

# >DEPART

For Immediate Release

DEPART Foundation Announces Two New Exhibitions

## ***LIGHT IN THE AGE OF DARKNESS***

A Group Exhibition Featuring Works from The Past Decade by  
17 International Contemporary Artists

Darren Bader, Elisabetta Benassi, Mike Bouchet, Sarah Braman, Roe Ethridge, Sam Falls, Piero Golia, Christian Holstad, Gabriel Kuri, Oliver Payne, Amalia Pica, Stephen G. Rhodes, Amanda Ross-Ho, Sterling Ruby, Slavs and Tatars, Frances Stark and Rirkrit Tiravanija

and

## ***MARIE, IS THAT YOU?***

A Solo Exhibition by Keegan Gibbs

Both exhibitions will be on view  
November 17-December 27, 2018

### **PUBLIC OPENING**

**Saturday, November 17, 2018 6-9pm**

DEPART FOUNDATION at MALIBU VILLAGE  
3822 Cross Creek Rd, Suite 3844, Malibu, CA 90265



L to R: Slavs and Tatars, *Mother Tongues and Father Throats*, 2012. Wool and yarn, Ed. 2/2, 118" x196.31". Amalia Pica, *Under The Spotlight (white on white)*, 2011. Installation with spotlight, motion sensor and pap, variable dimensions. Courtesy DEPART Foundation.

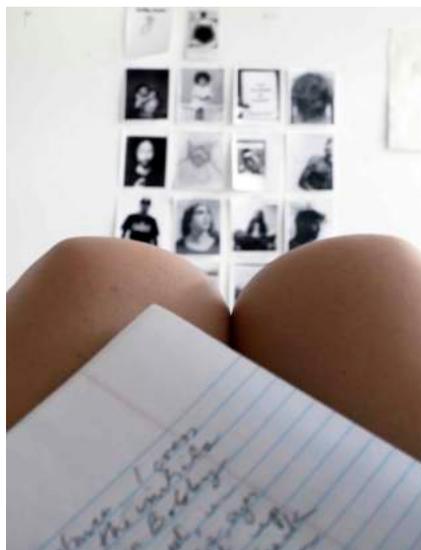
Malibu, Calif. – DEPART Foundation is pleased to announce two concurrent exhibitions opening on Saturday, November 17 at its Malibu location. On view in the main gallery will be *Light In The Age of Darkness*, a group exhibition featuring works made in the past decade by 17 international, critically acclaimed artists. On view in the Project Room will be *Marie, Is That You?*, a solo exhibition by Los Angeles-based artist, surfer, and photographer Keegan Gibbs.

As DEPART Foundation looks forward to commemorating the 10th anniversary of its founding in Rome in 2009, *Light in the Age of Darkness* explores the broader themes of identity, language, and communication emerging in a moment of shifting socio-political and cultural landscapes. The works produced in the infancy of this millennium that set out with culturally heterogeneous ambitions, are now heightened under the threat of cultural contraction, and remind us of the implicitly global injunction of the Artist to interrogate culture across borders.

The selection by international artists from Argentina, Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, Italy, Mexico, the UK and the U.S. includes significant paintings, photography, works on paper, sculpture, installation and video by Darren Bader, Elisabetta Benassi, Mike Bouchet, Sarah Braman, Roe Ethridge, Sam Falls, Piero Golia, Christian Holstad, Gabriel Kuri, Oliver Payne, Amalia Pica, Stephen G. Rhodes, Amanda Ross-Ho, Sterling Ruby, Slavs and Tatars, Frances Stark, and Rirkrit Tiravanija.

Produced between 2007 and 2014, the works in *Light in The Age of Darkness* bookend the most significant modern, economic collapse to date since the Great Depression in America, followed by the end of the Bush administration and the more hopeful beginnings of Obama's 'change' era. Viewed in hindsight, the works in this show could be said to have foreseen the current socio-political climate. In their shared anti-populist emphasis on expansive rather than isolationist ideas, they manifest a desire to explore cultural connectivity and confluence in place of divisive demarcation.

Many of these artists came of age in the 90s, an era defined by the early onset of globalism, multiculturalism, and increased informational access. Relational and intertextual frameworks came to the fore in art production, encouraging a kind of optimistic cultural relativism and a rigorous conceptual turn in spite of its often dystopian expression. The works in *Light in The Age of Darkness* focus on the productive elisions and excesses of language and communication, as well as on shifting conceptions of personal, civic, and global identity in an increasingly disembodied, digital age. These works propose ambivalent metaphors rather than prescriptive maxims as ways to navigate our increasingly complex cultural moment.



Frances Stark, *Addressing Bobby Jesus on My Knees*, 2013. Matte laminated inkjet print mounted on aluminum, 47.5" x 35.375" x 1.25", courtesy DEPART Foundation.

Among the notable works in the exhibition is a motion sensor spotlight installation by London-based, Argentinian artist Amalia Pica, who explores intersectionality, contact, and communication through sculpture, performance, projection, drawing, and photography; her works are included in several notable collections worldwide including Tate Modern, London and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York. Also featured is Los Angeles-based Frances Stark, known for her interdisciplinary and often autobiographical and diaristic works exploring identity through text, photography, graphics, and typography in a variety of static and time-based media. Stark explores language as both a plastic and semantic building block, allowing it to function visually as an aesthetic element. Her experimental interpretation of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, which premiered at the 54th Venice Biennale, has garnered international acclaim and was premiered at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). Stark was also the subject of a major retrospective at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles (Oct 11, 2015–Jan 24, 2016).

Also featured are works by Slavs and Tatars, an international artist collective dedicated to an area “east of the former Berlin Wall and west of the Great Wall of China” with an emphasis on the performance and transliteration of language. The collective has shown internationally at institutions including Tate Modern, London Centre Pompidou, Paris, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, Secession, Vienna, and Kunsthalle Zurich.

Other artists include Los Angeles-based Sam Falls, who uses artistic processes, combining photography and paint based techniques, to explore natural phenomena; his works are included in the Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, Centre Pompidou, Paris, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles (MOCA), among others.

Also featured is an image of Sterling Ruby's *Supermax Wall*, recently published in Phaidon's Contemporary Artist Series book dedicated to the artist. Meant to stage the spatial and sensory divide enforced between the 'in' and 'out' of inmates and visitors in prison, the *Supermax Wall* is part of a trilogy exploring the state of the American maximum security penitentiary system.



Keegan Gibbs video still of *Marie, Is That You?*, 2018, courtesy DEPART Foundation.

Concurrently on view in the project room is *Marie, Is That You?* by Keegan Gibbs. Known for his photography, Gibbs has focused his show on the moments that define virtually every surfer's lifestyle: the longing for the perfect weather patterns to produce the ideal surf conditions. The exhibition, which includes paintings, photographs, videos, and room-sized installations, exemplifies Keegan's ability to interact seamlessly with multiple disciplines and mediums in an abstract narrative about the emotions that engulf a surfer.

A California native, Gibbs' work embodies the cultural diversity that makes Los Angeles the melting pot that it is. Striving for constant stimulation and education, his disciplines evolve and challenge the confines of the others in order to influence and generate new unique approaches. Filmmaking, sculpture, surfing, photography, entrepreneurship, design, painting and even surfboard shaping, things that typically are not associated with each other, find a fluid way to coexist in his practice. Gibbs was recently selected to commission the centerpiece for the Palms Casino Resort's contemporary art collection, alongside artists Damien Hirst, Takashi Murakami, Adam Parker Smith, Christopher Wool and Dustin Yellin. Gibbs has shown in several national and international solo and group shows.

The exhibition will also debut a new line of artist-designed t-shirts and surfboards designed by Gibbs.

#### **DEPART Foundation**

DEPART Foundation provides an alternative platform for creative experimentation and exploration, set within a global context, that thrives outside of conventional, cultural structures. The impact of its work can best be understood as the charting of new artistic destinations with every project and program it undertakes.

As the Foundation looks forward to its tenth-anniversary celebration with an upcoming 2019 exhibition at the MAXXI museum in Rome, DEPART Foundation continues to serve as a catalyst for the Italian art and cultural community, strengthening the dialogue between Italy and the international art world.

DEPART Foundation has actively encouraged artistic production through sponsorship of young and established artists and the provision of space and resources conducive to research, production and exhibition of new work, and to the presentation of educational and public programs.

Since 2014, DEPART Foundation Los Angeles has presented solo exhibitions for Gabriele de Santis, Kour Pour, Grear Patterson, Petra Cortright, Mark Horowitz, Giorgio Andreotta Calo, Cameron Platter, Edward S. Curtis, Ulay, Michael Pybus, Chase Hall and Joey Wolf, and the group exhibition *Sea Sick in Paradise* curated by Amy Yao and *Right At The Equator*, an exhibition of contemporary African artists co-curated by Valerie Kabov and art historian Sylvester Ogbechie.

**DEPART Foundation Malibu Village is supported by Jamestown L.P. and Malibu Village.**

#### **Jamestown, L.P.**

Jamestown, L.P. was established in 1983 as an investment and management company focused on income-producing real estate in the United States. Over the last 35 years, Jamestown has expanded into a national, vertically integrated real estate operator with over \$10.3 billion of assets under management as of June 30, 2018. Jamestown's capabilities include: acquisitions, capital markets, property management, asset management, retail leasing, design, sustainability and risk management. Jamestown companies have headquarters in Atlanta, GA and Cologne, Germany, and offices in New York, NY, Boston, MA, Washington, DC, San Francisco, CA and Bogota, Colombia. For more information, visit [www.jamestownlp.com](http://www.jamestownlp.com).

Arts Curator Yasmine Zodeh has partnered with fashion designer Heidi Merrick on a 3-month fashion and art pop up at the Jamestown property Malibu Village. Zodeh will curate a 3-part series of art activations and exhibitions from November 2018 through January 2019. This series will debut with a book signing and art presentation by photographer Mona Kuhn, opening on November 17 from 4 to 7pm. On December 9, Zodeh will open a group exhibition exploring the harmony and tension between nature and humans, showcasing work by LA artists Tofer Chin, Zoe Crosher, Josephine Wister Faure and Samantha Thomas. In early 2019, Zodeh will unveil a new series by famed photographer Dewey Nicks from his recent collaboration with Heidi Merrick.

Yasmine Zodeh is a renowned arts curator and editor whose projects include partnerships and collaborations with Christie's, Vanity Fair and artists Zoe Crosher, Shepard Fairey, Mark Mothersbaugh and Ry Rocklen. Yasmine was previous Los Angeles Arts Editor for Artinfo and a contributing writer at The Art Newspaper, Artnet and BlackBook Magazine. For more information please visit [yzco.art](http://yzco.art).

### **Malibu Village**

Malibu Village is a thriving shopping center located in the Civic Center of Malibu, California. Malibu Village features local boutiques, retail, and restaurants. Malibu is a thriving, affluent community with a year-round influx of visitors. People come for the glamour, the beach, the mountains, and the outstanding lifestyle amenities available in the Civic Center, the heart of Malibu's commercial district. Malibu Village offers these amenities in a stunning creek-side setting.

### **MEDIA RELATIONS**

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### **LOCATION AND HOURS**

DEPART Foundation Malibu Village, 3844 Cross Creek Road, Malibu, CA 90265  
Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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