ROMAN ROAD

PRESS RELEASE

MAURO BONACINA

GIVE ZERO DUCKS TO HOW IT LOOKS TO THE SWANS. THE SWARM OF SWANS STILL SINGS THE SONG THAT SWEARS I MUST BE WRONG

Private View: Saturday 12 January 2019, 5 – 9 PM Exhibition: Sunday 13 January – Thursday 28 February 2019 Opening Hours: Wednesday – Friday, 10 AM – 6 PM Saturday, 12 PM – 5 PM and by appointment

This is the economy of attention. Companies compete for our time and vision, apps and platforms draw us in, continually extending the amount of time they engage our eyes.

Give zero ducks to how it looks to the swans. The swarm of swans still sings the song that swears I must be wrong. Mauro Bonacina and Roman Road ask you to disconnect from all distractions, to immerse yourself in an experience of an artwork through a process of mindful contemplation.

The gallery has been transformed. Deviating from the white walled shell, geographical and temporal references are deliberately eliminated. Windows covered, walls and ceiling coated, doors closed.

Contemplate. A single new painting hangs on the wall, away from the distractions and timekeeping of everyday life.

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Mauro Bonacina, *The birds and the bees* (film still), 2017. Video projection, 1 minute and 31 seconds. Courtesy of Roman Road and the artist. © Mauro Bonacina

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mauro Bonacina (b.1977, Milan) lives and works in London, England. He completed his BA at Cardiff Metropolitan University in 2000 and graduated with an MA in fine arts from Goldsmiths, University of London, in 2003. In 2004 he was awarded the BOC Emerging Artist Award. Recent solo exhibitions include *Yoghurt Weaver*, Edel Assanti, London (2013); Maria Stenfors, London (2011); Charles Bank Gallery, New York (2010); Lucie Fontaine, Milan (2010); and *Crooked Faith*, Galerie Vera Munro, Hamburg (2006). Bonacina's work has been featured in international group exhibitions, including at Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart; Tate Modern, London; the Berlin Kreuzberg Biennale; and the Prague Biennale, Czech Republic.

ABOUT ROMAN ROAD

Roman Road was founded in 2013 by Marisa Bellani and initially began as a project space. The peculiarity of the premises has had a direct impact on the gallery's programme since its beginning. Tall and with a small footprint, the space led the director to challenge artists to employ the architectural elements in order to develop or restructure a body of work. Artists have frequently been asked to use the exhibition as a medium and have managed to transform the gallery room into a unique work of art. In 2014, the building underwent refurbishment to instate an additional private viewing space that gathers varied works by the gallery's represented artists, which are viewable by appointment. Since completing this renovation in 2015, Roman Road has established a qualitative programme, including participations at art fairs, and has seen its represented artists become internationally recognised by institutions and collectors.

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