



## melt

PETER BÜTTGENS SEBASTIAN DI MAURO  
ANGELA GILL SIMON McBRIDE SIMON MORLEY  
CLAIRE TODD GEOFF UGLOW

A Performance by **CLAIRE TODD** on the main entrance steps of the British School at Rome  
Tuesday 16 March 2004 at 18.00

### Inauguration

Tuesday 16 March 2004 at 18.30-21.00

17-27 March 2004, Monday-Saturday, 16.30-19.00 and by appointment

THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME

via Gramsci, 61 00197 Roma tel. 06 3264939 <www.bsr.ac.uk>

For further information, please contact:

Jacopo Benci, Assistant Director Fine Arts <j.benci@bsrome.it>

Sarah Ciacci, Ludovica Introini, Assistants tel. 0039 06 32649386

'Melt' is the title chosen by the resident artists and architects at the British School at Rome for the next exhibition of the Fine Arts Programme, co-ordinated by Jacopo Benci.

The show will open on Tuesday, 16th March at 18.00 with a performance piece by Claire Todd on the steps of the British School entrance and will continue in the exhibition spaces of the British School from 18.30 to 21.30.

The exhibition will be open from the 17th to the 27th March (excluding Sunday) from 16.30 to 19.00 and by appointment.

**THE WORKS**: Sebastian di Mauro: an installation of different media; stone, olive oil, digital prints, ash, painting. Angela Gill: a large charcoal drawing. Simon McBride: two video pieces. Simon Morley: series of 'rubblings' on paper, a video. Claire Todd: drawings and objects. Geoff Uglow: new paintings and two videos. Peter Büttgens: a new work based on his observations of Rome's urban environment.

### PETER BÜTTGENS

"The Basilica Santi Quattro Coronati on the Caelian Hill rises almost unnoticed out of the surrounding context. A squat tower and the large rectangular Oratorio di San Silvestro hint at its existence. Sometimes the basilica crowns the ridge, at others, it confronts and dissolves into the fabric of the city. The early Christian church is characteristically Roman; in its form as well as in its story of growth and change over time. The unfolding series of courtyards, cloisters, and convent buildings compress light and shadows. It is this 'darkening and lighting' of space and surface that make the Basilica readable in the city; at the same time, allows it to dissolve into the city of Rome." [PB]

### SEBASTIEN DI MAURO

"A child is born to parents from another country who grows up in a new country. The parents influence the child with their memories of the culture and place they have left behind. A place that is foreign yet familiar, near yet distant. A life which is lived through their eyes and experience, but essentially forging a new life in a new culture – still grasping the one their parents left behind. What happens when the child becomes an adult and reconnects with his or his parents culture? Something reassuring yet somehow unfamiliar." [SDM]

### ANGELA GILL

"My current work has association with the weight of the past, the physical wreckage of time, impermanence, nostalgia, introspection, commemoration, loss, inner mobility, odd visions. Points of interest for reference include broken relics, fragments, and the atrophy of statuary in varying states of deterioration. Beauty is there, but hopefully interrupted or contrasted by some kind of twist, distortion or flaw. At best, the works evoke to some degree a confrontation with the inexplicable, alluding to something which cannot be easily demonstrated and offering mystery in the final work." [AG]

### SIMON McBRIDE

"I work with a variety of mediums ranging from painting, photography and animation to installation and sculpture. Formal elements often precede and inform the content matter in my work. In this sense, process, method, choice of medium, choice

of material, and questions of basic mark making have usually been quite important. Content matter is usually quite minimal, and also self-reflexive, referring back to the formal elements. But at the same time may also play on simplistic preconceptions in relation to the medium, or even relate to elements of my personal life. It usually tries to work on more than one level, not making things too easy for the viewer. Thus the content of my work often contains plurality of meaning, red herrings, dead ends and booby traps." [SMcB]

### SIMON MORLEY

"The principal work made during my residency is a collection of 100 rubbings of miscellaneous texts found throughout the city. I make no distinctions of rank and have rubbed everything from manhole covers to Imperial Roman tomb epigrams. I have also made a video of as many classic Vespa scooters as I have been able to find during my walks, each filmed for 4 seconds and with their ambient sound." [SM]

### CLAIRE TODD

"Our life is with our neighbour." – Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

"The treasure is everywhere, it is offered to us at all times and wherever we may be. All creatures pour it out with prodigality, and it flows like a fountain through every faculty of body and soul, even to the very centre of our hearts. If we open our mouths they will be filled." – Jean-Pierre de Caussade

### GEOFF UGLOW

"It's not the imitation of nature but reconfiguration into an enduring image" – Henri Matisse

"Obviously painting is not reality. With film and photography however the representation of a real event can seem more real. 'Shoot' was shot on boxing day 2003. With this short film I wanted to document a traditional British pastime. I wanted the film to explore the heroic, beauty, fear and poetics of shooting be it a film or shooting a gun. 'Hello to love' encapsulates a short period of time replaying or twisting the moment. I am interested in this within painting. Watching again one brushstroke pulled through another. I also want a lightness in a subject with massive weight." [GU]

### BIOGRAPHIES

**Peter Büttgens** (South African Institute of Architects Rome Scholar, October 2003-June 2004). Graduated from the University of Cape Town with B.Arch. in 1993. Self-employed architect since 1995. In addition to architectural practice: part-time lecturer in design at UCT School of Architecture since 1996; worked with other architects on larger public buildings; conducted research concerning conservation of heritage resources; presented a re-evaluation of existing and proposing new Heritage Areas in Cape Town. Produced design guidelines for buildings in Heritage Areas. Architectural competitions are regularly entered and are an important part of the practice. Has recently participated in the workshop/exhibition "Laboratorio Tangenziale", Accademia Nazionale di San Luca, Rome (Feb. 2004).

**Sebastian Di Mauro** (Australia Council Resident Artist, January-March 2004). Since 1987 Sebastian Di Mauro has held over 30 solo exhibitions. His work has been included in excess of 80 group exhibitions and has been exhibited in Australia and overseas. He has won several major art prizes and his work is held in many significant collections in Australia. In 2002 he received a residency at the British School, Rome through the Australia Council. He has recently participated in the workshop/exhibition "Laboratorio Tangenziale", Accademia Nazionale di San Luca, Rome (Feb. 2004).

**Angela Gill** (Abbey Scholar in Painting, October 2003-June 2004). Selected group exhibitions: 2001, Art Transplant (British Artists in NY), British Consul General's Residence, New York, USA. 2000, Figure Eight, Eight Contemporary British Figurative Painters, New Arts Gallery, Connecticut, USA. 1996, Group Exhibition, Artopia Gallery, New York, USA; Making a Mark, Mall Galleries, London. 1995, Cabinet Art, Jason & Rhodes Gallery, London. 1994, The Bridge Show, Lannon Gallery, NY, USA. 1993, John Moores Exhibition 18, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool; Into the Nineties, Mall Galleries, London. 1992-93, BT New Contemporaries, Touring Exhibition, 5 UK venues.

**Simon McBride** (Arts Council of Northern Ireland Fellow, October 2003-June 2004). 2000-Oct 2003, Belfast; Oct 2003-, Rome. He has recently participated in the workshop/exhibition "Laboratorio Tangenziale", Accademia Nazionale di San Luca, Rome (Feb. 2004).

**Simon Morley** (Abbey Fellow in Painting, January-March 2004). Selected solo exhibitions: 2004, "A Short History of Japanese Literature (in Translation)", Taguchi Fine Art, Tokyo; 2003, "Post Card: Recent Paintings", Percy Miller Gallery, London; 2002, "Italian Holiday", Galleria Zero, Piacenza; 2000-01, "The Collected Works of George Orwell, and Other Paintings", Percy Miller Gallery, London. Selected group shows: 2004, "Compass", Sala 1, Rome. 2003, "The Book Show", Nunnery Gallery, London; "The Cover Theory" (curated by Marco Senaldi), Ex Centrale Elettrica, Piacenza; 2002-03, "Sumptuous", Ex Macelli Pubblici, Prato; "L'Ultima Cena", Castel dell'Ovo, Napoli (curated by Massimo Sgroi); 2002, "Red Spy", Fortezza della Brunella, Aulla; "La Forma delle Forme", Villa Braghieri-Castel, Modena; "New Religious Art", Henry Peacock Gallery, London; "East Wing No. 5", Courtauld Institute, London; 2000, "9.8m/s2", Galleria Zero, Piacenza; "Art Futures", Contemporary Art Society, Barbican, London; "The Wreck of Hope", The Nunnery Gallery, London.

**Claire Todd** (Helen Chadwick Fellow, September 2003; January-March 2004). Born 1971 London, lives in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Education: 1991-1994, BA Fine Art (Sculpture), University of Northumbria; 1994-1996, DAMU, Prague, Czech Republic; MA European Scenography, HKU, Utrecht, Netherlands; 1997-1999, Rijksakademie voor Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Recent work/projects: 2001, Liff Psychiatric Hospital, Art's Advocacy Project Dundee, Scotland (workshops and public presentation); 2002-2003, commission: Knokke Council, Belgium (work for a public square: fountain); 2003-2004, commission: Woningbedrijf Amsterdam, Amsterdam Fonds voor de Kunst, Polderwegflat Amsterdam Oost (work for housing project for people with mental and physical disabilities).

**Geoff Uglow** (Sainsbury Scholar in Painting and Sculpture, October 2002-June 2004). Born in 1978, studied at the Falmouth School of Art, 1996-97 and at the Glasgow School of Art (B.A. Hons Fine Art, Painting, 1997-2000). He has had solo exhibitions in Edinburgh and Glasgow. He has participated in many shows at the British School (2002, 2003) and in the workshop/exhibition "Arte & Architettura Contemporanea nel Centro Storico e nel Paesaggio", Accademia Nazionale di San Luca (2002). His most recent exhibition is "Compass", Sala 1, Rome (2004).