

Media Information
October 7, 2015

BMW Tate Live Performance Room participating artists announced

Mary Reid Kelly, Otobong Nkanga, Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa, Michael Smith

London. BMW and Tate Modern announce a new season of live online performances as part of BMW Tate Live 2015: Performance Room. This original programme of performance art is commissioned exclusively for web broadcast, reaching online audiences across the globe. BMW Tate Live is a longterm partnership between BMW and Tate, which focuses on performance, interdisciplinary art and curating digital space. The BMW Tate Live programme explores the diverse ways in which artists approach live performance in the 21st century, whether in the gallery or online.

The latest artists invited to participate in this pioneering artistic programme are Mary Reid Kelly, Otobong Nkanga, Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa and key figure in performance art Michael Smith. Four live online performances will take place across four weeks from 19 November to 10 December 2015. Each will take place in the Performance Room at Tate Modern and are streamed live on Tate's YouTube Channel.

BMW Tate Live 2015: Performance Room Programme

Mary Reid Kelly

19 November 2015, 20.00 GMT

Mary Reid Kelly combines painting, performance, and her distinctive poetry in polemical and stylized videos. Made in collaboration with her partner, Patrick Kelley, her videos have been exhibited at the Hammer Museum, the ICA Boston, the Neuer Kunstverein Wien, and SITE Santa Fe. She is the recipient of the 2011 Rome Prize, the 2013 Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, and the 2014 Guggenheim Fellowship. Kelly lives and works in upstate New York.

Otobong Nkanga

26 November 2015, 20.00 GMT

Otobong Nkanga was born in Nigeria and lives and works in Antwerp, Belgium. Her multidisciplinary practice in drawing, photography, installation and video is focused on the related themes of environment, architecture and history. Nkanga's recent shows and performances include Glimmer Fragments – Symposium "Landing and confessions", Stedelijk museum, Amsterdam (2014), Sharjah Biennial 11, United Arab Emirates, (2013) and Across the Board: Politics of Representation, a 2012 presentation in The Tanks at Tate Modern exploring questions of value.

Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa

3 December 2015, 20.00 GMT

Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa holds an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and was a post-graduate researcher at Jan Van Eyck Academie in Maastricht in 2013. Using theatre, drawing, literature and sculpture, Naufus's work

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conjugates live and sculptural representations that explore themes of loss, identity and displacement. He has participated in various solo and group exhibitions including A Chronicle of Interventions at Tate Modern (2014), and the Bienal do Mercosul (2015). He is a recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship, a Franklin Furnace award and an Akademie Schloss Solitude fellowship, and recently won the 2015 ARCO Region of Madrid Award for Young Artists. Ramírez-Figueroa lives and works in Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Michael Smith

10 December 2015, 21.00 GMT

Michael Smith lives and works in New York and Texas. He is a video, performance and installation artist known for his eponymous performance personae: Mike, the hopeful innocent who continually falls victim to trends, and Baby Ikki, the melancholic toddler distracted by anything in his line of vision. Both characters are vehicles for Smith to comment on absurdities in contemporary culture. Smith's impressive performance and exhibition history since the mid-1970s includes the Whitney Museum, MoMA and the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art. Recent solo exhibitions include Performing John Cage, MoMA, New York (2014); Tramway, Glasgow International (2014), and Hales Gallery, London (2013).

BMW Tate Live 2015: Performance Room presents an innovative format which offers global audiences the chance to experience live performance art happening in the gallery. The programme asks artists to develop work especially for online viewing, conceiving their performance in response to this unique mode of presentation.

The audience is invited to join the online performance space via www.youtube.com/tate, to participate in a conversation with other audience members via social media, and to pose questions to the curator or artist afterwards using Tate's social media channels – twitter.com/tate and facebook.com/tategallery

BMW Tate Live is curated by Catherine Wood, Senior Curator, International Art (Performance), Tate, and Capucine Perrot, Tate Modern.

BMW Tate Live

BMW Tate Live is a long-term partnership between BMW and Tate that features innovative live performances and events including live web broadcast, in-gallery performance, seminars and workshops. BMW Tate Live aims to reach an international audience through new forms of art, addressing audiences changing needs, tastes and interests in art. The initiative creates a new space for collaboration and a programme that encompasses performance, film, sound, installation and learning – areas where artists can take greater risks and experiment freely. The programme investigates transformation in all its guises and aims to provoke debate on how art can affect intellectual, social and physical change. More information at www.tate.org.uk/bmwatelive

About BMW's Cultural Commitment

For more than 40 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural cooperations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on modern and contemporary art, jazz and classical music as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Olafur Eliasson, Jeff

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Koons, Zubin Metha, Daniel Barenboim and Anna Netrebko have co-operated with BMW. The company has also commissioned famous architects such as Karl Schwanzer, Zaha Hadid and Coop Himmelb(l)au to design important corporate buildings and plants. In 2011, the BMW Guggenheim Lab, a global initiative of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, the Guggenheim Museum and the BMW Group celebrated its world premiere in New York. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all the cultural activities it is involved in for granted – as this is just as essential for groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business.

Further information: www.bmwgroup.com/culture and www.bmwgroup.com/culture/overview

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The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2014, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.118 million cars and 123,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2013 was € 7.91 billion on revenues amounting to approximately € 76.06 billion. As of 31 December 2013, the BMW Group had a workforce of 110,351 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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