

monikabobinska

Real Phoney

8 May - 21 June 2009

Sinta Tantra

"She's a phoney, but she's a real phoney... Because she honestly believes all the phoney junk that she believes in..."
(Breakfast at Tiffany's)

Monika Bobinska is delighted to present the first major solo exhibition by Sinta Tantra in the UK.

Best known for her site-specific murals and installations in the public realm, Tantra will turn the white cube of the gallery inside out. She will produce a vividly coloured three-dimensional mural in paint and vinyl around the external walls and windows of the gallery building. Inside, a vinyl floor will encompass the entire footprint of the gallery. Instead of the regular format of rectangular works on walls, the walls will be left bare, with only one oversized floor-to-ceiling 'egg' presented on a single wall.

Real Phoney explores the delight in artifice and the surface image, the porous boundary between pictorial and physical spaces, the ideas of spectacle, submergence and superabundance. The show represents several departures for the artist, primarily her move away from representational signs and signifiers to an emphasis on pattern and layering. Tantra's palette of ready-made industrial paints and plastics are also updated, with a variety of metallic, reflective and transparent materials included that enable the artist to investigate depth in new ways. Her predilection for pink remains but the paint tone is more warm and refined, allowing an elegance that is held in tension with the power and allure of her bolder colours.

Sinta Tantra was born in New York and lives and works in London. She is a graduate of The Royal Academy Schools. Her site-specific installations in public spaces include the Southbank Centre, Regents Park Bridge, Piccadilly Circus underground station, Canary Wharf, Camley Street Nature Reserve and Camden Town Hall.

She has won numerous awards for her work, including the prestigious Deutsche Bank Pyramid Award 2006 and Westminster City Council Civic Award 2007. She curates Camley Street Projects, a public art organisation that encourages emerging artists to respond to the redevelopment of London's Kings Cross.

Forthcoming projects include Arsenic Fantasy, a solo exhibition at Gaya Fusion, Bali, in November 2009.