



Press release 11 March 2011

## Carey Young

### *Memento Park*

**Exhibition:** 31 March - 20 July 2011

**Preview:** Thursday 31 March, 6-8pm

**Press access:** Thursday 31 March (please contact us in advance to organise a visit)

mima is delighted to present *Memento Park*, a major touring solo show by Carey Young, an internationally renowned UK artist. The exhibition surveys a decade of the artist's works in video, photography, text, sculpture and digital media. A number of works are receiving their UK premiere.

Carey Young's work focuses on the interconnections between economic systems, legal language and contemporary culture and is particularly apt at this moment of global economic unease. Using a variety of media and settings Young positions herself as an insider to these predominant systems and playfully critiques them through the use of their own methods and language, creating fictional and absurd scenarios which operate midway between performance and installation.

Key to the exhibition is the new video *Memento Park* (2010), commissioned in conjunction with Cornerhouse, Manchester and, Eastside Projects, Birmingham. *Memento Park* was shot in a statue park in Budapest containing a large collection of monumental, socialist realist Soviet statues in poses of 'suspended animation'. We see the figures surrounded by bustling contemporary life passing by outside the park, which undercuts the statues' historical importance and impressive physical impact. Nevertheless, the seductive lushness of the surrounding greenery, shot mainly at the beginning and end of the day, gives these icons of propaganda a strange and beautiful serenity. This subtle and nuanced piece expands Young's ongoing interests in performance, politics and rhetoric.

The show also includes UK premieres of works including *Product Recall* (2007), a video in which the artist undergoes a psychoanalyst session relating to contemporary advertising. *Inventory* (2007) is a text 'self portrait' in which the artist has calculated the financial 'value' of the chemical elements present in her body. The telephone piece *Follow the Protest*, 2009, uses a call centre interface to offer "protest on demand" - recordings of interviews and other sounds captured by the artist at the G20 protests in London in April 2009. *Missing Mass* (2010) is a sculptural work featuring dark matter particles and a legal disclaimer, which proposes the particles as the only truly free entities in existence.

A new major monographic publication will accompany the exhibition, with texts by Jennifer Allen, Raimundas Malasauskas and Jill Magid and Carey Young.

#### **Artist Talk**

Artist Carey Young is giving a **FREE** public talk at mima on Wednesday 11 May, 12.30pm. To book call 01642 726 720 / email [mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:mima@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

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## Notes to editors

### **Carey Young**

Carey Young (b. 1970, Lusaka, Zambia. Dual British American nationality, currently lives and works in London) Recent one-person exhibitions include The Power Plant, Toronto and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, (both 2009); Paula Cooper Gallery, New York (2010, 2007); with works also presented at Taipei Biennial (2010), Tate Britain (2009), Moscow Biennale (2007), Modern Art Oxford (2007) and Performa 05, New York (2005).

<http://www.careeyoung.com>

### **Cornerhouse**

Cornerhouse is Manchester's international centre for contemporary visual arts and film. Located in the heart of the city and open seven days a week, we have 3 floors of contemporary art galleries, 3 screens showing the best of independent cinema, a bar, café and a bookshop. We also operate Cornerhouse Publications, an international distribution service for contemporary visual arts books and catalogues.

<http://www.cornerhouse.org/>

### **Eastside Projects**

Eastside Projects is an artist-run space, a public gallery for the City of Birmingham and the World. It is organised by a founding collective comprising Simon & Tom Bloor, Celine Condorelli, Ruth Claxton, James Langdon and Gavin Wade, who first conceived and now runs the space.

<http://www.eastsideprojects.org/>

### **mima Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**

mima is one of the UK's leading galleries for modern and contemporary art and craft. The landmark building designed by Erick van Egeraat Architects is situated in the heart of Middlesbrough. mima opened to international critical acclaim in January 2007. Hosting temporary exhibitions of fine art and craft from 1900 to the present, mima showcases work by internationally acclaimed artists. Exhibitions change throughout the year and admission is free.

### **Also showing at mima this spring...**

#### **The Modern Jewel: In time and the mind of others**

**25 March – 10 July 2011**

A major new jewellery exhibition

#### **Sam Belinfante, *Penumbra***

**31 March – 20 July 2011**

mima soundspace

#### **Have Your Say**

**25 March – 10 July 2011**

A film by TMT, mima's group of young people

#### **stay + play**

**31 March – 10 July 2011**

A new family space for looking, making & exploring

### **For further press information, images or interviews contact:**

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**Gallery and shop opening times**

Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat  
10.00am–4.30pm  
Thurs 10.00am–7.00pm\*  
Sun 12noon–4.00pm  
Closed Mon  
Please note that mima is  
now closed on Bank Holidays.

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