

Press Release

Still Another Place

www.stillanotherplace.co.uk

Private view 1st May 2008 6-9pm

Open daily 11am-7pm from 2nd-29th May 2008. Admission free.

The Crypt, St Pancras Parish Church, Euston Road, London NW1 2BA

Still Another Place brings together work by five London artists based at Great Western Studios. The artists — Simon Dawe, Julie Goldsmith, Rachel Schwalm, Paul Vanstone and Felicity Warbrick — display a rich variety of pieces including paintings, stone and bronze sculpture, soap and clay carving, and objects rendered in a mixture of materials. Through different approaches they each share an interest in exploring their sense of place while examining and celebrating the possibility of different experiences and realities. The Crypt is a perfect setting for this collection, providing a series of intimate spaces for the contemplation and enjoyment of the works.

Simon Dawe's paintings of his native West Dorset capture the fragile existence of the remaining areas of unspoilt English countryside. This collection of Romantic landscapes resonates with the beauty, darkness and increasing sense of loss that Simon associates with rural England. He deals with his displacement from a countryside childhood, and the importance of England's quiet spots — wherever they are — and how they help us forge our sense of self.

Julie Goldsmith carves in clay, casting one-off bronzes and obsessively acquiring tiny collectables to adorn her creations. Her work explores our reaction to the otherworldly and the frightening and draws on her interest in the fetishes of the native American Pueblo Zuni people. When placed under the lights, large, alien shadows are cast against walls evoking responses that echo the fears and uncertainty of childhood, while playing out Goldsmith's fascination with touching on parallel realities.

Rachel Schwalm's stone panels are a meeting of both sculpture and painting — their proportions often relating to the Fibonacci series. Each interior panel set within the limestone is a build-up of many layers of pigment. After each application excess pigment is removed before the next layer is added, resulting in a pooled lit surface. In this densely pigmented area a glazed portal glints with dustings of mica. These windows are a glimpse into undisclosed depths, inviting the viewer

to consider reality beyond material experience — and into another place.

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Paul Vanstone carves sculpture from stone, the nature of the material dictating how each piece evolves. His classical approach does not conform to the Western tradition — being largely informed by an Asian rather than Italian aesthetic, with the exaggerated nature of many of the torsos owing much to ancient Indian sculpture.

Felicity Warbrick exhibits two different motifs — small soap carvings of wooden hand-built barns and farm buildings, and paintings of the royal apartments in the Palace at Fontainebleau. Both are executed with the same careful observance of structure and space, and ultimately seek to celebrate the simple utility of rural architecture, thrown into stark relief by the palatial interiors which are, in turn, a triumph of fairy-tale excess over function. In exploring these motifs, Warbrick touches on the role power plays in defining how we experience any type of place.

NOTES FOR EDITORS — Biographies

Simon Dawe studied fine art at Kingston Polytechnic. He has worked closely with sculptor Emily Young for the last 10 years and maintains his own studio practice. He curates exhibitions for other artists and his most recent solo exhibition was at The Waterpoint, St Pancras. www.simondawe.com

Julie Goldsmith studied at the Camberwell Art School. Her solo shows have included Gas Lane, at The Waterpoint, St Pancras; and Fairy Tales, at the Ice House Gallery, Holland Park. In 2006 she completed a commission for the Royal Caribbean Cruises ship *Freedom 11*. www.juliegoldsmith.co.uk

Rachel Schwalm studied Fine Art/Sculpture at East London University and is shown by Beaux Arts, 22 Cork Street, London (www.beauxartslondon.co.uk). E-mail: rachelschwalm@aol.com

Paul Vanstone trained at the Central School and St Martins School of Art in London and then the Royal College of Art. He has appeared in many exhibitions including five solo shows. For five years Paul assisted sculptor Anish Kapoor. www.paulvanstone.co.uk

Felicity Warbrick studied at Chelsea School of Art and regularly exhibits her work around the UK as well as being represented by Waterhouse and Dodd Gallery at the London Art Fair, and their 2007 summer group show. E-mail: felicity.warbrick@virgin.net – www.felicitywarbrick.co.uk

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