

8th June, 2018

Pablo Bronstein to exhibit at London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE

New commission will feature Bronstein's most complex wallpaper design to date, inspired by classical architecture and decorative motifs

14 June, 2018 - 12 January, 2019

London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE

12 Walbrook, EC4N 8AA

www.londonmithraeum.com

London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE today announced its latest contemporary art commission, *London in its Original Splendour*, by celebrated artist Pablo Bronstein. Opening 14 June, Bronstein's new installation will envelop the Bloomberg SPACE gallery in a 3D rendered wallpaper inspired by historic design and architecture.

Situated on the site of Bloomberg's new European headquarters, London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE returns the Roman Temple of Mithras to the location of its discovery in the heart of the City and offers visitors an immersive experience of the ancient temple as well as a chance to see a collection of the Roman artefacts found during the building excavations. Expanding on Bloomberg's legacy of support for new commissions by international artists, the ground floor Bloomberg SPACE gallery aims to present lively and thoughtful works by contemporary artists whilst bringing fresh perspectives to the many-layered history of the site.

Bronstein's striking transformation of the street-level space will feature his most complex wallpaper design to date, rich in decorative and architectural motifs. Whole buildings, including exterior and interior areas will be rendered in great detail; while in the 'distance', expansive vistas appear to open up between buildings, revealing wider views of a fictionalized cityscape. Two temporary, angled walls have been integrated into the space to guide visitors as they 'tour' through Bronstein's illusory environment.

Bronstein is known for erudite, beautifully executed and subtly witty drawings, structures and performances that reflect his vast knowledge of the aesthetic and social attributes of historical and neo-historical architecture. Historically, *London in its Original Splendour* has precedents in the elaborate visual effects and 'temporary architecture' devised by Renaissance and Baroque masters - often as stage design, or on the occasion of a grand procession or an elaborate wedding celebration. Bronstein's fascination with architecture, ornamentation and the illusionism of perspective, extend from the 16th century designs of Sebastiano Serlio and Antoine Caron up to the post-modern practices of the later 20th century.

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Drawing on a wide field of reference, from the archaeological artefacts found on the Bloomberg site to the design legacy of the nearby buildings of Christopher Wren, John Soane, Edwin Lutyens and James Stirling, Bronstein has characteristically stirred the pot of architectural history and styles - inviting visitors to join him in this uniquely immersive installation at London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE.

Born in Argentina in 1977, Bronstein studied at Slade School of Fine Art and Goldsmiths College, London and currently lives and works in London and Deal, Kent. Selected solo exhibitions include *Pablo Bronstein*, Herald St, London (2018); *Pablo Bronstein and the Treasures of Chatsworth*, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham and Chatsworth, Derbyshire (2015); *We Live in Mannerist Times*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (2015); *Enlightenment Discourse on the Origins of Architecture*, REDCAT, Los Angeles (2014); *A is Building, B is Architecture*, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva (2013); *Sketches for Regency Living*, Institute of Contemporary Art, London (2011); and *Pablo Bronstein at the Met*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (2009). Commissions include *Tate Britain Commission: Historical Dances in an Antique Setting*, Tate Britain, London (2016); *Beach Hut in the Style of Nicholas Hawksmoor*, Folkestone Triennial (2014) and *BMW Tate Live: Performance Room*, Tate Modern, London, UK (2012).

London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE is free to visit and open to the public from Tuesday to Saturday from 10am to 6pm, and on Sundays from 12pm to 5pm. Pre-booking is advised through www.londonmithraeum.com.

About London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE

London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE returns the Roman Temple of Mithras to the location of its discovery in the heart of the City, beneath the site of Bloomberg's new European Headquarters. This anticipated cultural hub offers visitors an immersive experience of the ancient temple and a chance to see a collection of the remarkable Roman artefacts found during recent excavation. Visitors can also enjoy a series of contemporary art commissions responding to one of the UK's most significant archaeological sites. www.londonmithraeum.com

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Listings information

Pablo Bronstein:
London in its Original Splendour
14 June, 2018 - 12 January, 2019

London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE,
12 Walbrook, EC4N 8AA

www.londonmithraeum.com

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 6pm
Sundays: 12pm - 5pm
First Thursday of the month: 10am - 8pm

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