

SHADOWED FORMS

Curated by Kevin Francis Gray

27 April - 16 June 2018

Amaliegade 40, 1256 Copenhagen

Andersen's is delighted to present a group show curated by Irish sculptor Kevin Francis Gray, entitled *Shadowed Forms*, bringing together works from 15 internationally-acclaimed artists. At the heart of the exhibition is the rarely exhibited marble sculpture by British artist **Barbara Hepworth**, entitled *Sheltered Form* (1972).

This exhibition marks a significant cultural occasion in Denmark, where Hepworth's works have not travelled since her first and only presentation in 1964.

Over five decades later, Andersen's will present Hepworth's work in the context of an artistic collaboration with Kevin Francis Gray who, with a group of invited artists, collectively pay homage to *Sheltered Form*.

The artists in the exhibition are: Keith Coventry (UK), Laura Gannon (IR), Kevin Francis Gray (IR), Barbara Hepworth (UK) Chantal Joffe (UK), Samson Kambalu (MW), Josephine Meckseper (DE), David Noonan (AU), HelenA Pritchard (SA), Charlotte Cullinan & Jeanine Richards (UK), Eva Rothschild (IR), Caragh Thuring (BE) and Sophie von Hellermann (DE).

Sheltered Form references Hepworth's retrospective exploration of forms and materials employed throughout her career. In her later works, the conjunction of contrasting forms became a central element to further explore their interaction. Despite their structural diversity, the juxtaposition of different forms, such as a white marble sculpture set within an enfolding black wooden slate, finds a harmonious balance in the *tender relationship of one living thing beside another*.

Gray centers the exhibition around this unique piece, inviting his fellow artists to engage with Hepworth's artistic legacy and her expression of *the figure*. Collectively, the artists are a varied international group of peers, who, while all based in London, individually hail from Australia, Belgium, England, Germany, Ireland, Malawi and South Africa, working in mediums ranging from marble and bronze to wood, steel, objet trouvé, linen, and canvas.

Stretching between their different practices, origins and perspectives, each of the artists thoughtfully presents a selection of works which contribute to an interactive and diversified conversation on the relevance of *the figure* for today's viewer, while paying homage the Hepworth piece.



Barbara Hepworth, *Sheltered Form* (1972)

Kevin Francis Gray on the exhibition: *"Working on this show offered me a unique opportunity to bring together a group of my peers and reflect on the artists that have inspired me and continue to do so today. This intuitively happens to be a predominantly female grouping and brings together strong, vocal and dynamic artists who have pushed and inspired my own practice. At the core of that group is of course Barbara Hepworth, whose work has inspired me since high school. I wanted this show to feel like an exhibition created out of inspiration and respect for both the past and the future"*.

The participating artists began their careers at similar times, and have been peripherally involved in one another's lives and practices for the past decade. Despite their professional and personal ties, this group of artists have never been exhibited comprehensively together before.

Andersen's invites them to finally come together and rest on common ground, in a new city. This reunion in Copenhagen, a new destination for all involved, is an opportunity to regroup and reflect at their mid-career point.

Andersen's

About Kevin Francis Gray

(b. 1972, Armagh, Northern Ireland) Irish sculptor Kevin Francis Gray has developed a career working between London and Italy, focusing his most recent practice on pushing the boundaries of marble-sculpting. His early works, ranging from resin to bronze and then marble, garnered positive press and attention from a growing group of loyal collectors.

His latest body of work furthers his exploration of contemporising marble, while drawing inspiration from some of the greats: Michelangelo's prisoners, de Kooning's clam diggers, Moore's reclining figures and Matisse's nude. While the dedication to the stone and pushing forward the boundaries of what it can do are palpable (Gray works the marble in such a way that it appears as malleable as clay), his work exudes a beautiful tension in what it expresses: stories of people informed by Gray's personal history, growing up in South Armagh, which innately informs the emotional content of his sculptures.

He received his BA from the National College of Art & Design in Dublin (1995) and the School of Art Institute in Chicago (1996) before going on to earn his MA in Fine Art from Goldsmiths College in London. He works closely with the Giannoni marble studio in Pietrasanta, renown for its use of sculpting techniques dating back to Canova and Michelangelo.

About Andersen's

Andersen's originally began as a project space, Andersen's Wohnung, on Linienstrasse in Berlin. From 1996 to 1999 Andersen's Wohnung operated as an alternative art space run by Danish artist Claus Andersen and German artists Thilo Heinzmann and Anselm Reyle.

The gallery opened in Copenhagen in 2005 with its focus based on Claus Andersen's German connections and started out with artists he was working with in Berlin, among these being Henrik Olesen, Anselm Reyle, Olafur Eliasson and Tomás Saraceno.

Today the gallery represents a variety of emerging and established artists from all over the world. A key feature of the gallery's programme is a focus on conceptually rigorous artistic practices that take part in the vital dialogue transpiring between art and the broader socio-cultural currents in contemporary society.

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Andersen's Amaliegade

Amaliegade 40, 1256
Copenhagen

Gallery hours:

Wednesday - Friday
12:00 - 17:00

Saturday
11:00 - 15:00

and by appointment

Andersen's Bredgade

Bredgade 28, 1260
Copenhagen

Gallery hours:

Tuesday - Friday
12:00 - 17:00

Saturday
11:00 - 15:00

and by appointment

With many thanks to:

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