

FORWARD MOTION: PREVIEWS

Alice Reilly selects an alluring array of nature-themed shows

Tracey Bush: 'Nine Wild Plants'

1 Nov-25 Nov Wed-Sat 12-6pm

The average western adult can recognise 1,000 brand names and logos, but fewer than 10 wild plants. Even if your response is a big fat 'So?' force yourself along for these ink drawings filled in with brand names cut from packaging and 3D flowers from the same scavenged ephemera. They exude a strange tension between the multi-million pound brands and the painfully delicate flowers that struggle for the same gutter space as KFC boxes.

Clerkenwell Green Association, Pennybank Chambers,
33-35 St John's Sq, London EC1

T: +44 (0)20 7251 0276

'The Secret Theory of Drawing: Dislocation & Indirection in Contemporary Drawing'

5 Oct-19 Nov Thurs to Sun 12-6pm

An exhibition of the 'status of line, graph and pulse' don't sound too thrilling at first but there's a buzz about this show, which seeks to debunk that dusty modernist idea of the ever-expressive and gestural line. Pulling in an international cast of names, this show (curated by Caoimhin Mac Giolla Leith) promises to be a real treat.

The Drawing Room, Tannery Arts, Brunswick Wharf, 55
Laburnum Street London E2

T: +44 (0)20 7729 5333

Julie Verhoeven: 'Ver-boten, Ver-Saatchi, Ver-Heaven'

11 Sep-11 Nov Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 11-6pm

Billed as a 'cut and paste chacuterie' and 'quilted miscel-lany', this show takes over both gallery and pavement to unite many a disparate image in a sprawling Ver-hoeven

world. Featuring music from Graham Coxon at the opening, real life growing flowers and Verhoeven's signature style, this trendy extravaganza should give us an idea of whether Ms Verhoeven can really do no creative wrong.

Riflemaker, 79 Beak Street, London W1

T: +44 (0)20 7439 0000

Michael Samuels

10 Oct-4 Nov Tues-Fri 10-6; Sat 11-6; Late night Tues till 8pm.

An interesting view of what city dwellers might imagine as a plentiful natural paradise. Samuels places desert islands on a resin sea, the fantasy is interrupted by the rough worktable the sculpture sits on, the loneliness of the image and the fetishised element to these miniature, glossy idylls. Nature, fantasy, the domestic, the threatening and your own imaginings collide in a higgledy-piggledy collision of second-hand furniture and miniature sculpture.

Rokeby, 37 Store Street, London WC1

T: +44 (0)20 7168 9942

'Fast and Loose (my dead gallery) London 1956-2006' curated by The Centre of Attention

13 Oct-5 Nov Fri-Sun: 1-6pm

If nature is all about life and death then here we get an exciting view of artworld nature; a look at the inspiring past of London's avant-garde and unorthodox gallery scene from 1956 to the present day. This show seems especially potent in east London, where the phrase 'old gallery' is derogatory. Take a look, eat a little humble pie and as the curatorial statement says, let's 'Fail Again. Fail Better'.

Fieldgate Gallery, 14 Fieldgate St, London E1

T: +44 (0)7957 228351