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## Ludovica Gioscia The Tenderness of Insects

12 September 2019 - 12 January 2020

Preview: Wednesday 11 September 2019, 6-8pm

VITRINE, Basel. Daily 24/7.

VITRINE is delighted to announce Italian London-based artist Ludovica Gioscia's first solo exhibition in Switzerland. Exploring a new dimension of Gioscia's 'Infinite Present' ecosystem, the exhibition will bring together new works in ceramic, papier-mâché, fabric and found materials that reflect the rural landscape.

The 'Infinite Present' is Gioscia's modus operandi, which reflects the new temporalities that have emerged within the digital revolution. It has led to a studio practice that is constantly being reconsidered and renegotiated, in which the past, present and future infinitely coexist. As such, Gioscia describes her studio as having become "a magical location in which artworks from the future and from other dimensions appear, and past creations are de-assembled and reconsidered."

Gioscia's installations and sculptures have to-date explored the rich layering of cultural debris within our cities; for 'The Tenderness of Insects' she turns our attention to the intelligence of plants and their sophisticated ecosystems and networks of communication. Gioscia sees artworks as being alive, hence constantly evolving. Infused with a sort of animism, the creations stem from a deep enjoyment of working with materials. It therefore came naturally for her to look to the rural environment and the rich flora and fauna that surrounded her during a recent period of time spent on the grounds of La Boissière, Charente, in rural southwest France on the residency, Launch Pad LaB.

The traces of the artist's collaborations and experiments with nature over this period are woven throughout this new body of work. Perhaps most evident within her new ceramics, in which the impressions of a 200-year-old oak tree's bark is engraved into the surface of the local produced clay, in a process which the artist describes as 'empathic frottages'. Fragments from the environment, including petals, dried grasses, branches, and drops of vibrational remedies, such as Bach flowers, make their way into other works in papier-mâché, wallpaper and fabric, further reflecting the fields and flowers in the area through her choice of colour palette.

'The Tenderness of Insects' will bring these new works together into a series of new site-responsive assemblages within VITRINE's unique exhibition space located in a urban outdoor setting and viewable 24/7 from the public square. As we confront global warming, one of the most defining issues of our time, Gioscia brings the energy of a rural ecosystem into the gallery space, and more crucially the city. She encourages us to consider plants as intelligent beings and the healing properties that accompany them, and to turn to mother nature herself for guidance.

Special thanks to Launch Pad LaB.  
Dedicated to Heinz, who loved trees.

**Ludovica Gioscia (born 1977, Rome)** lives and works in London. She graduated with an MFA Fine Art Media from the Slade School of Art in 2004 and has been exhibiting internationally since, at galleries and institutions including: La Fabbrica del Cioccolato, Blenio, CH; Creative Centre Osaka, Osaka, JP; Palazzo da Mosto, Fondazione Palazzo Magnani, Reggio Emilia, IT; MACRO, Rome, IT; Palazzo Fiano, Rome, IT; FuturDome, Milan, IT; The Warhol Foundation, Pittsburgh, US; Baert Gallery, Los Angeles, US; Salon 94, The Flag Art Foundation, Allegra LaViola, NY, US; Maraya Art Park, Sharjah, U.A.E.; The Miro' Foundation, Barcelona, ES; Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, UK; Jerwood Space, London, UK; South London Gallery, London, UK; MNAC, Bucharest, RO; and Comfort Moderne, Poitiers, FR.

Gioscia has recently been commissioned by Museo della Figurina which is part of Fondazione Modena Art Visive, Modena, IT, to create a site-specific installation for the exhibition 'POP THERAPY. Lo spirito rivoluzionario delle figurine Fiorucci' on until 25 August 2019, curated by Diana Baldon and Francesca Fontana. One of Gioscia's site specific wallpaper installations can be seen at The Drake in Toronto as part of 'On Repeat' curated by Mia Nielsen closing this fall.

**For press enquiries, image requests, and private view accreditation please contact:**

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#### Notes to Editor

1. The following pages contain a selection of images of past related works and work-in-progress.  
High or low res JPEG files available on request.  
Installation views of the show will be released on Monday 9 September 2019.

2.  
VITRINE is focused on artistic experimentation and development; material-, process- and installation-led practice at its core.

VITRINE operates a hybrid business model encompassing both commercial gallery and non-profit projects. The gallery was founded by Alys Williams in London in 2012 (grown from a project space launched in 2010) and in Basel in April 2016. Establishing a strong reputation as a selector and nurturer of new talent, VITRINE invites and fosters the development and presentation of new work in spaces in London, UK, and Basel, Switzerland; at art fairs internationally; and through off-site projects in collaboration with partner organisations.

VITRINE's spaces promote a new model of exhibition-making, encouraging experimentation and installation. Whilst enclosed behind glass, the works extend beyond its boundaries into the surrounding public space. Exhibitions viewable 24/7; Internal viewing rooms open by appointment.

VITRINE's gallery on Vogesenplatz has been designed by Swiss designers Jens Müller and Thomas Wüthrich, who collaborate under the label PANTERAPANTERA. The design creates a unique exhibition space echoing VITRINE's original space on Bermondsey Square and encapsulates a hidden, inner viewing room; evolving and pushing the possibilities of this unique gallery model further.