

ArtSway

Contemporary Visual Art in the New Forest

Press Release - April 2007

New Forest Pavilion

52nd International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia
Palazzo Zenobio Fondamenta del Soccorso Dorsoduro 2596 Venice Italy

Open: 10 June - 1 July 2007 Opening times: Tuesday - Sunday 10.00 - 18.00
Vernissage (Press & Preview Days): 7 - 9 June 2007 10.00 - 18.00
Press & Arts Professionals Reception: Thursday June 7 2007 15.00 - 16.00

ArtSway is delighted to announce that, following its success in 2005, the New Forest Pavilion will be returning to Venice at the 52nd International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia, as an official collateral event. New Forest Pavilion brings together six international artists whose work explores, in a variety of methodologies and approaches, the experience of transformation, modification and change.

New Forest Pavilion introduces these six artists' work to art professionals and a global audience, demonstrating how a rural gallery in the South of England contributes to artists' development. The artists exhibiting at New Forest Pavilion are Simon Faithfull, Beate Gütschow, Anne Hardy, Igloo (Ruth Gibson and Bruno Martelli) and Melanie Manchot - who have all previously undertaken residencies at ArtSway - and Stanza, selected by SCAN (Southern Collaborative Arts Network) which is hosted at ArtSway.

Simon Faithfull exploits journeys that veer between the radical and the mundane, demonstrating a movement from the commonplace into the extraordinary or other-worldly. Faithfull takes a sometimes astonishing approach to invention and creation and was the first visual artist to undertake an ACE International Fellowship with the British Antarctic Survey, sending daily drawings back to the UK using a Palm Pilot. **Beate Gütschow's** work explores how the exterior landscape becomes a focus for utopian or dystopic ideas. Gütschow creates virtual landscapes, that refer to artistic conventions of the past using photo and video montage, and has recently exhibited as part of the European Month of Photography. She was awarded the Ars Viva Prize in 2006. **Anne Hardy's** large scale photo works present spaces constructed within her studio. These fictional renderings of the underside of our world explore the contemporary human psyche, the structures and systems we set up in order to understand our world, and their inherent fragility. Hardy recently exhibited at Maureen Paley and was the first recipient of the Laing Solo award, Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle, UK, in 2004.

Igloo make intermedia artworks, exploring the poetics of time, space & natural phenomena, questioning the reality of nature and how it can be influenced by individual experience & collective mythology. Employing many of the tools of the Military Entertainment Complex, they investigate the role of the 'real' in virtual environments. Igloo are Ruth Gibson & Bruno Martelli who have earned a string of accolades including a NESTA award, a Royal Opera House Commission and a BAFTA nomination.

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ArtSway's New Forest Pavilion is funded by Arts Council England; delivered in partnership with the Arts Institute at Bournemouth (with additional funding from the Arts & Humanities Research Council) and SCAN; with additional support from Hampshire County Council and sponsored by Hallett Independent.

 the **arts institute** at bournemouth



Melanie Manchot's work across film, photography and video tugs at the threads that hold identities together and by which we differentiate ourselves from others, filming the transformations of subjects as they reveal and become strange to themselves. Manchot attempts to locate her investigations within an area of constructed activity, or the staged documentary, which can occur at the threshold between real life and fabricated situations. She exhibited at The Photographers' Gallery, London in 2005, and is currently exhibiting widely in Europe and the US. **Stanza** is a London based British artist who specialises in net art, networked spaces, installations and performances. His works explore artistic and technical opportunities to enable new aesthetic perspectives, experiences and perceptions within the context of architecture, data spaces and online environments. Stanza is the recipient of an Arts and Humanities Research Council Creative Fellowship 2006-09 for the project *The Emergent City*.

ArtSway is the centre for contemporary art in the New Forest, the National Park in the South of England originally created as a hunting area by William the Conqueror in 1079. ArtSway's rural location makes it a unique place to engage with contemporary art, and the Residency Programme, which has been in place since 2001, has offered artists unfettered time for research and creativity in a stimulating critical environment. New Forest Pavilion aims to explore, promote and exchange ArtSway's approach as a public organisation engaged in providing legacy support and new opportunities for artists it has previously worked with.

For the 52nd International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia, the Palazzo Zenobio is also hosting the Scottish Pavilion, The Istituto Italo-Latino Americano Pavilion, one of the Australian Pavilion projects and the Armenian Pavilion. Mark Segal, ArtSway Director, comments: "ArtSway is very excited to be showing such high calibre artists at the 52nd International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia. To be able to profile our work and that of these artists before such a wide audience is a real privilege, and I would like to thank our collaborators, funders and sponsors for their insight in supporting the project."

A full colour catalogue will accompany the exhibition with the following contributions: Martin Coomer on Simon Faithfull, Anna-Catharina Gebbers on Beate Gütschow, John Slyce on Anne Hardy, David Thorp on Melanie Manchot, Colm Lally and Cecilia Wee on igloo, and Charlotte Frost on Stanza.

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**New Forest Pavilion Associated Events:
Arts Institute at Bournemouth: text+work seminars:**

The role and importance of text in contemporary art
Tuesday 12 June 2007 & Tuesday 26 June 2007 at 19.00
New Forest Pavilion, Palazzo Zenobio

**For more information, images and interviews, please contact:
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- NOTES FOR EDITORS -

Vernissage (Press Days): 7, 8, 9 June 2007
Press accreditation is only available from the Press Office of the 52nd International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia. Procedures for press accreditation are available online at: www.labiennale.org

New Forest Pavilion is funded by **Arts Council England, Arts and Humanities Research Council and Hampshire County Council**.

New Forest Pavilion is presented in partnership with the **Arts Institute at Bournemouth** and **SCAN** (Southern Collaborative Arts Network).

New Forest Pavilion is sponsored by **Hallett Independent**: Specialist Art Insurance. With a passion for and an in-depth knowledge of the arts, Hallett Independent can arrange cover for all areas of the International art world, along with a wealth of advice for all your insurance needs. Private & Corporate Collections, Travelling Exhibitions, Galleries & Dealers, Artists. www.hallettindependent.com

ArtSway is a unique place to see, discuss, make and engage with internationally significant contemporary visual art. A purpose built and architecturally important gallery space hosts a changing programme of exhibitions and wide ranging creative opportunities for audiences.

The **Arts Institute at Bournemouth** is a leading specialist higher educational institution, offering undergraduate and postgraduate degrees across a range of contemporary arts, design and media subjects. Its programme of **text + work** promotes dialogue between innovative contemporary art and design practice and its theoretical context. Two seminars will be held at the New Forest Pavilion.
www.aib.ac.uk

SCAN is the new media arts agency in the South of England with a commitment to the delivery and facilitation of collaborative projects and initiatives using emergent technologies and practices. Working on a membership and partnership basis, SCAN brings individuals and organisations together to share resources in the realisation of high quality projects and experimental initiatives. www.scansite.org

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funds postgraduate training and research in the arts and humanities, from archeology and English literature to design and dance. The quality and range of research supported not only provides social and cultural benefits but also contributes to the economic success of the UK. For further information on the AHRC please visit our website: www.ahrc.ac.uk

Simon Faithfull: www.simonfaithfull.org
Anne Hardy: www.maureenpaley.co.uk
Igloo: www.igloo.org.uk
Beate Gütschow: www.barbaragross.de
Melanie Manchot: www.fred-london.com
Stanza: www.stanza.co.uk

