world, that they have exhibited extensively or very little at all, that they came from famous art colleges now, or 30 years ago. Many have won some kind of art prize, or been involved in major exhibitions. There have been private and public commissions. Their works are in major collections as well as no doubt numerous private collections.

They work in paint, drawing, photography and sculpture using a wide range of materials, concepts and processes. They have done residencies, are in publications, they write for publications, they curate.

But *none* of this mattered to us. The work did. And that is why this will be a different open exhibition.

The philosophy behind The Zeitgeist Open – judged on a single anonymous image - was to create a really open Open, resulting in an exhibition that is about the artwork, and about intelligent artists making critical, educated and also instinctive decisions about the artwork: looking at 557 works over seven intense hours meant for the judges that each work had to hold its own; had to engage them totally and immediately – subtly or with force.