

JANE LOMBARD GALLERY

Jane Bustin *The Colour of Words*

February 27th - April 4th, 2020



Jane Bustin, *Song*, 2019, porcelain, oxide pigments, 13.77 x 5.11 inches (35 x 13 cm)

'A little patch of yellow wall ... like some priceless specimen of Chinese art, of a beauty that was sufficient in itself.' Marcel Proust.

Jane Lombard Gallery is pleased to present *The Colour of Words*, our first solo exhibition with Jane Bustin, following a successful two-person show in 2017. The London-based artist is recognized for her intimate and minimalist constructions. Bustin's earthen neutral works are made by applying natural pigment to porcelain, fabric, or wood. She cultivates a poetic dialogue between the disparate materials. The exhibition includes paintings, film, and porcelain objects.

Jane Bustin was the recipient of a residency award at the Mark Rothko Centre, in Latvia, during the summer of 2019. In the former 1833 Fortress just outside of the city of Daugavpils, Bustin describes a richness of "histories, secrets, and buried memories within its walls" where she made her studio. Situated in a brooding outbuilding that once housed a dining hall for

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Napoleonic soldiers, a prisoner of war camp, a post-war aviation engineering school and underground raves in the 1980s. The strangeness and beauty of Bustin's surroundings compelled an intensive study of her quarters. She suggests the space itself entranced her and directed her practice in those weeks and beyond.

The artist transmutes crumbling walls, sun bleached paint, and a gentle breeze in this new series, which begets a reflection on a structural and emotional absorption of time. A particularly striking remembrance of color is displayed in the works, she recounts the intensity of these shades in her encounters and grounds us in her experience through a sensory rich description of each one.

An exhibition highlight, *Bergotte's Yellow*, is a work in response to Marcel Proust's well-known passage from his epic novel, *In Search of Lost Time*. Bergotte, the fictional writer, fixates on Vermeer's *View of Delft* painting. The writer suddenly has a revelation that "this little patch of yellow wall" is a wondrous, magical element that lifts the ordinary into the extraordinary. Bustin's thirteen-foot painting consists of two panels, one made of anodized aluminum and the other of linen. The additional materials include hand-dyed, burnt saffron silk, a stainless steel stand, paper, and a glazed porcelain bowl. The chemical transformations echo Proust's divine alchemy, turning the everyday into the precious.

Jane Bustin, born 1964, London, studied at Portsmouth Polytechnic. She has had solo shows in London, Berlin, Paris, New York, Sydney, as well as group shows at Whitechapel, London; Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh; Royal Academy, London; Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool and Kettle's Yard, Cambridge. She is the recipient of the Pollock-Krasner, British Council awards and the Mark Rothko Memorial Fund Award. Bustin has work in public collections, including: Victoria & Albert Museum, Ferens Museum and Yale Centre. A performance project, *Faun*, including live music and dance was presented for Art Night London, 2018 at London County Hall, Southbank.

About Jane Lombard Gallery

Jane Lombard Gallery, although (re)opened in 2015, has a rich 25 year history with an established reputation for bringing to the forefront artists who work within a global perspective/aesthetic relevant to the social and political climate of today. The gallery seeks to promote both emerging and mid career artists in a variety of media - painting, sculpture, installation and film - in the US, Europe and Asia, including new artists we have recently introduced to our program. Formerly Lombard Freid Projects, founded in 1995 in Soho, the gallery later moved to Chelsea, first to 26th Street and then to its current location on 19th Street in 2010.

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