

***Here & There: Paintings by Lisa Milroy***  
17 January – 18 March 2018  
(Preview: Tuesday 16 January, 6–8 pm)



Left: Lisa Milroy, *Party of One*, 2013. Installation painting and painting performed, 9 dress object-paintings, 1 wearable dress painting, 10 wooden stands, clay bases. Oil on unstretched canvas, 182 × 234 × 200 cm (71¼ × 92¼ × 78¾ in). Photograph by FXP Photography. Right: Lisa Milroy, *Shoes*, 1985. Oil on canvas, 176.5 × 226 cm (69½ × 89 in). Presented to Tate by Charles Saatchi 1992. Photograph © Tate, London, 2018.

Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art is delighted to present ***Here & There: Paintings by Lisa Milroy***. This major solo exhibition brings together a selection of Milroy's paintings from the past fifteen years, exploring her approaches to still life through making, looking, touch and transformation.

The term 'still life' signals the fundamental experience of painting for Milroy, encapsulating her fascination with the relation between stillness and movement, contemplation and action. In the 1980s Milroy's paintings featured everyday objects depicted against an off-white ground, compositionally arranged in a grid or random scatter and characterised by a quick gestural application of paint. In the 1990s, Milroy shifted from fast painting to a slower, more modulated approach. She began to paint objects within settings, which expanded her understanding of still life to embrace landscape, architecture, portraiture and storytelling. More recently, Milroy's sense of experimentation has led her to explore painting through installation and performance.

In ***Here & There***, motifs of clothing and shoes are foregrounded, object categories that have defined Milroy's work since the 1980s. On the ground floor of Parasol unit, the exhibition focuses on a notion of 'Here' and includes paintings that address materiality and bodily presence through three-dimensional object-paintings, pattern and colour. ***Up & Down*, 2016**, and ***Off the Rails (Ahmedabad)*, 2016**, invite the viewer to physically interact with the work, while other paintings such as ***Garment*, 2017**, ***FormLess*, 2016**, and ***Detached*, 2012**, picture items of clothing in various states of formation. The installation painting ***Party of One*, 2013**, includes a performative component, and performances will take place on a number of weekends throughout the exhibition.

On the first floor gallery, the exhibition focuses on 'There' and presents a selection of monochromatic paintings that explore presence and absence, loss, time and memory – all themes recurrent in Milroy's practice. Included is the monumental twenty-metre wide painting ***Black and White*, 2004–2005**, based on the artist's studio, and ***Shoes*, 1985**, the only work from the 1980s in the exhibition, on loan from Tate and a touchstone painting for Milroy.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a programme of educational events based on Milroy's practice and the exhibition catalogue includes a foreword by Ziba Ardan and texts by Hanneke Grootenboer and Briony Fer.

## NOTE TO EDITORS

### Artist Biography

**Lisa Milroy** was born in Vancouver, Canada. In 1979 she moved to London to study at St Martin's School of Art and Goldsmiths College (1979–1982). Milroy was elected to the Royal Academy of Arts in 2005 and is currently Head of Graduate Painting at the Slade School of Fine Art, UCL. Milroy won First Prize in the John Moores Painting Prize in 1989. She was an Artist Trustee of Tate from 2013–2017 and a Liaison Trustee to the National Gallery from 2015–2017. Since 2015, Milroy has worked with the Vodafone Foundation's Instant Network Schools, where she initiated 'Hands On', a practical art workshop programme that can be delivered through digital connectivity for schoolchildren in refugee camps. Milroy exhibits her work widely on the national and international stage, and her paintings are held in many public and private collections.

Selected solo and shared exhibitions (since 2014): *Stephenie Bergman and Lisa Milroy: Tango*, Sassoon Gallery, Folkestone, UK; *Cloth*, Mansun Farm, Kotarpur (The Retreat), Ahmedabad, India; *Out of Hand*, Laure Genillard Gallery, London, UK; *Social Fabric*, Oriol Sycharth Gallery, Wrexham, Wales.

Selected group exhibitions (since 2014): *Meticulous Observations and Naming the Money, works selected by Lubaina Himid from the Arts Council Collection*, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK; *RA Summer Exhibition 2017*, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK; *Painting in Time Part 1*, The Tetley, Leeds, UK, and *Painting in Time Part 2*, SAIC Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, USA; *Seeing Round Corners*, Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK; *Grosse Geister*, Artist Room: Lisa Milroy, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Germany; *Present Tense*, Swindon Museum and Art Gallery, Swindon, UK; *At Home*, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK; *Houses in the CAM Collection*, Museu Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal; *I Cheer a Dead Man's Sweetheart*, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill on Sea, UK.

Upcoming solo and shared exhibitions include *Lisa Milroy and Jayne Parker: Still Life*, A.P.T Gallery, London, UK, (March 3–18, 2018); and *Hand-Made*, One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Nairobi, Kenya.

**Parasol unit appreciates the generous support of the Arts Council England Grants for the Arts.**



### VISITOR INFORMATION

Founded in 2004, **Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art** is a non-profit art institution and registered educational charity that does not bear the founder's name and operates purely for public benefit. Every year the foundation organises four challenging and thought-provoking exhibitions by international contemporary artists working in various media, most of which are documented in an accompanying publication. The foundation also holds various artist projects and engages with the public and neighbouring community through a full programme of educational events for children, young people and adults. Thanks to an innovative model between private funding and public support one of London's most vibrant contemporary art spaces has come to exist and thrive. Admission to all exhibitions at **Parasol unit** is free of charge.

### Free Admission

**Parasol unit**  
14 Wharf Road, London N1 7RW

Opening hours  
Monday, by prior arrangement  
Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday, 12–5 p.m.

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

### For more information please contact:

**Kirsteen Cairns**  
T: +44 (0)20 7490 7373, ext. 23  
E: kirsteen@parasol-unit.org