

# ROMAN ROAD

## PRESS RELEASE PHOTO LONDON STAND G24

Thursday 16 May – Sunday 19 May 2019

Somerset House  
Strand  
London, WC2R 1LA

Opening Hours:

Thursday 16 May: 12 – 9 PM  
Friday 17 May: 12 – 9 PM  
Saturday 18 May: 12 – 7.30 PM  
Sunday 19 May: 12 – 6.30 PM

Roman Road is very pleased to be participating in the fifth edition of Photo London with a solo booth by Alix Marie. Our display brings together varied pieces from recent projects by the artist, stemming from her investigation of how to represent intimacy. Ranging between sculpture, photography and installation, the presented artworks accentuate body parts and depictions of skins in varied ways, demonstrating Marie's continued interest and focus on the human form and physicality, touch and tactility.

For Marie, content and form come hand in hand, and her materials for each project are carefully selected to correspond to the subject. She researches and uses diverse processes and explores ways of printing her images on different textures and supports, including fabric, paper, glass and metal. The works exhibited on Roman Road's stand encompass a range of artistic forms but together impart an overarching sense of intimacy and relationships: recurring themes in Marie's practice.

The display features works from Marie's *STRETCH* (2019), a new series of digital prints on Lycra of a model performing different yoga poses. Utilising the elastic fibres of the fabrics, she elongates the extremities and contorts the depicted body into different, abnormal shapes. The pieces are pinned and stretched to their limits, resulting in a collection of distorted images that at once allude to the pictured act and sensation of stretching muscles.

With her practice, Marie considers and examines moments of close proximity, often highlighting or enlarging details of bodies into new, fragmented forms. Exhibited for the first time on the stand, *A La Fée* (2019) comprises a close-up image of an eye printed on porcelain protruding from a bowl of absinthe. Using a water pump, the liquid courses through the tear duct, making the eye appear as though it is continually crying, and signifying an intense emotional state.

Roman Road's stand is further occupied by selected photographic works, including Marie's *French Kiss* (2014), which depicts a man and woman in a lascivious embrace. The man's hand is entangled in the woman's hair as he clasps her towards his body. Similarly, in Marie's *Zephyr* (2018), we find a detail image of a man's hand gripping a woman's head, focussing on the lustful hold. The image is printed on a silk fabric placed atop fans, enlivening the piece upon the floor. With her presented pieces, Marie exposes the somewhat consuming nature of love and simultaneously imparts a sense of lost romanticism, questioning the idea of the fleetingness of intimate relationships.

Coinciding with Photo London 2019, further new works by Marie are currently exhibited in her solo exhibition entitled *Shredded*, on display at Roman Road until 13 July 2019.

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Alix Marie, *A La Fée*, 2019. Ceramics, copper, Perspex, water pump, original image printed on porcelain, absinthe, 30 x 34 x 42 cm, edition of 2. Courtesy of Roman Road and the artist. © Alix Marie

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alix Marie (b.1989, Paris) works across the mediums of photography, sculpture and installation. She graduated from Central Saint Martins College, London, in 2011 with a first class honours degree in fine art and later completed an MA in photography at the Royal College of Art, London. In 2017 she won the Portfolio Review Award, was selected for the 11th edition of Foam Talent Call, and her first artist book *Bleu* was published by Morel Books. Marie was recently nominated for the EMOP Arendt Award 2019 and her work is featured in the touring exhibition *Bodyfiction* as part of this year's European Month of Photography. Recent exhibitions include *La Femme Fontaine*, Roman Road, London (Solo, 2018); *Large-scale reconstruction: Body. Time. Context*, FotoDepartament, St. Petersburg (2018); and *ADYTA*, Ratinger Tor, Düsseldorf (Solo, 2018), as part of Duesseldorf Photo Weekend 2018.

## 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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