

HUMAN

Contemporary art by London-based female artists

ARTISTS IN HUMAN EXHIBITION



*Frances Blane
Christine Bory
Uta Brouet
Margarita Hernandez
Margarita Mavromichalis
Jane McAdam Freud
Dawn Rowland
Gigi Salomon
Valerie Wiffen*



The German Ambassadors Wife

The arts open up another view of the world around us, but also of ourselves. Relations between the sexes have been a recurrent topic above all for male artists over the centuries. In our time of proclaimed equality, female artists are still widely under-represented, and the debate on what feminism means is far from over.

Quite often prejudices come to dominate the debate. For example, Feminism is often seen as divisive and combative – and often regarded as a little old-fashioned. Images of closed-off groups of intolerant activists spring to mind, while others feel it relegates women to the role of victim. Even today, in everyday language, we fall prey to old stereotypes: a man who determinedly pursues his goals is often just “assertive”, but an ambitious woman is “aggressive”.

So when I was preparing an exhibition of confident, powerful women artists whose positive attitudes radiate throughout their works, I found it difficult to come up with a suitable title. The artists shown here could not be more different in every respect, be it age, technique, or personal background. I was fascinated by the diversity of this group of female artists, who all share the conviction that a gender-equal society is possible.

So in the end, I felt that only one word could truly describe what they are: just “Human”.

Let me end on a personal note: Having begun my stay in London with an all-female art exhibition, it closes the circle perfectly to also end with one. Throughout our time in London, my husband and I have wanted to provide female artists with a space and an opportunity to show their work at our Residence and so perhaps contribute in a small way to creating a level playing field for women in the arts.

Marliese Heimann-Ammon

MY SECTION IN BROCHURE

Dawn Rowland



"I am totally drawn to stone. There is a physicality and sensuality to working in stone. Most of the time I carve directly, retaining the freshness and spontaneity that only direct carving can bring. Other times I draw an image straight onto the stone. I then carve it, change it, enjoying the fluidity and spirit of the stone, and eventually bring the sculpture to fruition. I also enjoy the differences that come from making a sculpture in bronze. The way the light bounces off the finished bronze creates a very different mood in stone. Making sculpture is like a microcosm of life with all its struggles, hard work and joy: yet the satisfaction and pleasure is worth everything."

Dawn Rowland was born in London and has also lived and worked in San Francisco and Manchester. She has exhibited widely with exhibitions in Japan and the UK. She is a Fellow of the Royal British Society of Sculptors and was presented to the Queen at the opening of Chelsea Harbour International Sculpture Exhibition. She has been interviewed twice on BBC's "Woman's Hour", once in relation to a large commission for Nicola Holica and also as a result of having three carvings exhibited together at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. Her sculptures and drawings are in private collections in the UK, Europe, Japan, the United States, Australia and Canada.

Dawn's HUMAN explores the interdependency and fragility of human relationships and how these fit into the world around us. I express my own experiences - my personal and emotional CV - though the underlying feelings are universal.

"Free Agent", vitreous enamel, 34 x 45 x 54 cm, 2010



GIVING TALKS



INTERVIEWS FOR VIDEO



