



THE ART OF MAPPING

curated by TAG Fine Arts



TAG Fine Arts

CONTEMPORARY ART DEALERS & PUBLISHERS

The Air Gallery, Dover Street, London W1S 4NE

Exhibition Dates: 14 – 26 November 2011

Maps are more than just tools for getting from A to B: they are selective records of the wider world, loaded with creative, and often subjective, meaning. They are increasingly in the public eye. From Google's controversial Street View project, to the British Library's landmark 'Magnificent Maps' exhibition last year, cartography is in the process of being reimagined for today's society.

TAG Fine Arts' upcoming exhibition, *The Art of Mapping*, expands on these debates and celebrates cartography's potential as an art form, rather than a science. Artists throughout history have used maps to respond to their environment, and creatively register ideologies, emotions and ideas. TAG will present work by a selection of the finest contemporary artists recently to engage with this rich visual tradition.

Confirmed exhibitors include Grayson Perry and Stephen Walter, the only living artists to be included in the British Library's superb cartographic exhibition in 2010; Paula Scher, whose colourful, text-based maps were created as an expressive antidote to the bureaucracy of her internationally acclaimed graphic design projects; Robert Walden, whose delicately imagined ontological roadmaps were recently shown at the major exhibition 'Mappa Mundi' in Lisbon; and Cai Yuan, one half of the performance duo who famously jumped on Tracey Emin's bed, who has turned his hand to cartographic prints. TAG is delighted also to be exhibiting Simon Patterson's 'The Great Bear' on special loan from the London Transport Museum. This seminal piece, created nearly ten years ago, is one of the most recognisable and influential examples of modern mapmaking to date.

TAG is working with a host of new international artists, and has specially commissioned several unique works for the show. Susan Stockwell, who has exhibited previously at the V&A, Iniva and the Royal Geographical Society, will create a map of the British Isles using discarded computer parts, and also a limited edition print (a new venture into the

medium). Gonkar Gyatso will take a fresh look at mapping in his first cartographic creation, and Claire Brewster is creating a site-specific installation piece. TAG will also introduce previously unseen works by US-based artists Dahlia Elsayed and Heidi Whitman, both exhibiting for the first time in the UK.

TAG's experience dealing in prints and editions lends itself to map-related works, which have traditionally been created for dissemination. This exhibition is a wonderful opportunity for our emerging stable of artists to make new work, following TAG's publication of Stephen Walter's *London Series*. Stanley Donwood will release two new print editions to coincide with the show, and Justine Smith and Jonathan Parsons are completing new editioned works.

TAG invites artists to reengage with mapmaking processes and aesthetics, and creatively transform them. This is a fantastic opportunity literally to redraw the map in artistic terms.

A colour catalogue will accompany this exhibition.

Exhibiting Artists

Neal Beggs | Claire Brewster | Christa Dichgans | Stanley Donwood | Peter Dykhuis | Dahlia Elsayed | Rob Good | Gonkar Gyatso | Emma Johnson | Jonathan Parsons | Simon Patterson | Nigel Peake | Grayson Perry | Rob Ryan | Paula Scher | Justine Smith | Susan Stockwell | Robert Walden | Stephen Walter | Heidi Whitman | Jeremy Wood | Cai Yuan

Partnerships, Collaborations and Related Events

TAG is working in conjunction with a number of institutions, galleries and individuals:

The London Transport Museum is kindly loaning Simon Patterson's 'The Great Bear' in advance of its own major exhibition on mapping in 2012, for which they have commissioned exhibiting artists Claire Brewster, Susan Stockwell, Stephen Walter and Jeremy Wood. <http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions>

Stephen Walter's *London Series* will also be exhibited at the National Trust's Fenton House (Hampstead) for the month of October.

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-fentonhouse>

TAG Fine Arts is an official supporter of the London Mapping Festival.

<http://www.londonmappingfestival.org/>

Katharine Harmon has contributed a foreword to the exhibition catalogue. A number of exhibiting artists appear in her authoritative survey book 'The Map as Art' (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2009)

Notes to Editors

A colour catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

A full list of all artists involved and exhibited works will be available from the end of May.

Individual artist biographies and images are also available on request.

All works, with the exception of Simon Patterson's 'The Great Bear,' will be available for sale from TAG Fine Arts. For all sales enquiries contact Hobby Limon.

TAG @ The Air Gallery

The Air Gallery is located at 32 Dover Street. The nearest underground stations are Green Park (Piccadilly, Jubilee and Victoria Lines), Piccadilly Circus (Piccadilly and Bakerloo Lines) and Bond Street (Jubilee and Central Lines). The nearest rail station is Charing Cross.

The exhibition will be open from 14 – 26 November 2011.

Opening Times: Monday – Friday, 10am – 6pm. Saturday, 11am – 4pm. Sunday, 12 – 4pm.

Admission free

About TAG Fine Arts

TAG Fine Arts is a contemporary art dealers and publishers based in London. Since 2007 it has represented emerging and established artists through pop-up exhibitions and major commissions. Stephen Walter's extensive mapmaking project 'The Island: London Series' was published by TAG in 2008 and has since been acquired for significant public collections including the V&A, British Library, Government Art Collection and London Transport Museum. TAG's most recent collaboration with the Air Gallery (November 2010) was for Rob Ryan's critically acclaimed, sell-out solo show, *The Stars Shine All Day Too*.

TAG is renowned for working with skilled printmakers to produce new editions, and their expertise in the area is well suited to the tradition of artistic mapmaking. Fittingly, TAG is launching *The Art of Mapping* in the same year that it goes international, opening an office in New York City.

TAG will also be exhibiting new prints throughout the year at art fairs in the UK and abroad, including Multiplied Contemporary Editions Fair (14 – 17 October at Christie's South Kensington) and the London Art Fair 2012. For more information about TAG Fine Arts visit www.tagfinearts.com.

Contact

All press enquiries, high res images and further information:

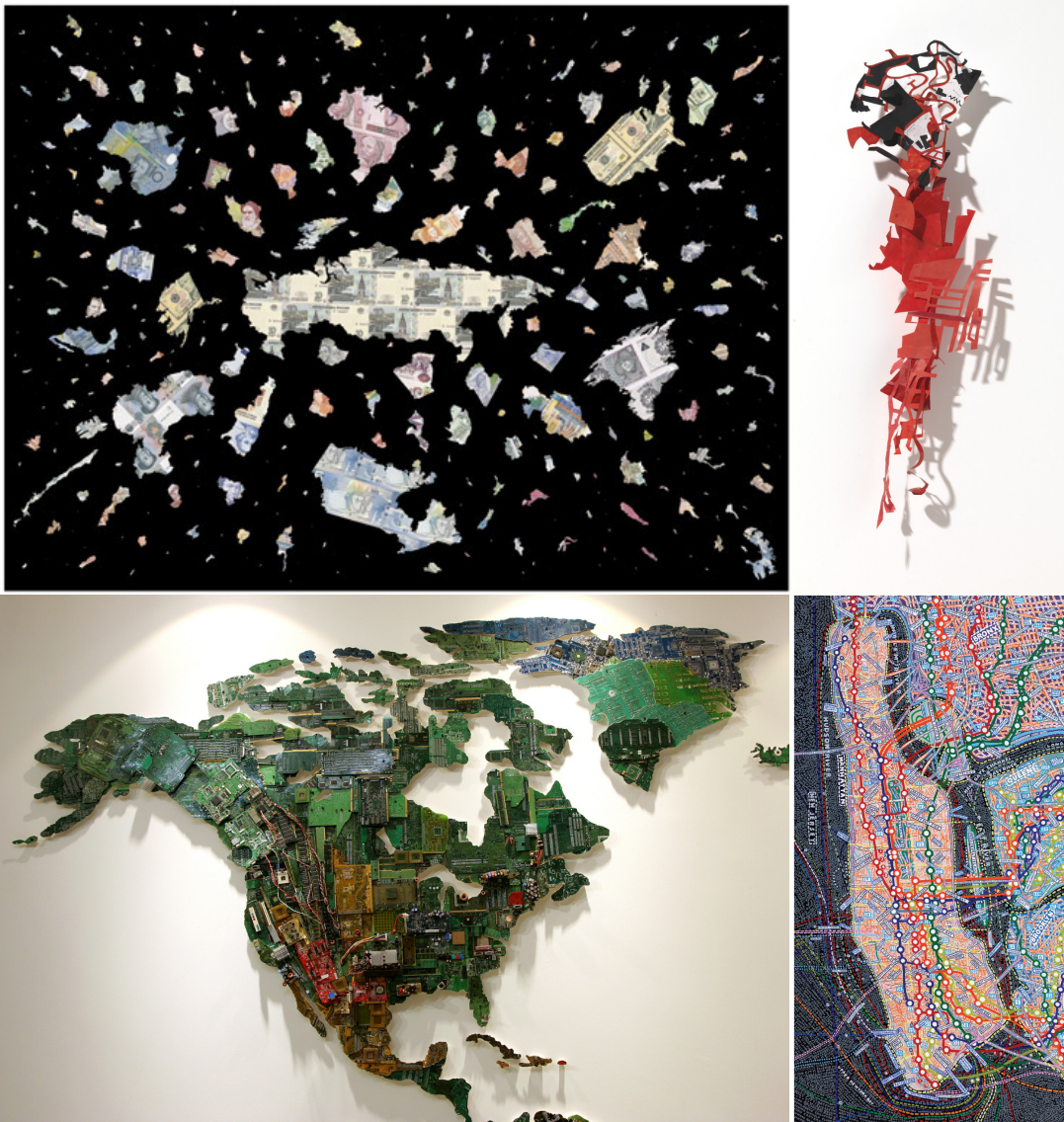
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Clockwise from top left: Justine Smith 'A Bigger Bang (Black)' (2009) 135 x 104.2 cm, Inkjet print on 330gsm Somerset satin enhanced paper, Edition of 40, image courtesy of TAG Fine Arts | Heidi Whitman 'Ace of Hearts' (2011) 53.7 x 16.5 x 5.1 cm, Ink, gouache, acrylic, paper, shadows, image courtesy of the artist and TAG Fine Arts | Paula Scher 'NYC Transit' (2008) 152 x 85 cm, Screenprint, Edition of 90, image courtesy of TAG Fine Arts | Susan Stockwell 'World' (2010) 650 x 400 cm, Computer components, image courtesy of the artist and TAG Fine Arts.