

Parasolstice – Winter Light 2015 Charles Avery: *Tree No. 5* (from the *Jadindagadendar*)

15 October – 6 December 2015

Preview: Wednesday 14 October, 6.30 – 9 pm
(during Frieze East End Night)

Charles Avery, *Tree No. 5 (from the Jadindagadendar)*, 2015.
Bronze, acrylic, concrete plinth. Dimensions various. Installation view at Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art.
Image courtesy of the artist and Parasol unit.



Parasol unit is delighted to present a newly commissioned work by Scottish artist Charles Avery as its **Parasolstice – Winter Light 2015** project. Charles Avery's *Tree No. 5 (from the Jadindagadendar)* is the latest addition to the ongoing *Winter Light* series, for which Parasol unit invites a contemporary artist to create an installation that addresses the phenomenon of light.

In 2004, Charles Avery embarked upon his evolving lifelong project, *The Islanders*, which describes in meticulous detail the inhabitants, flora and fauna of an imaginary island. In a constantly growing body of work (including drawing, sculpture and film), Avery explores and records in precise detail the customs, myths, religions and rituals of *The Islanders*. Four years into the process, in 2008, Avery was offered a solo exhibition at Parasol unit, which toured to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, and to Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam. *Tree No. 5 (from the Jadindagadendar)* is a new and single work, jointly commissioned by Edinburgh Art Festival and Parasol unit, London.

Towering five metres tall and cast in bronze, Charles Avery's *Tree No. 5 (from the Jadindagadendar)* will illuminate the outdoor terrace at Parasol unit from 15 October – 6 December 2015. Drawing inspiration for its design from mathematics (such as the square root of 2 and the Fibonacci sequence) Avery's tree, ripe with fluorescent fruit hanging from its bronze branches, is from the *Jadindagadendar*, a municipal park in the town of *Onomatopoeia* at the heart of the artist's fictional island. The park is filled, not with living botanical specimens but with artificial trees, flowers and shrubs, which express the Islanders' refutation of nature. Avery considers these artificial objects to be souvenirs brought to our world by a visitor to the Island.

The sculpture, *Tree No. 5 (from the Jadindagadendar)*, was first unveiled on 30 July 2015 at Waverley Station, Edinburgh, as part of *Parasol Public* and the commission project, *The Improbable City*, Edinburgh Art Festival.

Note for Editors

Born 1973 in Oban, Scotland, Charles Avery now lives and works in London. In 2007, Avery represented Scotland at the 52nd Venice Biennale. He participated in the *British Art Show 7* and Folkestone Triennial in 2011, and was included in the 2014 Taipei Biennial, *The Great Acceleration: Art in the Anthropocene*, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud. In that same year, Avery exhibited in the National Gallery of Modern Art as part of the GENERATION project, which celebrated 25 years of contemporary art in Scotland. In early 2015, the Gemeente Museum in the Netherlands showcased works from the last five years of Charles Avery's project, *The Islanders*.

Tree No. 5 (from the Jadindagadendar), 2015, is jointly commissioned by Edinburgh Art Festival and Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art.



VISITOR INFORMATION

Founded in December 2004, Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art is a registered educational charity and a not-for-profit institution that operates purely for the public benefit. Every year the foundation organises four challenging and thought-provoking exhibitions of works by international contemporary artists working in various media, arranges other artistic projects and each year grants its Exposure Award, which offers graduating students from an annually selected London art school the opportunity to exhibit their work professionally. The foundation also engages with the public and its neighbouring community through a full programme of educational events. In its genuine mission to serve the public, the foundation does not bear the name of its founder, and its exhibitions do not derive from any particular private collection. Admission to all exhibitions at Parasol unit is free of charge. Thanks to its innovative model between private funding and public support, one of London's most vibrant contemporary art spaces has come to exist and thrive.

Free Admission

Parasol unit
14 Wharf Road, London N1 7RW

Opening hours

Monday by prior arrangement
Tuesday–Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday, 12 – 5 pm

During the Frieze Art Fair

Monday–Saturday, 12–17 October
9 am – 6 pm
Sunday 18 October, 12 – 5 pm

Directions: Tube to Old Street or Angel
Buses: 43, 205 or 214 via City Road

For more information please contact:

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