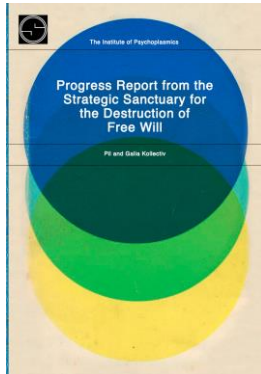


pumphousegallery



Press Release

pumphousegallery.org.uk enablelc.org
wandsworth.gov.uk

For immediate release 21.12.15
Exhibition opens 24 February 2016

Progress Report from the Strategic Sanctuary for the Destruction of Free Will

For their first solo exhibition at Pump House Gallery, Pil and Galia Kollektiv will transform the building into a makeshift film set. They will create environments that juxtapose the institutional and the psychedelic, creating a distorted, jagged architecture in which to shoot a film during the gallery's closing hours, screening short missives as the exhibition progresses.

The project aims to think through the possibility of collectivity in a society that demands the total management of individual, private experience. Drawing on the ideas of the emancipatory psychedelic culture of the sixties, the anti-psychiatry movement that came with it, and more recent writing on the biopolitics of pharmaceutical control, this new work takes on difficult questions of labour and its intersections with chemical mediations of everyday experience.

Through filmed, synchronised movement set within the neo-expressionist, makeshift installation, Pil and Galia ask what happens to the idea of opening the mind and superseding the illusion of the ego in an age when the constant production of the self is an imperative of post-Fordist labour. The exhibition will culminate in a screening of the full film draft accompanied by live music.

Pump House Gallery, run by Enable Leisure & Culture on behalf of Wandsworth Council will become an exploratory setting of an artwork that constantly evolves, offering different experiences to visitors as the project develops.

The exhibition will be complemented by Pump House Gallery's trademark participation programme. Alongside each exhibition, an artist is invited to present a participatory project which encourages visitors and families to contribute their thoughts. Based in the Project Space, a key theme is identified from the exhibition to explore using hands-on making activities. Providing visitors with a different way to explore a key theme, it creates a welcoming space for visitors to drop in to make, share their thoughts and engage with the exhibition.

Councillor Jonathan Cook, Wandsworth Council's arts spokesman, said *"This is a great opportunity for residents to take part in learning and doing, inspired by creativity"*.

Paul McCue, Enable's managing director, said *"The return of Pil and Galia for a second time to the gallery shows their popularity and I know that visitors to the gallery will be inspired by the film set installation."*

Notes to Editors: Key dates:

Preview: 23 February 2016 6:30 – 8:30pm Exhibition dates: 24 Feb – 3 Mar 2016

The Artists:

Pil and Galia Kollektiv are London-based artists, writers and curators making collaborative work that explores the relationship between art and politics, and the current role irony and belief play in how they are articulated. Often performative, though spanning a range of media from film, live work and collage to sculpture and music, their work investigates the cultural construction of ideology. They are especially interested in the place of creativity and subjectivity in the contemporary organisation of labour. They are also the directors of artist-run project space xero, kline & coma in London, and work as lecturers in Fine Art at the University of Reading and the CASS School of Art.

Recent solo exhibitions include: Suck the Living Labour, Ort Gallery, Birmingham (2013); Terminal Equilibrium, Trade Gallery, Nottingham (2013); and Pil and Galia Kollektiv, Te Tuhi Centre for the Arts, Manukau City, NZ (2010).

Please see [artists' website](#) for a full CV.

Pump House Gallery is a public contemporary exhibition space housed in a distinctive four story grade II listed Victorian tower by the lake in Battersea Park. Collaboration and participation is at the heart of its programme. The gallery is operated by Enable Leisure and Culture on behalf of Wandsworth Council. For more information about our exhibitions, the [schools programme](#) or [events programme](#), visit the [gallery website](#), call 020 8871 7572 or email info@pumphousegallery.org.uk.

Enable Leisure and Culture is a new organisation created out of the local authority sector as a Public Service Mutual. It is currently applying for charitable status and provides a wide range of services across a leisure and cultural portfolio contracted out by Wandsworth Council. It has an annual turnover in excess of £8 million.

E-mail: info@pumphousegallery.org.uk **Tweet:** @pumphousegal #PHGPilGalia

Tel: 020 8871 7572

Gallery opening times: Weds - Sun 11am - 4pm. Closed Monday and Tuesday and when no exhibition is on.



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ENDS