

**ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION INVITES
LAURENCE OWEN: *GERUND*
16 JANUARY–23 FEBRUARY 2020**

Exhibition Preview: Thursday 16 January, 6–9pm

Gerund is an exhibition across two venues, Zabludowicz Collection and Lychee One, E8 3QA.



Subterrane, 2019. Glazed ceramic, sand, oil, card, canvas on board. 95 x 83 x 30cm. Courtesy the artist.

Zabludowicz Collection is delighted to present an exhibition of new works by Laurence Owen. These wall-based, multi-media sculptures incorporate a vast range of materials including ceramic, Jesmonite, oil paint, wood and copper. Operating as enigmatic and mysterious objects these compositions allude to fragmented details of human anatomy, mechanical systems and fungi forms.

Artist's text

A work of art encountered as a work of art is an experience, not a statement or an answer to a question. Art is not only about something; it is something. A work of art is a thing in the world, not just a text or commentary on the world. – Susan Sontag

Being open to the world increases your chance of getting lost in it. This has to do with the body, with representation. With work, with projections of the self (selves) that fall outside of the figurative. And with feeling; how it feels to arrive without actually physically being there... let placelessness be the place. – Travis Jeppeson

Things in the world exist with edges. There are territories with many forms of border. Within these territories ladders of hierarchy subsume themselves into definitions of normativity inside constructed frameworks. This contributes to how the world is seen by us. Evolution and its tools act out inside this framework.

Perhaps the ancient act of hand making – of reading time differently, of leaving marks on walls – is a source of the ongoing innate recognition we have today for experiences that operate outside these constructed frameworks, which are often un-quantifiable in any form of literal communication. Here, borders can be lifted. Territories are fluid... they merge and mulch... one area floods into another... hybridizing and reforming... carving anew.

In this place there exists the capability to re-question the self-referential while still obtaining its essence, and to simultaneously refer to, and challenge, the tools by which we live in the world.

More so than in many other areas of human life, it is the paths of creative expression that afford us spaces in which paradoxical positions can concurrently operate.

In *Gerund*, elements collated from the world shape-shift to give form to abstract forces and processes. They are fragments from the architectural and organic, the solid and the fluid. There, signifiers of exterior and interior, of micro and macro, past or present, fuse into a borderless mush. Even time is not chronological here. Everything becomes an experience of something almost recognisable that slips out of reach.

Ref//: Gerund: Gerunds are words that are formed with verbs but act as nouns. Every gerund is a verb with ing tacked to its tail. Swimming; asking; dancing; telling; gardening. The action when applying one area of language and combining it with another to make an experiential definition, required at its origin a hybridisation between verb/noun/adverb. These territories flood into each other, redefining themselves and one another, and in turn become their own things.

BIOGRAPHY

Laurence Owen (b. Gloucester 1984, lives and works in London) completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Fine Art at Royal Academy Schools, London in 2015, and holds a BA (Hons) in Fine Art from Falmouth College of Art, Cornwall. Recent solo exhibitions include *LOOT*, Galerie PCP, Paris (2018) and *Channel Synthesis*, Evelyn Yard Gallery, London (2016). He has participated in numerous group exhibitions including *Mushrooms: The art, design and future of fungi*, Somerset House, London (upcoming 2020), *Drawing Biennial*, Drawing Room, London (2019), *Moly Sabata*, Art O Rama, Marseille, FR (2018), *Something Else*, Triumph Gallery, Moscow (2018), *Absent Bodies*, OSL Contemporary, Oslo (2017) and *John Moores Painting Prize*, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool (2016).

NOTES FOR EDITORS

ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION INVITES: Dedicated to solo presentations by UK-based artists without UK commercial gallery representation.

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.

For more information, images or any other press enquiries 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

Address:

176 Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 3PT
+44 (0)207 428 8940

Transport (TFL stations):

Chalk Farm or Kentish Town West

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