

Ilona Sagar

11 Sep – 15 Nov 2015 at Vitrine in London, United Kingdom

31 JULY 2015



Ilona Sagar, *Prosopopoeia:Manual:Hand:Book*, 2014, Giclee print, 270 x 180 cm, image courtesy of VITRINE

VITRINE is delighted to present a solo exhibition of London-based artist Ilona Sagar at their Bermondsey Square premises. The exhibition will comprise a new installation in VITRINE's sixteen meter window space which will include text and sound. For this body of work, Sagar has worked with sound designer Doug Haywood.

Spanning performance, film, sound, installation and assemblage, Ilona Sagar's multi-faceted practice investigates the social and spatial structures that we negotiate on a daily basis in public spaces such as museums, galleries, churches and theatres, as well as in the virtual realm. Her work responds to the historical and cultural connotations of these domains, exploring the universally recognised codes of conduct that we follow during shared interactions.

Sagar has collaborated with dancers, performers, choreographers, writers and architects, expanding the borders of art practice in order to draw new perspectives on the constraints that a space places on our collective behaviour.

This work explores the relationship between body, surface and displacement through its manifestation in speech and design. Sagar approaches the body as an adaptable tool rather than a fixed form. Speech and gesture combine as an interface to examine our multi-faceted relationship to design syntax, as an instance of technology and flesh.

Sagar's interest in space, layers and transparency carries through and encompasses the different visual imagery, text and sound overlapping in the exhibition space, creating an elaborate layering of bodies, narrative and surface. These visual, habitual and sonic experiences are in a fluid dialogue with each other, creating a muted depiction of speech, misunderstanding and the mouth as a space of consumption and exchange. There is a collision between internal and external languages in design, cognition and the body. The external syntax clashes with an internal language which is messier, more visceral and emotional.

Through the mediums of sound, text and photographic installation, this new body of work seeks to examine the residue left in the wake of our conflicting relationship to both the virtual and physical body.

Ilona Sagar received her MFA in Sculpture from the Royal College of Art (2012) and her BA in Fine Art from Goldsmiths College (2008). Solo exhibitions include 'P:MHB' at Assembly Passage, London (2014), 'Human Factors' at Tenderpixel Gallery, London (2014) and 'Unsound House' at Carslaw St Lukes, London (2012). Her work has been exhibited in group exhibition internationally, including at Acadia Missa, Budapest (2015), Firstsite Gallery, Essex, UK (2015), Hayward Gallery Project Space (2014), Intelgentia gallery, Beijing (2014), Embassy Gallery, Edinburgh (2014), Carroll/ Fletcher, London (2014), Parasol Unit Foundation, London (2014), Kim Kim Gallery, Seoul, SK (2013), Greenhorn Film Festival, London (2013) and The Architectural Association and RIBA, London (2013). She was shortlisted for New Contemporaries in 2013. She has been awarded residencies at Firstsite Gallery, Essex (2014/15), Villa Arson, Nice (2012) Outpost Gallery, Outhouse, Norwich (2009) and Tomma Rum, Tranås, Sweden (2010). She was shortlisted for New Contemporaries in 2013. She collaborated with SPUR in January 2015 for their sound project 'Radio City' at Tate Britain, London. Alongside her solo exhibition at VITRINE Bermondsey Square, she has an upcoming solo show at Tenderpixel Gallery, London in October 2015.



Vitrine

Vitrine is focused on artistic experimentation and development; material-, process- and installation-led practice at its core. Vitrine operates a hybrid business model encompassing both commercial gallery and non-profit projects.

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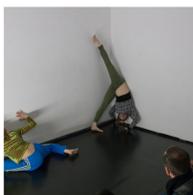
Location
London, United Kingdom

Founded in
2012



1. Ilona Sagar, *Soft addictions*, 2014, Documentation of performance and sound work Embassy Gallery ECA, Edinburgh, image courtesy of VITRINE
2. Ilona Sagar, *Prosopopoeia:Manual:Hand:Book*, 2014, Performance and Installation, Giclee print, fabric, bean bags, sports wear, lemons, vinyl, Assembly Passage Project, image courtesy of VITRINE
3. Ilona Sagar, *Prosopopoeia:Manual:Hand:Book*, 2014, Performance and Installation, Giclee print, fabric, bean bags, sports wear, lemons, vinyl, Assembly Passage Project, image courtesy of VITRINE

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