



PRESS RELEASE

Scaling the Sublime: art at the limits of landscape

Friday 23 March – Sunday 17 June 2018

Djanogly Gallery, Nottingham Lakeside Arts

Nottingham Lakeside Arts is delighted to announce the forthcoming opening of the exhibition *Scaling the Sublime: art at the limits of landscape*.

The exhibition has been curated by art historian Nicholas Alfrey and artist Rebecca Partridge and includes the work of seven leading UK and international artists. It explores affinities with Romanticism in contemporary art practice, and the continuing fascination of the landscape Sublime. Drawn to subjects such as mountains, glaciers, the icecaps, forests, the ocean, the moon and the remotest stars, these artists have found new ways of reflecting on our relationship with the unimaginable forces of nature, even in an age of accelerated technological advance and the unprecedented expansion of knowledge.

Working across a variety of media and often drawing on expertise from other disciplines through collaboration, these artists embrace the newest processes and techniques as well as traditional methods of image making. The resulting works move through registers of wonder, melancholy, futility and absurdity.

Dominating the largest of the Djanogly Gallery's spaces, *After Life* is an ambitiously scaled installation by the UK-based German artist, Mariele Neudecker, made in response to her 2015 Project Pressure expedition to south-west Greenland. It receives its first showing in this country at Nottingham, having been presented previously only once at the Zeppelin Museum in Germany. Sharing the same gallery as *After Life*, Katie Paterson is represented by her work *Timepieces (Solar System)*. Typical of previous projects in which the artist has drawn upon mind-boggling scientific data, the work consists of nine modified clocks calibrated to tell the time on all the planets in our solar system (as well as the moon) in relation to time on Earth. In a similar vein, Martin John Callanan's *A Planetary Order (Terrestrial Cloud Globe)* utilizes the complex apparatus of meteorological data collection to model cloud cover on this planet at a single moment.

Both Tim Knowles and Simon Faithfull, each in their different way, are engaged in making journeys in the landscape in the tradition of British Land Art of the 1970s. In his film *Going Nowhere*, Faithfull circumnavigates the ever-diminishing contours of a sandbank rapidly disappearing beneath the sea. Knowles' journeys are usually undertaken within a system of self-imposed constraints and sometimes under hazardous conditions, or at night. The resulting films, photographs and drawings reveal the play of



external forces in the landscape, and capture something of the beauty, risk and absurdity of his ventures.

Richard T Walker's settings are the desert landscapes of the American West, and the mythic quality of the locations contrasts with the artist's anxious reflections on the meaning of the landscape and its relationship to his own thoughts and feelings.

Finally, Rebecca Partridge is not only the originator and co-curator of the exhibition but one of the participating artists. Her paintings of clouds, seas and forests link to the work of Mariele Neudecker in their evocation of the landscapes of that quintessential Romantic, Caspar David Friedrich.

Nicholas Alfrey, Co-curator of the exhibition, said: 'This exhibition brings together some truly adventurous artists. They take on some of the most daunting subjects imaginable, and the work they have produced is constantly surprising in its range and scale.'

Scaling the Sublime is part of the Fringe Programme for The Grand Tour partnership, supported by Arts Council England's Cultural Destinations fund and the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership.

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Notes to Editors

Djanogly Gallery, Lakeside Arts

The Djanogly Gallery opened in 1992 and now forms part of Lakeside Arts, the University of Nottingham's public arts centre. It stages a year-round programme of 20th-century and contemporary art exhibitions complemented by a lively programme of public lectures, talks and participatory learning activities. In 2011 the gallery was refurbished, and the newly expanded spaces played host to a major LS Lowry exhibition that broke previous visitor records. www.lakesidearts.org.uk

The Grand Tour

Launched in 2015, the Grand Tour is a partnership of Nottingham Contemporary, Chatsworth, Derby Museums and The Harley Gallery, together with Visit Nottinghamshire and Visit Peak District & Derbyshire. The Grand Tour is a ground-breaking example of cultural tourism that aims to showcase the region's diverse richness of art, architecture and landscape to a new generation of local, national and international visitors. In March to June 2018, The Grand Tour returns for its third season. www.thegrandtour.uk.com

Supported by Arts Council England's Cultural Destinations fund and The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership.



EVENTS:

PANEL DISCUSSION

CONTEMPORARY ART AND THE LANDSCAPE SUBLIME

Thursday 22 March, 6pm-7pm (followed by preview)

Free, advanced booking recommended

Nicholas Alfrey, co-curator of the exhibition, chairs a discussion with participating artists.

SYMPOSIUM

SCALING THE SUBLIME

Saturday 24 March, 10am-5pm

Free, advanced booking recommended

Invited speakers reflect on why landscape is still a compelling subject for contemporary art. The day will include a performative lecture by Simon Faithfull, *'Elsewhen' - Looking for Nowhere*, in which the artist's videos, drawings and writings are used to illustrate a meandering path through the politics, science and folklore of 'Nowhere'. Chaired by Nicholas Alfrey.

LECTURE

WRITING IN THE ICE: TURNER'S MOUNTAIN CROSSINGS

Wednesday 2 May, 1pm-2pm

Free, advanced booking recommended

Nicholas Alfrey considers JMW Turner as a painter of the Romantic Sublime, looking in particular at his images of Alpine passes and crossings.

GALLERY TOURS

Free, advanced booking recommended

Thursdays 1pm-2pm

12 April Nicholas Alfrey, co-curator of *Scaling the Sublime*

3 May Rebecca Partridge, co-curator of *Scaling the Sublime*

Fridays 1pm-2pm

25 May Neil Walker, Head of Visual Arts Programming

15 June New Perspectives, a walkabout tour of the exhibition led by post-graduates at the University of Nottingham.

ARTIST-LED WALK

SCALING NOTTINGHAM'S EDGES

Sunday 25 March, 10am-4pm

£50 (£40 concessions)

For ages 18+



Nottingham-based artist, Alison Lloyd, leads a day of exploratory walking using OS maps of Nottingham. This walk, in search of the Landscape Sublime, will involve exploring the terrain and 'contouring' some of the edges of the city where man and nature compete using drawing materials and disposable film cameras.

LISTINGS INFORMATION:

Exhibition Dates: Friday 23 March – Sunday 17 June 2018

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 11am - 5pm; Sunday (bank hols) 12pm - 4pm. Closed Easter Sunday and Mondays (including Bank Holidays).

Address: Djanogly Gallery, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Admission: Free

Events: For free talks and events tickets please book online or call the Box Office on: 0115 846 7777

Nottingham Lakeside Arts Website: lakesidearts.org.uk

Nottingham Lakeside Arts Facebook: @LakesideArts

Nottingham Lakeside Arts Twitter: @LakesideArts

Nottingham Lakeside Arts YouTube: @LakesideArtsCentre

Nottingham Lakeside Arts Instagram: @LakesideArts

Exhibition hashtag: #Scalingthesublime

PRESS ENQUIRIES:

For further information and interview requests and high-resolution images please contact:

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The Grand Tour