

SURFACE TENSIONS

Pavla and Lucia Sceranková

12 April – 11 June 2017

Preview: 11 April

6.30 – 8.30pm

Pump House Gallery and Czech Centre London present an exhibition of new and existing work by sisters Pavla and Lucia Sceranková. Their first major exhibition in the UK reflects visual, material and conceptual influences on their work and its contexts. Pavla and Lucia Sceranková have developed the show in response to the unique architecture of the gallery and its setting in Battersea Park.

Pavla Sceranková's sculptural installations and video-performances express minimalism, subtle humour and sensitivity to surroundings. They invite the viewer to interact and explore the relationships between perception and the perceived world. Lucia Sceranková makes photographic and sculptural installations, inspired by her surroundings, playing with illusion, reality and fiction.

In addition to the exhibition at Pump House Gallery a new, temporary public artwork will be sited in Battersea Park's Pleasure Garden fountains, inspired by their research on the history of the fountains as part of the 1951 Festival of Britain. Accents of this research are picked up in the work on display at the gallery.

Tension is at the heart of the exhibition: the tension between two artists' and their work that is being presented at such close quarters, the physical tension within many of the works and the tension of the artists inviting the audience to interact with certain works. The audience is invited to explore the site of Battersea Park as a whole and think about the meaning of the exhibition within the setting of the park.

This exhibition was initiated by **Czech Centre London**, organised in partnership with **Pump House Gallery** and curated by Pump House Gallery and **Lily Hall**.

Supported by The Elephant Trust; the Ministry of Culture, Czech Republic; and the Embassy of Slovakia in London.



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PUMP HOUSE

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INHOUSE PROJECT

Collective Memory

12 April – 11 June 2017

Final display: 11th June

12 – 4pm

Alongside Pavla and Lucia Scerankova's exhibition, artist Nicola Pomery invites visitors to explore memory, representation and perception through the production of a collectively drawn landscape of important everyday objects from their lives. As part of the InHouse project, these workshops experiment with materials and techniques, providing a fun and interactive way for families to creatively explore the exhibition.

Drop-in workshops for all ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

SENSING OBJECTS

23 April 2017, 12 – 4pm

IMAGINED STORIES

7 May 2017, 12 – 4pm

MIXED MESSAGES

14 May 2017, 12 – 4pm

PLAYFUL DECEPTION

28 May 2017, 12 – 4pm

FINAL DISPLAY AND WORKSHOP: SHARED DIFFERENCES

11 June 2017, 12 -4pm

Notes to editors:

Future exhibitions: **Zadie Xa**, 3 August – 24 September 2017; **David Panos** 4 October – 10 December 2017.

Pump House Gallery, Battersea Park, London SW11 4NJ. Telephone 020 8871 7572. Email: info@pumphousegallery.org.uk. Opening hours: Wednesday - Sunday 11am - 4pm. Closed Monday and Tuesday between exhibitions. Admission free. For more information see pumphousegallery.org.uk

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PUMP HOUSE

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Pump House Gallery is a public contemporary exhibition space housed in a distinctive four story Grade II* listed Victorian tower by the lake in Battersea Park. The pump house tower was built in 1861 to contain a coal-fired steam engine house, water pump and cast iron tank to feed water from the Thames to an artificial rock cascade in the nearby lake and water plants in the Park. After a fire in the 1950s, which destroyed the windows and the original roof, the building fell into disrepair and eventually became derelict. After renovation the building opened as an interpretation centre in 1988 and following further development became Pump House Gallery in 1999, presenting a year round programme of contemporary visual art. Collaboration and participation are at the heart of its programme. Pump House Gallery has presented a year-round programme of contemporary visual art since 1999 including most recently, *Developer*, a site-specific installation in the Battersea Park Mirror pools by Samara Scott, and *Each fighting its own little battle in happy ignorance*, a group exhibition based on the Graham Greene novel *It's a Battlefield* in 2016. The gallery is operated by Enable Leisure & Culture on behalf of Wandsworth Council.

Battersea Park is a 200 acre, Grade II* listed Victorian park formally opened in 1858, one of many intended to improve living conditions for those living in the city. During both wars, the park was utilized by the military to protect London, shelters were dug, allotments were created and a pig farm was set up. After the Second World War in 1951, thirty-seven acres were developed to form the Festival Pleasure Gardens. In 1986 when Wandsworth Council became responsible for the park, there were serious signs of neglect and much needed improvements restored and recreated the most significant Victorian and Festival features. In 2011 the Winter Garden designed by Dan Pearson was opened. wandsworth.gov.uk

About Enable Leisure & Culture

Enable enriches lives and strengthens communities through leisure and culture.

Enable Leisure & Culture is a company limited by guarantee, applying for charitable status and is partner to Wandsworth Council's commitment to deliver first class leisure and culture services. As a Public Service Mutual, it is a form of social enterprise that manages and delivers the arts, bereavement services, parks, sports facilities, events, the film office, public halls and Putney School of Art and Design across Wandsworth on behalf of Wandsworth Council. For further information visit enablelc.org. For the latest updates and news follow on twitter @enablelc and @PumpHouseGal

About Czech Centre London

Czech Centre's mission is to actively promote the Czech Republic by showcasing Czech culture in the UK. Its programme covers visual and performing arts, film, literature, music, architecture, design and fashion. The centre also enhances cultural relationships between the UK and the Czech Republic through curatorial visits, media tours and artistic residencies; generating creative dialogue among artists, scholars and cultural activists from both countries. It is a non-political organisation supported by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of a worldwide network of 21 Czech Centres operating in 19 countries and on three continents. The Czech Centre is a member of EUNIC (European Union National Institutes for Culture). czechcentre.org.uk

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