

# THE COMMON GUILD

Visual Arts: Projects / Events / Exhibitions



## MEDIA RELEASE / NEW EXHIBITION

### 'Slow Objects'

21 Woodlands Terrace, Glasgow, G3 6DF

14 October – 17 December 2017

Exhibition preview on Saturday 14 October 2017, 3-5pm

Exhibition Open: Wednesday – Sunday 12 noon-5pm and until 7pm on Thursday



Edith Dekyndt, 'Slow Object 02', 1997/2016. Fabric stretched on frame, bread dough.

The Common Guild is delighted to announce details of the next exhibition in this, our tenth anniversary year. 'Slow Objects' is an exhibition that brings together the work of three outstanding artists whose work explores the relationship between material and process, time and transformation. The exhibition includes a selection of new and recent works by Vanessa Billy (CH), Edith Dekyndt (BE) and Erin Shirreff (CA) three artists seldom seen in the UK. Including video, photography, sculpture and installation, 'Slow Objects' examines the way we perceive objects.

Vanessa Billy is known for sculptural works that utilise a wide range of familiar substances including waste materials and

discarded objects that suggest human activity and our relationship with the world around us. Her practice is grounded in the physical qualities of these materials, providing a base from which to explore alchemical processes and cycles of energy and activity.

Edith Dekyndt's practice includes a wide range of materials including salt, sugar, bread, milk, lemons, earth and blood. Familiar materials are used in unfamiliar ways, testing substances through a variety of natural processes – such as fermentation, absorption, desiccation and decay. Traces of these experimental processes are recorded in the work, which ranges from video and sculpture, to performance and installation.

Erin Shirreff's work explores the material and temporal qualities of objects and images. Working with photography, video and sculpture, her work blurs the distinction between object and image to explore the process of recognition. Her works suggest the passing or understanding of time. From night turning to day or the passage of the sun across the surface of the moon, her works enable what she describes as "a drawn out encounter" with the object.

Billy, Dekyndt and Shirreff share an interest in natural processes, labour and the passage of time and in the relationship between materials, image, surface and form. All three practices include references to transformation, alchemy and the pseudo-scientific processes as they examine, explore and test the physical world that contains their work.

'Slow Objects' is part of The Common Guild's tenth anniversary programme and continues the organisation's commitment to showing the best contemporary international visual art in interesting and engaging ways. The Common Guild came into being in 2007 with a live stage show by Martin Creed. The programme for 2017 provides a continuation of the range of activity the organisation for which the organisation has become known, including solo and group exhibitions, off-site and international projects and a wide range of talks and events.

Upcoming projects and exhibitions for the year also includes an ongoing project by Belfast-born Glasgow-based artist and writer Maria Fusco entitled 'Dialecty' which considers the critical uses of vernacular forms of speaking and writing. The project will include occasional events, a series of commissioned publications and a major new performance.

In September (14 September - 26 November) The Common Guild curates a solo exhibition entitled 'We are more-dimensional' by Glasgow-based artist Michael Stumpf at Viborg Kunsthall, invited by Aarhus City of Culture 2017. Stumpf's artistic practice makes use of a wide range of materials and processes to explore sculptural form, its production and the existential experience of objects and his exhibition will include an immersive sculptural installation that embraces both the sculptural field and the moving image.

In October the Hunterian Art Gallery (University of Glasgow) will present an exhibition that reflects on the last 10 years of The Common Guild's programme. Entitled 'A Synchronology', the exhibition will include works by a selection of artists that The Common Guild has worked with and explores shared themes across their work, curated by Dr Dominic Paterson.

## **TALKS & EVENTS**

'Slow Objects' will be accompanied by a programme of talks and events including an Exhibition Talk and a Roundtable Conversation. Full details will be announced in September.

Informal tours of the exhibition will be offered every Sunday at 2pm. No need to book.

The Common Guild offers talks and tours for schools and colleges/educational organisations. Events can be organised to suit your schedule and curriculum. If a group you work with would like to participate, please email: [info@thecommonguild.org.uk](mailto:info@thecommonguild.org.uk)

## **NOTES**

1. Vanessa Billy born 1978, Geneva. Lives and works in Zurich. Recent solo exhibitions include 'Dear Life', Centre Culturelle Suisse, Paris (2017), 'We Dissolve', Kunsthalle St. Gallen, Switzerland (2016), 'Sustain, Sustain', Collective Gallery, Edinburgh (2014) and 'Three times a day', Kunsthhaus Baselland, Muttenz, Switzerland (2011).

Edith Dekyndt born 1960, Ieper, Belgium. Lives and works in Tournai and Berlin. Recent solo exhibitions include 'Air, rain, pain, wind, sweat, tears, fear, yeast, heat, pleasure, salt, dust, dreams, odors, noises, humidity', DAAD Gallery, Berlin, Germany (2016), 'Ombre indigène', Wiels, Brussels (2016) and 'Théoreme des Foudres', Le Consortium, Dijon, France (2015). Dekyndt participated in 'Viva Arte Viva' the 57th International Art Exhibition curated by Christine Macel for La Biennale di Venezia, Italy (2017).

Erin Shirreff born 1975, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada. Lives and works in New York City. Recent solo exhibitions include 'Halves and Wholes', Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, Switzerland (2016), 'Erin Shirreff', Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Mass. (2015) and 'Pictures', Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, B.C. (2013).

2. The Common Guild is a visual arts organisation based in Glasgow. We present a dynamic, international programme of contemporary visual art projects, exhibitions, and events. These include gallery-based exhibitions as well as non-gallery, projects, talks and collaborations, most recently 'At Twilight: A play for two actors, three musicians, one dancer, eight masks (and a donkey costume)' by Simon Starling in collaboration with Graham Eatough (2016), 'The Persistence of Objects' with Lismore Castle Arts (2015), and 'Tomorrow is Always Too Long' a major project with artist Phil Collins in Queen's Park for Festival 2014.

We are committed to presenting artists' work in interesting and engaging ways and aim to offer access to world-class contemporary art experiences and discussions. The Common Guild is a not-for-profit visual arts organisation, receiving funding from Creative Scotland. For more information about The Common Guild please visit: [www.thecommonguild.org.uk](http://www.thecommonguild.org.uk)

3. The gallery has stepped access - please visit our website for more information. Clear print versions of all our printed material are available from the gallery.

The Common Guild is supported by: Creative Scotland & Glasgow City Council

'Slow Objects' is supported by: Pro Helvetia

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For more information and images please contact Kitty Anderson on 0141 428 3022 / [kitty@thecommonguild.org.uk](mailto:kitty@thecommonguild.org.uk)

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