

RICHARD SALTOUN

Helena ALMEIDA: Inhabited paintings / Pinturas habitadas

Exhibition dates:

27 March – 22 May, 2015 (PV 26 March h 6-8pm)

Richard Saltoun Gallery announces a solo exhibition of the acclaimed and influential post-war Portuguese artist, Helena Almeida (b. Lisbon, 1934).

This is the first London show dedicated to Helena Almeida, one of the leading women artists working in Europe during the '70s and '80s. The exhibition presents a selection of works from some of her most iconic series from the period.

Almeida has twice represented Portugal at the Venice Biennial (1982 and 2005) and she will be the subject of a forthcoming touring retrospective at the Serralves Foundation, Porto (2015), Jeu de Paume, Paris (2016), Wiels, Bruxelles (2016) and Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo (2017).

Throughout her career Almeida has continuously explored and questioned traditional media, breaking away from the pictorial plane by placing her body as the subject of her work – or as her titles suggest, by “inhabiting” them. Almeida’s body, often clad in black, performs carefully choreographed movements in dialogue with simple, everyday objects.

The resulting photographic image is never purely representational, but blurred and grainy, and often interfered with by a drawn line, a paint-stroke, or a sculptural element such as horsehair: they exist beyond the limits of the 2-dimensional photographic surface through these interferences.

A presentation of works by Portuguese artist Lourdes Castro (b. Madeira, 1930) will also be exhibited. A contemporary of Almeida, Castro uses shadow and light as a means of representation. She has been the subject of two retrospective exhibitions at the Serralves Foundation (2003 and 2010).

Helena ALMEIDA

Born in Lisbon in 1934, Almeida studied painting at the School of Fine Arts, Lisbon, and has been exhibiting her work extensively on an international scale since the late 1960s.

Recent exhibitions include: Fundación Telefónica, Madrid (2009), CAM – Centro de Arte Moderno, Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon (2006), The Drawing Centre, New York (2004), the Sydney Biennial (2004), Centro Galego de Arte Contemporanea, Santiago de Compostela (2000).

Lourdes CASTRO

Born in Funchal, Madeira Island, in 1930, Castro attended the School of Fine Arts, Lisbon, where she studied painting, before moving to Paris in 1958. From the outset of her career, she has worked with found objects, which she represents through light and its positive and negative.

Recent exhibitions include: Museu Serralves - Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto (2010); Centro Cultural de Belém (CCB), Lisbon (2001); Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon (1992). She represented Portugal in the 1998 São Paulo Biennale.

Exhibition and sales inquiries - email niamh@richardsaltoun.com

Press Information - email cristina@picklespr.com or info@richardsaltoun.com.

Visitor Information

Richard Saltoun Gallery

111 Great Titchfield Street

London W1W 6RY

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7637 1225

Gallery Hours: Monday to Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm or by appointment

Nearest tube: Oxford Circus and Great Portland Street.