

HAUNCH OF VENISON LONDON

Haunch of Venison
103 New Bond Street
London W1S 1ST

T +44 (0) 20 7495 5050
F +44 (0) 20 7495 4050
london@haunchofvenison.com
www.haunchofvenison.com

Mixed Media

01 March - 5 April 2012
Private View: 01 March 6:00 - 8:00 pm



Copyright: Rina Banerjee

Haunch of Venison presents an exhibition of contemporary sculpture including works by Rina Banerjee, Nathan Coley, Richard Long, Giuseppe Penone and Jaume Plensa.

Mixed Media is an exploration of recent sculptural work by a selection of international artists. The exhibition highlights current practices in sculpture focusing in particular on the extraordinarily varied range of materials employed by artists today.

This exhibition presents the work of nine artists that feature materials as diverse as plastic dolls heads, bronze, wool, fairground lights and resin. The exhibition includes a new work made especially for the exhibition by **Richard Long**, major works by **Giuseppe Penone** and **Jaume Plensa**, as well as new pieces by younger and emerging artists.

Mixed Media presents the work of three senior figures in contemporary sculpture: **Richard Long** has been at the forefront of art for forty years, pioneering new ideas and directions in earth, minimal and conceptual art. From the action and imprint of a walk, to the temporary placement of a stone, from piles of stones placed on the gallery floor to mud smeared upon the walls with his hands, Richard Long redefines the very parameters of what can be considered and understood as sculpture. **Giuseppe Penone's** work explores man's relationship with nature. He is best known for his work using trees although he also uses bronze, clay and stone and incorporates traditional techniques in the process of making his work. **Jaume Plensa** sculptural work has gone through several stages of development largely with materials such as iron, bronze, copper, moving to cast iron sculptures in the mid-80s, incorporating light and relief written text. Recently his melting materials have been synthetic resin, glass, alabaster, plastic, light, video and sound.

The exhibition includes the work of three important international female artists: **Rina Banerjee** born in India in and now based in Brooklyn has a love of materials and found objects; she combines them in theatrical sculptures creating a fusion of cultures that reference specific colonial moments and represent her own diasporic experience. Her love of substance, fabric and texture manifests itself in works in which disparate objects such as taxidermy alligators and wooden cots, ostrich eggs and light bulbs are strung up or nestled in with feathers and umbrellas, icons of different faiths and plumes of fabric. **Chiharu Shiota's** work explores themes of remembrance and oblivion, childhood and dealing with anxieties. Shiota finds diverse visual expressions for these subject matters; the most celebrated being impenetrable installations made of black threads that enclose various household and every day, personal objects: a burnt-out piano, a wedding dress, a lady's mackintosh, sometimes even the sleeping artist herself. **Joana Vasconcelos** focuses on the identity politics of gender, religion, class and nationality. Having pushed the boundaries of traditional crafts and techniques and the use of textiles as a medium, Vasconcelos crafts her work from a combination of pre-existing materials and mass-produced objects, along with hand-made crochet and knitted fabrics.

Three young British artists are also in the exhibition: Turner Prize nominee, **Nathan Coley** investigates the social aspects of our built environment, working across a diverse range of media including public and gallery-based sculpture, photography, drawing, and video. Interested in public space, he explores how architecture comes to be invested - and reinvested - with meaning and how its significance is dependent on the social history of a building and surrounding area. **Stuart Haygarth** has a passion for collecting abandoned objects, finding beauty in the everyday discarded item and uses it to challenge our perceived notion of what is precious and desirable. Haygarth gathers these insignificant objects on regular excursions to flea markets, car boot sales, beaches and the streets of London and transforms them into functional objects, wall mounted vitrines and **chandeliers**.

Alex Hoda recent work uses the surrealist's technique of automatism, where the element of chance and chaos are introduced into the production of a work. He begins by dropping molten copper into water to form small and bulbous shapes that he then scans and enlarges them using digital technology, the final work is cast and finished with a raw copper surface.



HAUNCH OF VENISON LONDON

Haunch of Venison
103 New Bond Street
London W1S 1ST

T +44 (0) 20 7495 5050
F +44 (0) 20 7495 4050
london@haunchofvenison.com
www.haunchofvenison.com

Mixed Media

01 March - 5 April 2012
Private View: 01 March 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Notes for Editors

- Rina Banerjee** was born in India in 1963 and lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Her exhibitions include *Greater New York*, P.S.1 & MOMA, New York, 2005; *Distant Nearness*, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas, 2008; *Mythologies*, Haunch of Venison, London, 2009. **Nathan Coley** (b 1967, Scotland) graduated from Glasgow School of Art in 1989 and has had solo exhibitions at The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, 2004; the Centro Cultural de Belem, Lisbon, 2001; and the Westfälischer Kunstverein, Munster, 2000. Coley was nominated for the Turner Prize nominee in 2007. **Stuart Haygarth** (b 1966, UK) graduated from Exeter College of Art & Design in 1988. Since 2004 Haygarth has shown in various exhibitions in Europe, America and Asia. **Alex Hoda** (born in 1980, UK) lives and works in London. He has exhibited internationally and has shown in group exhibitions such as *Newspeak: British Art Now*, Saatchi Gallery, London, 2010. Solo shows include *Pipe dreams*, Dickinson Gallery, New York, 2009; *Pileup*, Metro 5 Gallery, Melbourne, 2009. He awarded the Armory Sculpture Prize in 2006. **Richard Long** (b 1945, England) graduated from St Martin's School of Art and Design, London in 1968. Long has exhibited extensively at museums and galleries internationally and in 2009 had a major retrospective at Tate Britain. **Giuseppe Penone** (b. 1947 in Garesio). In 2010 Penone's work *Ideas of Stone* (2004-10) inaugurated Documenta 13, which will open in Kassel in 2012. **Jaume Plensa** (b. Spain in 1955) has exhibited internationally since 1980 in numerous galleries and museums as well as many major public art commissions in Europe, the United States and Japan. **Chiharu Shiota** (b. 1972, Japan) has exhibited internationally including a recent group show *Lost in Lace*, Birmingham Art Gallery, 2011. **Joana Vasconcelos** (b. 1971 in Paris) lives and works in Lisbon. She has exhibited internationally and will be the first female artist to exhibit at the Versailles in 2012.
- Contemporary art gallery **Haunch of Venison** supports and presents the work of some of today's leading artists, presenting a broad and critically acclaimed program of exhibitions to a large public through international exhibition spaces in London and New York. Named after the London courtyard in which the original gallery space was opened, Haunch of Venison was founded in 2002.

Press Information

For more information or images please contact:

Elizabeth Flanagan, Head of Press:

Email: eflanagan@hofv.com

Tel: +44 (0)20 7478 9669 / 079818 017 434

Tala Mahjoub:

Email: tmahjoub@hofv.com

Tel: +44 (0)20 7478 6635

Visitor Information

The gallery is open to visitors Monday – Friday 10 am - 6 pm, Saturdays 10am - 5 pm.

Haunch of Venison

103 new Bond Street

London W1K 5ES

T: 020 7495 5050

E: London@haunchofvenison.com

