

**ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION INVITES:  
BEA BONAFINI  
DOVETAIL'S NEST  
1 JUNE–9 JULY 2017**

**Exhibition Preview**

Thursday 1 June 6-9pm



Bea Bonafini, studio production image, May 2017

For her solo exhibition at the Zabludowicz Collection, London-based Italian artist Bea Bonafini transforms the Invites gallery into a quasi-domestic space, exploring the idea of a non-religious chapel. Central to the installation is the tension between order and chaos, and interior and exterior.

A large inlaid carpet, pieced together from hand-cut sections, covers the entire room. The design references a 15th century marble 'intarsio' floor in Siena Cathedral. The floor once depicted horses and soldiers in a theatrical biblical battle, but thousands of feet have rubbed it smooth over time, erasing narrative details and abstracting the figures in the scene. Bonafini translates the imagery into ripples of green, blue and pink colour, onto which visitors can walk and sit. A large drawing occupies an end wall in the manner of an altarpiece. Constructed from shaped tiles of paper, its delicately rendered imagery shows an interior space populated by stacked columns based on the artist's own sculptures.

Through the production of sensuous and tactile objects and environments Bonafini investigates the notion of comfort. Stretching and pushing familiar forms into new shapes through hands-on processes of making, her installations and performances operate on the boundary between the functional and dysfunctional. Familiar and seemingly welcoming spaces are made to suddenly feel uneasy, as if one is being consumed by richly decorative surfaces and layers of history.

**Artist's presentation event: Sunday 9 July, 3pm**

To celebrate the culmination of her exhibition, Bonafini is joined in conversation by curators Stella Bottai and Mia Pfeifer, surrounded by a handmade pasta backdrop, which will then be cooked and shared.

**Zabludowicz Collection Invites** is a programme of solo presentations by UK-based artists who do not currently have representation by a UK commercial gallery.

**Bea Bonafini** (b. 1990, Bonn, Germany. Lives and works in London) studied for her BA at the Slade School of Fine Art, UCL, London, 2010–14, and an MA Painting at the Royal College of Art, London, 2014-16. Selected recent exhibitions include: *A World Of One's Own* (solo exhibition), Fieldworks Gallery, London, 2017; *Does Your Chewing Gum Lose Its Flavour (On The Bedpost Overnight)?*, J Hammond Projects, London, 2017; *La Diabliesse*, Tramps Gallery, London, 2017; *The House of Penelope*, Gallery 46, London, 2017; *Summer Blue*, Lychee One Gallery, London, 2016; *At Home Salon: Double Acts*, Marcelle Joseph Projects, London, 2016; *Full House*, Le Cabinet Dentaire Gallery, Paris, 2015; *The Behaviour of Being*, Cob Gallery, London, 2015; ART15, Art fair, Live performance with Bosse and Baum Gallery, London, 2015; 15th Cypriot Contemporary Dance Festival (commissioned performance), Limassol, Cyprus, 2015; *Anthropophagi* (two-person collaborative show with Paola De Ramos), 26 Greek Street, London, 2013. Residencies include: Fieldworks Studio Residency, London, 2017; Villa Lena Art Residency, Italy, 2016; The Beekeepers Art Residency, Portugal, in collaboration with curator Mia Pfeifer and Cob Gallery London, 2015.

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

### ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION

Zabludowicz Collection is a philanthropic organisation including a growing collection of contemporary art and a programme of international exhibitions, events and artists' residencies. Founded in 1994, the Collection is dedicated to fostering new audiences and a sustainable environment for contemporary art, offering a variety of opportunities and support for artists and art organisations. All of its activities are privately funded and free for the public to access. The collection contains over 3000 works of art by more than 600 artists, spanning 40 years of art production. Its focus is on emerging art from the late 20th century to the present day and it is in constant development. The Collection has been directed since 2006 by Elizabeth Neilson. In 2007 the Collection opened its main exhibition space in London, in a 19th Century former Methodist Chapel, where it has worked with artists, curators and the collection to produce exhibitions and events examining contemporary art practice in a public forum. The Collection now also runs an international programme of exhibitions, events, residencies and commissions across venues in the UK, USA and Finland. The programme is directed by Maitreyi Maheshwari.

### For more information, images or to arrange an interview please contact:

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### VISITOR INFORMATION

Admission: FREE

Thursday–Sunday, 12–6pm or by appointment

### Café, Library and Shop

The **Shop** sells limited edition artworks, 50% of the proceeds go directly to the artist.

[shop.zabludowiczcollection.com](http://shop.zabludowiczcollection.com)

### Address:

176 Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 3PT  
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### Transport (TFL stations):

Chalk Farm or Kentish Town West

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