

Press Release: 20 June 2017

2017 Bow Open Show curated by British sculptor Alex Chinneck, with political satire, consumption and the longing for simpler things



2017 Bow Open Show, installation, courtesy Nunnery Gallery, photo Rob Harris

2017 Bow Open Show, curated by Alex Chinneck: 17 June – 27 August 2017

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19 artists have been selected for this year's highly anticipated Bow Open Show, which presents a curated selection of the charity's studio and education artists annually. With over 500 artists across their 13 London studio sites, the exhibition is a celebration of some of the most exciting artists working in London today.

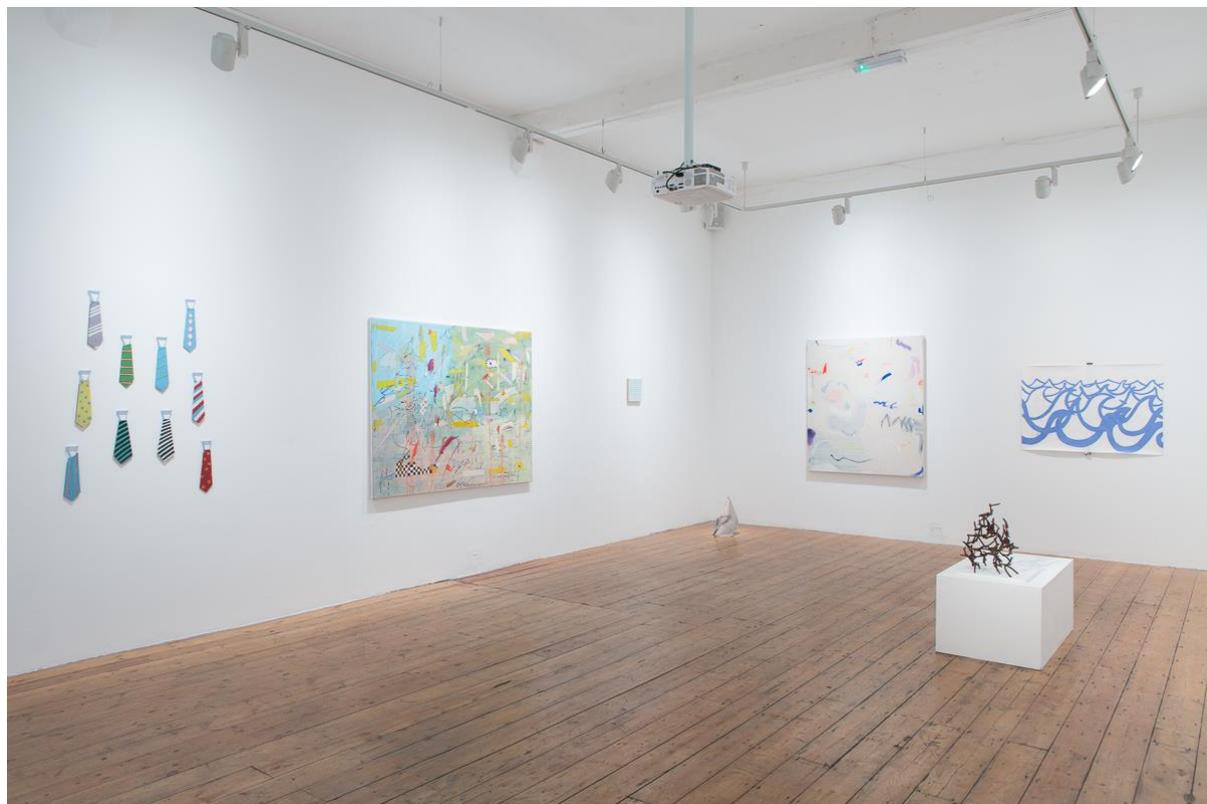
Curator and East End based sculptor Alex Chinneck is known for his attention-grabbing public art – his life-sized upside pylon is landed permanently by Greenwich's O2 – and hopes his selection is a *"conceptually accessible cross-disciplinary body of works that can be enjoyed by any onlooker, irrespective of their interest in the arts"*.

Chinneck's playful selection focuses on shape and includes painting, photography and works on paper, showing the breadth of critically acclaimed artists that work in Bow Arts' studios, with work that encompasses the very current themes of politics, consumption and the longing for simpler things.

Marcus Orlandi's *Cabinet* hangs hardened neck-ties as politicians' portraits would line the walls of the Commons, symbolising the feelings of many towards a faceless government. His *Class Divided* banner will also greet visitors as they enter the exhibition, hanging in the Gallery's alleyway satirically reading *'nobody likes the archers'*. Hyland's photographs explore our artificial and engineered viewpoints on natural beauty, while Jaimini Patel's *Remainder* visualises the language of food, imprinting the shapes of pips and stones – symbols of consumption and renewal – on carbon paper. Sarah Woodburn's

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paintings – artist assistant to Raqib Shaw – are whimsical celebrations of form and shape, while Tarragon Smith's series *Life on the Med* sees lines swell and curve to the sway and lure of the sea.



2017 Bow Open Show, installation, courtesy Nunnery Gallery, photo Rob Harris

The Bow Open previewed – as is tradition – alongside Bow Road's annual Open Studios, one of the most vibrant and well attended arts events in London. With the site's 150 artists opening their doors, the Open Studios attracts around 2,000 visitors across the weekend.

Exhibiting artists: Liam Aitken, Pia Bramley, Jennifer Campbell, Franco Di Cesare, David Edwards, Yasmin Falahat, Stuart Grist, Connie Harrison, Joe Holbrook, Catherine Hyland, Yuichiro Kikuma, Pierrick Mouton, Marcus Orlandi, Alejandro Ospina, Jaimini Patel, Maxima Smith, Tarragon Smith, Jaime Valtierra, Sarah Woodburn.

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#BowOpen

Notes to editors

Exhibition: 2017 Bow Open Show, curated by Alex Chinneck

Open Studios: 16 (6-9pm) & 17 June (1-7pm)

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Dates: 17 June – 27 August 2017

Address: Nunnery Gallery, 181 Bow Road, London E3 2SJ

Opening Hours: Tues to Sun, 10am – 5pm **Admission:** Free

Website: www.bowarts.org/nunnery **Telephone:** +44 (0) 20 8980 7774 **Travel:** Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR

About Alex Chinneck

Uniting the disciplines of art, architecture, theatre and engineering, the work of British sculptor Alex Chinneck is monumental in ambition and impact, producing contextually responsive interventions that amplify and animate the place in which they stand. Chinneck is a graduate of Chelsea College of Art and a Board Member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors. His work has been featured extensively by international media with selected projects welcoming over one million visitors.

Bow Arts

Bow Arts Trust was established as an educational arts charity in 1995 and supports a community of over 500 artists with affordable, secure and creative workspaces. Bow Arts also runs the Nunnery Gallery, a contemporary art space which supports a diverse range of local, national and international exhibitions and events.

www.bowarts.org