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Pi Artworks is delighted to present Jyll Bradley's *Within A Budding Grove*, curated by Debbie Meniru. This exhibition will celebrate *The Hop* at Frieze Sculpture Park, curated by Fatoş Üstek.

21 – 30 September 2023
55 Eastcastle St
W1W 8EG

Pi Artworks is thrilled to present Jyll Bradley's *Within a Budding Grove*, curated by Debbie Meniru in celebration of *The Hop* pavilion at Frieze Sculpture Park 2023.

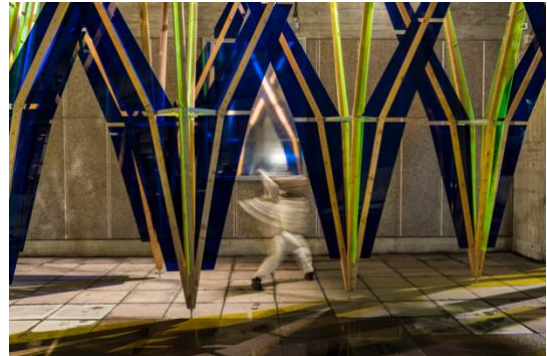


Image Credit: Thierry Bal, Dancer Evie Webzell

Within a Budding Grove takes its title from the second volume of Proust's *In Search of Lost Time*, which follows the protagonist's adolescence and his increasing sense of self-awareness. As a teenager, Jyll Bradley spent a lot of time sitting in her family's greenhouse in rural Kent observing the play between sunlight and glass, a visual language that has remained integral to her work since the 1980s. Presenting recent works across sculpture, photography, drawing and film, Bradley draws on the bold geometries of espaliers: agricultural structures developed to train and direct the growth of young plants such as fruit trees and hops so that their crops attain the maximum exposure to sun.

In a series of new drawings, she repeats complex linear patterns across blue carbon paper, revealing the mesmerising geometry of a hop garden and transforming it into an abstract architectural blueprint. Never quite settling between transparency and opacity, visibility and invisibility, Bradley's sculptures similarly hover between states. Bright zips of neon loudly announce their presence while hazy yellow reflections dance softly across the wall. The agricultural structures they evoke can be used as both gathering places and hiding spots to seek solitude. Meanwhile, Bradley's photographic self-portraits hint at her desire as a queer woman in the 1980s to be seen and understood but also to hide away, obscuring her face from the camera and turning to abstraction in her art as a way to express the strange and unexpected.

Within a Budding Grove accompanies the presentation of Bradley's interactive sculpture *The Hop* in Frieze Sculpture 2023 curated by Fatoş Üstek. *The Hop* started life as a major commission for the Hayward Gallery and will find its permanent home in Poplar, East London, next year.

- *Text by Debbie Meniru*

The Hop Pavilion at Frieze Sculpture will be a hub for people, community and ideas, throughout its run in Regent's Park. With an opening ceremony and performances throughout October by Lambeth's Poet Laureate Abtact Benna, as well as dances by Adisola Akinleye and the Dancing Strong Movement Lab, *The Hop* will also be open to public performance bookings through the Frieze website.

The show will run 20 – 30 September 2023. Gallery opening hours are 12 – 6pm, Tuesday Saturday. For further queries, images and interviews contact london@piartworks.com or WhatsApp +44 77 18425153.

Jyll Bradley b. Folkestone, UK, 1966.

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Bradley lives and works in London, making installations, films, drawings and sculptures. Through a process she describes as 'queering minimalism' her work combines formal rigour with narratives of identity and place. Her recent work *The Hop* was commissioned by the Hayward Gallery, London and will be presented this fall at Frieze Sculpture, London, 2023.

Collections Include: Arts Council Collection, UK, The Government Art Collection, UK, The National Library of Australia, Australia The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK Canberra Museum and Art Gallery, Australia, Strange Cargo Arts, Cheriton, Hopital Roger Salengro, CHRU, Lille, France.

Bradley's work is represented in numerous private collections both in the UK and Europe.

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