

Press Release: 1 February 2023

LONDON, UK: Southwark Park Galleries are pleased to announce our 2023 spring and summer programme with new solo exhibitions by two of the UK's most exciting interdisciplinary artists working at the border between visual art and performance, **Florence Peake** and **Tim Spooner**.

FLORENCE PEAKE 16 APRIL – 2 JULY 2023



Southwark Park Galleries' 2023 exhibition programme will launch this spring with a new immersive and performative installation by internationally renowned choreographer and visual artist Florence Peake. Enveloping both our galleries, Peake's major solo commission will present a body of monumental paintings using her distinctive gestural, and movement marking techniques.

Respected for her queer approach and non-hierarchical process, Peake often works with a multitude of diverse collaborators and part of this commission was collectively developed in a series of public workshops at Southwark Park Galleries in November 2022. Re-interpreting and expanding on a performance at the National Gallery in 2021, this exhibition interrogates what a painting can be, resisting a classical and static tradition, through the movement of the body.

Co-commissioned by Southwark Park Galleries, London, and Towner, Eastbourne, in partnership with Fruitmarket, Edinburgh, where the exhibition will tour later in 2023 and 2024. This touring commission is made possible with thanks to Arts Council England and The Paul and Louise Cooke Endowment.

TIM SPOONER

JULY – OCTOBER 2023



In summer, Southwark Park Galleries will present an extensive installation by multidisciplinary artist Tim Spooner for his largest UK solo exhibition in a visual arts organisation. Spooner has been creating immersive sculptural interventions and performances since 2010, which have been predominantly experienced within theatre settings. Split across both our galleries, Spooner will work on a more ambitious scale than has been possible before.

A new commission for Dilston Gallery will continue Spooner's exploration of using mechanics and animatronics to bring liveness, agency and unpredictability that transforms the audiences' perceptions and expectations of what makes a sculpture. Our Lake Gallery will exhibit the breadth of his wider practice by staging a theatrical encounter of his recent works in collage, painting, sculpture and performative objects.

Commissioned by Southwark Park Galleries, London, and generously supported by Arts Council England and The Paul and Louise Cooke Endowment.

NOTES TO EDITORS

ARTIST BIOS

FLORENCE PEAKE (b. 1973, based in London) works internationally and across the UK in galleries, theatres and the public realm.

Recent exhibitions and performances have been presented at: *British Art Show 9*, a Hayward Gallery Touring exhibition shown across 12 venues in the cities of Aberdeen, Wolverhampton, Manchester and Plymouth (2021-22); Arsenic Theatre and Sudpol Theatre, Switzerland (2020); 58th Venice Biennale (2019); CRAC Occitanie, Sète, France (2018); London Contemporary Music Festival (2018); Bosse & Baum, London (2019); De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea (2018); Palais De Tokyo, Paris, France (2018); Hayward Gallery, London (2018); Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge (2017); Studio Leigh, London (2017); Sara Zanin Gallery, Rome, Italy (2017); Serpentine, London (2016); Whitechapel Gallery, London (2016); ICA, London (2016); Modern Art Oxford (2016); BALTIC, Newcastle (2013); Frieze, London (2013); and Yorkshire Sculpture Park (2012).

Peake has an Advanced Teaching Certificate in Skinner Releasing Technique (2011); an MA in Contemporary Performance Making, (Distinction), Brunel University (2007-09); and Diploma in Dance, Lewisham College (1992-94).

Peake is represented by Richard Saltoun Gallery, London.

TIM SPOONER (b. 1984, based in London). Recent projects include *A Wave in a Cave* (2022), a solo exhibition for Commonage Gallery, and large-scale moving sculpture installations *Weak Transmission* for Norfolk and Norwich Festival 2021 / Westflügel Leipzig, and *Animal Place*, commissioned for Brighton Festival 2022.

Spooner's work has been presented extensively in theatres and festivals in the UK, Europe and Asia including: Southbank Centre (London), Battersea Arts Centre (London), b-side festival (Isle of Portland), Cambridge Junction, Mayfest (Bristol), MAC Belfast and DCA Dundee (for Hayward Gallery Touring), Barbican Art Gallery (London), Whitstable Biennale, NoD (Prague, Czechia), LASfest (Białystok, Poland), Terni Festival (Italy), TJP Strasbourg (France), Actoral Festival (Marseille, France), Schaubude (Berlin, Germany), Internationales Figurentheater Festival (Erlangen, Germany), STUK (Leuven, Belgium), Teatro Maria Matos (Lisbon, Portugal), Culture Station Seoul (South Korea), Pesta Boneka Festival (Yogyakarta, Indonesia) and Macau Arts Festival (China).

ABOUT SOUTHWARK PARK GALLERIES

Southwark Park Galleries is an interdisciplinary arts organisation set across two distinctive venues – including a Grade II Listed deconsecrated church – and a garden in the heart of Southwark Park, London. Through our locally relevant and internationally significant programme of exhibitions, performances and public engagement, our mission is to connect people using the intersection of art, nature and culture to facilitate meaning and wellbeing across communities.

Established in 1984, we have a thriving reputation as a test site for experimental practice by commissioning artists at a critical stage to make their most ambitious work. Our public engagement and community work welcomes everyone. Our location means we can provide a rare civic offer of vital green and open cultural space for our park neighbours and beyond.

As we approach our 40th anniversary celebrations in 2024, we look forward to strengthening our local, national and international partnerships; amplifying our purpose of making creativity central in building a more engaged and inclusive society.

Southwark Park Galleries is the operating name of the Bermondsey Artists' Group, a registered charity (no. 1073851) and member of Arts Council England's National Portfolio of Organisations (NPO).

LISTING DETAILS

Florence Peake

16 April – 2 July 2023
Preview 15 April
Lake & Dilston Gallery

Tim Spooner

July – October 2023
Lake & Dilston Gallery

Southwark Park Galleries | 1 Park Approach, Southwark Park, London SE16 2UA
Tel: 020 7237 1230 | www.southwarkparkgalleries.org
Instagram: @SouthwarkParkGalleries | Twitter: @SPark_Galleries
Facebook: facebook.com/SouthwarkParkGalleries

FLORENCE PEAKE TOUR DATES

Fruitmarket, Edinburgh October 2023
Towner, Eastbourne Spring 2024

TRANSPORT

Southwark Park Galleries is well connected via 3 different tube/rail lines, with 4 stations at each corner of Southwark Park, and many bus routes. We are 2 stops from London Bridge.

Jubilee Line to Canada Water and Bermondsey
Overground Line to Canada Water and Surrey Quays
National Rail to South Bermondsey
Bus routes: 1, 47, 188, 199, 225, 381, 395, P12, C10
Up to 4 hours free parking within Southwark Park

IMAGE CREDITS

Florence Peake, *FACTUAL ACTUAL* at the National Gallery, London, 2021 © the artist.
Performer: Natifah White. Photo: Anna Arca

Tim Spooner, *The Voice of Nature*, 2016 © the artist. Photo: Benoît Schupp

**For further press information, please contact:
John Harris | press@southwarkparkgalleries.org | 020 7237 1230**