

## The Inhuman /difficult transition/

### Artists Biographies

**Alice Browne** (b. 1986, Oxford, U.K.) is based in London and completed her MA in Fine Art Painting at the Royal College of Art, London in 2016 and her BA in Fine Art Painting at Wimbledon College of Art, London in 2009. Browne's practice is predominantly painting-based and expands into installation, drawing and sculpture. Drawing on an expanse of influences and materials, her painted works describe obscure imaginative spaces, which simultaneously appear to adhere to the rules of gravity and perspective whilst outwardly ignoring them. Underlying Browne's research is a notion that physical experiences take place in collaboration with a network of secondary and imaginative sources resulting in an intoxicating, partly fictional, reality. Browne is represented by Flatland Gallery in Amsterdam and Eduardo Secci Gallery in Florence. Recent solo exhibitions include Tintype Gallery, London (2019), Limoncello Gallery, London (2016) and OUTPOST, Norwich (2015).

**Günther Herbst** was born in South Africa where he obtained his first degree at the Johannesburg University in 1991. He moved to Germany in 1992 and studied at the Universität der Künste Berlin. In 1995 he came to London to continue his practice and study at Goldsmiths University of London where he obtained his master's degree in 2002. In 2016 he was awarded a Scholarship to commence his PhD at the University of the Creative Arts Canterbury. His current research considers the effects of 'displacement' in relationship to visual representation and contextualizes the shift from neoliberal and post-colonial conditions, via concepts of hauntology and de-historisation of painterly and sculptural narrative. Günther Herbst lives and works in London.

**Robert Holyhead** studied at Manchester School of Art, Manchester Metropolitan University (BA Hons, Fine Art, Painting 1993-96) and at the Chelsea School of Art and Design (MA Fine Art, Painting, 1996-97). In 2005 he was a recipient of the five-year ACME Fire Station live/work residency. In 2009/2010 he was commissioned by the Government Art Collection to produce two site-specific works for the New British Embassy and the UK Permanent Representation to the European Union in Brussels. In July 2018 he undertook a residency at SoART in Austria and was announced as a runner-up for the UK Arts Award 20th Anniversary. He is represented by Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin and Paris. Recent projects include essay text for Tate Publishing for Patrick Heron at Tate St Ives. The Arts Council Collection, the Government Art Collection, the Tate collection and Centre Pompidou have acquired his work. Solo Exhibitions include: Galerie Max Hetzler, Paris (2016); PARTS Project, The Hague, (2016); Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin (2014); PEER, London (2012); Karsten Schubert, London (2009, 2010 and 2012). Selected Group Exhibitions include: Revealed: Government Art Collection, Ulster Museum, Belfast, (2013); The Space Between, Tate Britain, London

(2012/13). Robert Holyhead was born in Trowbridge, England in 1974. He lives and works in London, United Kingdom.

**Rannva Kunoy** is a painter who lives and works in London. In 2001 Kunoy graduated from the Royal College of Art in London with a MA degree in fine art painting. Her work has been included in both solo and group exhibitions in locations such as Lundgren Gallery in Mallorca, Spain; Centre PasquArt in Biel, Switzerland; Saatchi Collection in London, United Kingdom; Nordic House in Torshavn, Faroe Islands; Public collections Carlsberg Fonden Denmark; Statens Kunstfond Denmark; and Centre PasquArt Switzerland.

### **Scott McCracken**

Scott McCracken is a painter living and working in London. He was born in Falkirk, Scotland in 1987 and studied at Edinburgh College of Art from 2005 to 2011 and Turps Art School from 2015 to 2017. His work has been exhibited throughout the UK and internationally, including solo exhibitions at Borough Road Gallery, London and Darbyshire Ltd, London. Previous group shows include Standard Projects, Wisconsin, USA; Art Bermondsey Project Space, London; Universität der Künste Berlin, Berlin; Bankley Studios & Gallery, Manchester. In 2017 he was awarded the Darbyshire Prize for Emerging Art. He is Correspondence Course Co-ordinator at Turps Art School, London.

**Andrea Medjesi-Jones** is a practicing artist based in London. She studied Fine Art at Goldsmiths College and has completed her practice-based PhD in contemporary painting at Cambridge School of Art in 2012. She has shown her work extensively in the UK, Europe and the USA. She was a recipient of the Abbey Fellowship in Painting at the British School in Rome in 2013. Her work was selected for the Bloomberg New Contemporaries in 2014. She is featured in major art collections including Simmons Contemporary and David Roberts collection, and has worked with Laurent Delaye Gallery, London and is represented by Backerstrasse 4 Gallery, Vienna. She is an MA Fine Art Course Leader at Bath School of Art and Design and a Senior Lectures in Fine Art at CASS, London Metropolitan University.

**Selma Parlour**, b.1976, has a PhD in Art from Goldsmiths, University of London (2014). In 2018, Parlour received a 'Mark Rothko Memorial Trust Artist-in-Residence Award' and a month-long residency at the Daugavpils Fortress, Latvia; in 2017, she won 'The Sunny Dupree Family Award for a Woman Artist' at the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, London; and in 2016, she was a prizewinner at the John Moores Painting Prize. Other notable awards are her residency at Dio Horia, Athens and Mykonos (2015), and a runner-up award from the Arts Foundation, London (2014). Activities include solo exhibitions at Pi Artworks, London (curated by Sacha Craddock, 2018), Marcelle Joseph Projects at the House of St Barnabas, London (2016), and MOT International, London (2012). Parlour's work features in Thames and Hudson's book '100 Painters of Tomorrow' (2014), and collections include the Saatchi Gallery, London.

**Yelena Popova** (born in USSR) lives and works in Nottingham, where she has a studio at Primary. She studied at Moscow Art Theatre School (MHAT) before graduating from MA Painting at the Royal College of Art in 2011. Recent solo exhibitions include *Her Name is Prometheus, L'etrangere*, London, (2018), *This Certifies That*, Philipp von Rosen, Cologne (2017), *Elements*, Girton College, University of Cambridge (2017), *After Image*, Nottingham Contemporary (2016) and *Unsensed*, Hatton Gallery, Newcastle (2015). Her work has been acquired into the Government Art Collection, Arts Council Collection, RCA Collection, Saatchi Collection, Zabłudowicz Collection and LWL Museum, Münster.

### **Josh Pye**

(b.1990, London, UK) previously studied at Royal Academy Schools. Josh Pye makes paintings that move between figurative and the abstracted, ornate compositions that negotiate image, paintings histories and paints formal qualities. His recent series of paintings reflect an attitude of painterly freedom and exploration within the confines of a 40 x 50cm canvas. This approach privileges the idiosyncratic, the personal (from mood swings to fleeting fandom), and how this hits against the *autonomy in painting*. Josh directly asks - where the drive to paint is found? He paints disparate images, in various styles, painting for specific reasons, with a particular pace or mindset with experimental results. The paintings here are shaped by endless difference, reflecting a tendency towards impatience and inevitable containment.

**Kes Richardson** B. 1976, Oxford UK, graduated from Bath Spa University College in 1998 and lives and works in London. Solo exhibitions include: *Ridgeway Road*, London (forthcoming), *Fair Game and Garden Paintings*, FOLD Gallery, London. Group exhibitions include: *Recreational Grounds IV*, Thurlow St, London (forthcoming), *Notes on Painting II*, The Koppel Project Hive, London (forthcoming), *Painting & Structure*, Kennington Residency, London and *Garten a.V.*, Frontviews Temporary, Berlin

### **Shaan Syed**

Attraction and repulsion, direction, separation, energy, and entropy are fundamental and recurring components of Shaan Syed's work. In his newest work, Syed has been painting a repeated step motif initially taken from looking at the minaret of the Great Mosque of Samarra in Iraq. Recent solo exhibitions include "I & I" at Kunsthalle Winterthur; "Licking Forward Tangerine" at noshowspace London and "CAPITAL!" at Galerie Michael Janssen, Berlin. Group exhibitions include: "Sam Windett and Shaan Syed" at Patrick De Brock, Knokke; "Manuel Graf and Shaan Syed" at Herrmann Germann Contemporary, Zurich; and John Moores Painting Prize 2016, Liverpool. Syed is a recent alumni of Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha Nebraska. He is currently working towards a solo show at Parisian Laundry, Montreal, in June 2019.