

fig-2

PRESS RELEASE

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LAUNCH OF DYNAMIC EXHIBITIONS PROGRAMME fig-2

ARTIST LAURA ELDRET TO CREATE UNIQUE INSTALLATION FOR OPENING WEEK

fig-2, a ground-breaking project which will present 50 exhibitions in 50 weeks will be launched on **5 January 2015** at the ICA Studio, London in association with Outset Contemporary Art Fund. The Art Fund Curator for *fig-2* is Fatos Ustek. Ustek acted as associate curator for the 10th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea and as editor of the publication *Unexpected Encounters Situations of Contemporary Art and Architecture since 2000* (Turkish Only, 2012; English Only upcoming).

fig-2 is a revival of the project *fig-1*, which was conceived and developed by Mark Francis and Jay Jopling in 2000. Experimental in its nature, each project was programmed only a few weeks in advance to maintain as much spontaneity as possible. Providing a new model for the presentation of contemporary creativity in London, the project preceded the term pop-up. *fig-1* presented projects by Jeremy Deller, Richard Hamilton, Runa Islam, Oliver Payne + Nick Relph, Will Self, Patti Smith, Caruso St. John, Philip Treacy, among others.

Fifteen years later, *fig-2* will bring together a stimulating and unusual variety of established and emerging artists, drawn from contemporary art, architecture, design, fashion, film, literature and performance. There will be an opening reception every Monday evening, with the details for each weekly exhibition announced the previous Wednesday on the *fig-2* website and the *fig-2* weekly newsletters, designed by Brighten the Corners.

fig-2 will be run from the ICA Studio, an independent space within the ICA. The Studio is a raw, industrial space, and is reputedly and the location where ArtAngel was founded. Universal Design Studio are *fig-2*'s architectural partners, the space will be transformed to meet the requirements of the rapidly changing exhibitions programme, with moveable walls, lighting and bookcases, to provide a flexible exhibition space able to adapt to accommodate large installation works, performances and a more traditional exhibition hang alike.

London based artist Laura Eldret will create a new installation for the first week of *fig-2*, displaying her current work in progress. Eldret, whose work often involves audience participation, will transform the ICA Studio into an immersive space for visitors. Throughout 2015, Eldret will develop her project, for the final outcome to be shown at the last week of *fig-2*. She has previously created works and projects for the South London Gallery, Camden Arts Centre, Ikon, Glasgow International and Baltic.

fig-2

ICA Studio

Institute of Contemporary Arts
The Mall
London, SW1Y 5AH

www.fig2.co.uk

Dates: 5 January – 20 December

Opening Times: *fig-2* opens every Monday, 6–8pm, and continues from Tuesday–Sunday 11am–6pm. *fig-2* is open late on Thursdays until 9pm to coincide with the ICA late openings.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

fig-2 is realised in association with Outset Contemporary Art fund and with the generous support of Bicester Village, Phillips, *fig-2*'s individual supporters, and the Art Fund.

Outset Contemporary Art Fund

Founded in 2003, Outset Contemporary Art Fund is an international and independent philanthropic organisation raising private and corporate funding to support new art for the public arena. Under curatorial guidance, Outset's trustees, patrons and partners fund capital campaigns, museum acquisitions, productions and art projects to benefit institutions spanning from grassroots to world-renowned public institutions and museums.

Art Fund

The Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art, helping museums to buy and show great art. Over the past 5 years we've given £26m to help museums and galleries acquire works of art for their collections, and placed hundreds of gifts and bequests, from ancient sculpture and treasure hoards to Old Master paintings and contemporary commissions. We are independently funded, the majority of our income coming from over 105,000 members who,

through the National Art Pass, enjoy free entry to over 220 museums, galleries and historic houses across the UK, as well as 50% off entry to major exhibitions.

Institute of Contemporary Arts

The ICA supports radical art and culture and is hosting *fig-2* under its umbrella of production in 2015. Through a vibrant programme of exhibitions, films, events, talks and debates, the ICA challenges perceived notions and stimulates debate, experimentation, creativity and exchange with visitors. Founded in 1946 by a group of artists, collectors and critics including Roland Penrose, Peter Watson and Herbert Read, the ICA continues to support artists in showing and exploring their work, often as it emerges and before others.

Bicester Village

Bicester Village, created and operated by Value Retail, has long supported the arts and emerging UK talent. This inaugural partnership with Outset Contemporary Art Fund realising 'Fig-2' at the ICA, London promises to be a diverse showcase of art, architecture, fashion, film and performance. Building on the revolutionary impact of Fig-1, Fig-2 will herald a new generation of artists, curated by Fatos Ustek whom we eagerly welcome to Bicester Village in the coming months.

Phillips

Phillips is synonymous with contemporary art and culture. We have set ourselves apart as the most dynamic and forward-looking of the international auction houses. Phillips is the destination for international collectors to buy and sell the world's most important contemporary works of art, design, photography, and editions. We are proud to support fig-2 at The Studio, ICA in association with Outset Contemporary Art which will no doubt be a seminal project in the London cultural landscape. We look forward to the forthcoming 50 weeks of exceptional and stimulating exhibitions in 2015.