## JAMES FREEMAN GALLERY

## **Echoes of Rococo**

## Alexia Sinclair & Sue Williams A'Court

6 - 29 July 2017

## Catalogue of Works

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Please note that the prices for Alexia Sinclair's works rise according to the edition number

In the eighteenth century the term 'rococo' was initially intended as a slur, a flippant reference to fancy curves and fantasy sea-shells. But for a style discounted as superficial from the start, the rococo has had a remarkably enduring influence. In our next exhibition, we look at how rococo's pursuit of elegance and playfulness has provided a rich source of inspiration for contemporary artistic practice. The exhibition brings together the work of two artists: Alexia Sinclair and Sue Williams A'Court.

Alexia Sinclair combines rococo flamboyance with contemporary fashion photography, creating theatrical re-imaginings of the eighteenth century French & English courts that are threaded with influences from historical painting. At every step, there is an exquisite attention to detail: her costumes are handmade from embroidered silks and muslins, her flowers grown specifically for the purpose, ensuring a textural richness and visual exuberance at every level in her scenes. This is contemporary rococo as a dramatic act, a lucid indulgence in luxuriousness and invention. Alexia's work has been commissioned by numerous organisations including UNICEF, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Queensland Ballet and New Zealand Opera, and has been exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery in London, the Australian Centre for Photography, the Art Gallery of New South Wales, and the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra.

Sue Williams A'Court's paintings draw deeply on British rococo and landscape painters such as Thomas Gainsborough. In Sue's work, however, she takes the idealised landscape and delves further into its intangible nature, focusing on its essence as a conceptual and emotional space rather than a representation of a physical location. Arcadian scenes appear as if glimpsed through tantric geometric windows, aged with a patina that invites the viewer to add their own narrative to the scene. These paintings are quiet, contemplative, as much about the act of wanting to see as what is being seen, simultaneously a representation of an ideal and an articulation of its unattainable nature. Sue Williams A'Court recently exhibited at the Keepers House at the Royal Academy. Other notable exhibitions include the Jerwood Drawing Prize, the John Moores Painting Prize, The Threadneedle Prize, and the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition.



'The Broken Compass' – Alexia Sinclair Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP 105cm W  $\times$  107.5cm H (109cm W  $\times$  111.5cm H framed)

Edition 1 of 8: £4950 inc VAT framed Edition 2 of 8: £4950 inc VAT unframed



'The Perfumed Garden' – Alexia Sinclair Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP 105cm W  $\times$  107.5cm H (109cm W  $\times$  111.5cm H framed)

Edition 4 of 8: £6450 inc VAT framed

Edition 5 of 8: £6450 inc VAT unframed



'The Garden of Venus' - Alexia Sinclair Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP 105cm W  $\times$  107.5cm H (109cm W  $\times$  111.5cm H framed)

Edition 1 of 8: £4950 inc VAT framed Edition 2 of 8: £4950 inc VAT unframed



'Bed of Roses' – Alexia Sinclair

Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP

105cm W × 107.5cm H (109cm W × 111.5cm H framed)

Edition 2 of 8: £3950 inc VAT framed

Edition 3 of 8: £3950 inc VAT unframed



'Porcelain Petals' – Alexia Sinclair
Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP

105cm W  $\times$  107.5cm H (109cm W  $\times$  111.5cm H framed)

Edition 2 of 8: £5450 inc VAT framed

Edition 3 of 8: £5450 inc VAT unframed



'Bird in the Hand' – Alexia Sinclair

Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP

105cm W × 107.5cm H (109cm W × 111.5cm H framed)

Edition 1 of 8: £4950 inc VAT framed

Edition 2 of 8: £4950 inc VAT unframed



'Heralds of Spring' – Alexia Sinclair
Archival pigment print, edition of 9 + 1AP

105cm W x 107.5cm H (109cm W x 111.5cm H framed)

Edition 2 of 8: £3950 inc VAT framed

Edition 3 of 8: £3950 inc VAT unframed



'Desire & Longing 21'
Sue Williams A'Court
Graphite & mixed media on
canvas, 2017
120cm W x 90cm H
£6200



'Liminal Space Form 3' – Sue Williams A'Court Graphite & mixed media on board with gold leaf, 2014  $23 \text{cm W} \times 26 \text{cm H}$  £1600



'Desire & Longing 22' – Sue Williams A'Court Graphite & mixed media on linen, 2017  $120 \text{cm W} \times 120 \text{cm H}$  £7500



'Liminal Space Form 4' – Sue Williams A'Court Graphite & mixed media on board with gold leaf, 2014  $18.3 \text{cm W} \times 31 \text{cm H}$  £1600



'Desire & Longing 17' — Sue Williams A'Court Graphite & mixed media on canvas, 2016  $101 \text{cm W} \times 137 \text{cm H}$  £6200



'Anonymous 24' – Sue Williams A'Court Graphite & mixed media on book cover, 2017 22cm W  $\times$  31cm H (31cm W  $\times$  40cm H framed) £1200



'Desire & Longing 11' – Sue Williams A'Court Graphite & mixed media on canvas, 2015  $180 \text{cm W} \times 200 \text{cm H}$  £12,500