

PRESS RELEASE 10/05/19
For immediate release

Mimosa House

Zoe Williams: Sunday Fantasy.

Solo exhibition and premiere of Zoe Williams's new moving image work, *Sunday Fantasy*.

Opening 24 May 6:30 – 9pm

Continues 25 May – 27 July 2019

Open Wednesday – Saturday 12–6pm

For her first solo exhibition in London, Zoe Williams transforms Mimosa House into a liminal bedroom-like environment which acts as the backdrop for her new film commission 'Sunday Fantasy'. Incorporating elements from the set of the film, drawing and new ceramic works, the exhibition focuses on exploring and challenging ideas of fantasy, glamour and role play in relation to sexuality. The project continues the artist's interest in using a recurrent visual language to implement an irreverent interchange between aspects of eroticism, craft, hedonism and the histories and materialities of artefacts.

Williams' new film follows a fragmented, dreamlike narrative centred around the character Veronica Malaise, who is played by 4 interchangeable women. The discontented Veronica finds an ancient, glass, scent bottle in the shape of a shell, on a beach near the mouth of the Thames Estuary. The bottle is possessed by the spirit of its previous owner, a fictional lesbian priestess from the Roman Empire, who used it to distil and realise her erotic fantasies. When rubbed on the nape of the neck or the genitals, the bottle has the power to make real the fantasies of the person possessing it. The film charts the non-linear journey of the Veronicas' and the rise and demise of their fantasies through the manipulation of the bottle.

The film plays with dissecting current representations of the erotic through an importantly female and queered lens, as well as examining problematised subject/object relations. Challenging the idea of singular authorship, Williams has worked with her friends and collaborators; Amy Gwatkin, Deniz Ünal and Nadja Voorham on the construction of the film, inviting them to enact their own and each other's fantasies within it. The film is co-directed by filmmaker Amy Gwatkin, with a soundtrack by musician David Aird.

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With thanks to Rochester Square for making the production of the ceramic works possible.

Bio: Zoe Williams (b.1983). Lives and works in London and is represented by Antoine Levi Gallery, Paris. Her practice incorporates a range of mediums including moving image, ceramics, drawing and performance. Through these elements she is primarily concerned with creating immersive instances and environments which, holding a veneer of seduction, seek to access the cerebral through sensual experience.

Recent solo exhibitions include; *The Unruly Glove, The Green Bum and The Sickly Trickle*, Antoine Levi Gallery, Paris; *Morsa*, Studio Amaro, Naples; *Pel*, Antoine Levi Gallery, Paris; *Soft Paste*, The Studio Warehouse Gallery, Glasgow; *The Flight of O*, Spike Island, Bristol.

Significant group projects include; *(X) A Fantasy*, group exhibition and performance commission, DRAF, London; *Spring/Summer 2015*, DCA, Dundee; *The Chic and The Borderline*, cur. by David Roberts Art Foundation, part of Art International Istanbul; *Watch yourself*, cur. by David Dale Gallery with Video Art Network Lagos and UK:NG Festival, Rele, Lagos; *Mood is Made /Temperature Is Taken*, GSS, Glasgow; *Chateaux Double Wide*, Glasgow International Festival 2016; H Y P E R C O N N E C T E D, MMOMA, part of 5th Moscow International Biennale of Young Artists; *Mademoiselle*, Centre Régional d'Art Contemporain Occitanie, Sète, France; *The Armoury Show 2019*, New York; *Playful Aggressions*, Greengrassi, London; *Ruffles*, Art Montecarlo 2019; *Something soft*, Kunstraum, London.

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