

MOSTYN

MEDIA RELEASE – 10 October 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Louisa Gagliardi

Under the Weather

Exhibition Dates: 17 November 2018 - 3 March 2019

MOSTYN, Wales UK

Gallery 3

Exhibition Opening Event: Saturday 17 November 2018 from 4.00pm

We are delighted to present the first solo exhibition in a UK institution of the work of Switzerland born and Zurich based artist Louisa Gagliardi.

Gagliardi's work pulls apart the construction of an image, and of our society, in a digital age, while appearing to explore the codes and history of painting. Her works pose questions around ideas of figure and ground, flatness and depth. Working digitally initially – using a freehand digital illustration tool – her pieces are later seemingly translated into paintings. Although brushstrokes might seem apparent, her works are digitally printed, replacing paint for printing ink, canvas for PVC and traditional lacquer for a gel material – mediums that are perhaps more at home with the advertising industry than they are with weighty history of painting. As a whole, the appearance of her pieces is caught in a state between human and machine, reflecting the confused, surreal tone of much of the images and worlds she portrays.

Presenting both new and existing works, this exhibition places a spotlight on the defining factors of Gagliardi's practice, which has also turned to the location of the gallery for inspiration. In various ways, the works explore the urban environment and the countryside, and the conflict that can arise between the two. Dissatisfaction and the inability to be content in the present moment are recurring themes distilled into representations of urban and natural settings.

While the works in *Under the Weather* deal, in part, with MOSTYN's own setting, they also address Gagliardi's biography and upbringing. The environment of nature played an important role in Gagliardi's early years and the city is where the innocence of childhood has gradually faded – symbolised through the figures that populate her works. The figures seem passive and submissive to elements and threats and, through their apparent longing for things past, exist in situations that seem unresolved.

This exhibition has been curated by Adam Carr, Visual Arts Programme Curator, MOSTYN and will be presented alongside a new exhibition by Josephine Meckseper, curated by Alfredo Cramerotti, Director, MOSTYN as part of MOSTYN's continuing 'In Conversation' series. The 'In Conversation' series brings together two solo exhibitions and presents the dialogue, collaboration or similarity in exploring themes that can occur between artists.

This exhibition has been made possible thanks to generous support of Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and the assistance of Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels.

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For press and images please email: lin@mostyn.org

Editor's Notes:

About the Artist

Born in 1989 in Switzerland, Gagliardi lives and works in Zurich. She graduated from Ecole Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne (ECAL) with a BA in Graphic Design. Solo exhibitions of her work to date have been held at Openforum, Berlin; Plymouth Rock, Zurich; Pilar Corrias, London; La Plage, Paris; Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels; The Cabin, Los Angeles; Tomorrow Gallery, New York; Galerie Ephemere, Hublot, Verbier; and White Squat, Zurich. She has participated in group exhibitions held at Aargauer Kunsthhaus, Aarau; Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, St. Gallen; Louisiana, Humlebæk; Luma Foundation, Zurich; König Galerie, Berlin; Swiss Design Award at Art Basel, Basel, among others.

About MOSTYN

Situated in the North Wales coastal town of Llandudno, MOSTYN is Wales' foremost contemporary gallery and visual arts centre, and a key partner of the PlusTate network of art institutions in the UK. MOSTYN activates people's lives through visual arts and inspires them to form and share new perspectives.

MOSTYN receives financial support from the Arts Council of Wales and Conwy County Borough Council Art Service.

Mostyn Gallery Ltd is a registered charity trading as MOSTYN.

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