

UTOPIA THROUGH NOSTALGIA

The Koppel Project Hive

10 January – 8 February 2019

Private View: 9 January 2019 6-8pm

Lydia Blakeley | Molly Brocklehurst | Doug Haywood
Nicholas Macneil | Mariana Mauricio | Norman Mine
Richard Porter | Luisa Rodriguez | Chieh An Tang

The Koppel Project is pleased to present *Utopia Through Nostalgia*, a group exhibition featuring a body of work by eight emerging artists addressing ideas of time and the diminishing realities of existence.

In this group exhibition, 'utopia' becomes the imaginative reconstruction of a lost past. Entwined with memory and fantasy, it creates a past made from distorted narratives. Time advances, with its unforgiving power to decay, moving forward but never stopping. While it has the ability to blur the past, it can leave us yearning for a life already lived.

Utopia Through Nostalgia presents a collection of experiences inspired by memories of all ages. The exhibition is achieved through the compilation of artwork in a variety of media all of which capture the traces of time. This ranges from the figurative reproductions of imagery in painting to abstract compositions to the different textures in the surfaces of sculptures and installations.

Each artist aims to depict their nostalgic reminiscence of people, objects, locations, experiences, and feelings that relate to the rose-coloured memories of their past. Nostalgia is always romanticised: the past exists through a continually revised narrative of remembering and therefore threatens the present reality. Pining for an impossibly pure experience, nostalgia wears a distinctly fanciful mask that turns towards a future-past, which has only a utopian projection.

The Koppel Project Hive is situated within the City of London where the accelerated surroundings restrict one's time to reflect and slow down. *Utopia Through Nostalgia* encourages viewers to indulge in a 'pause' in time while making them conscious of its physicality, grounded by familiar environmental sounds emanating from a site specific sound installation. In conjunction with the artworks, this configuration of space invites viewers into a calm haven from our over-saturated day-to-day lives.

For further information:

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