

PITZHANGER

MANOR & GALLERY

Press Release

For Immediate Release: 25 July 2024



Antoni Malinowski, *Almost Seen*, 2016. Lapis Lazuli, synthetic tempera on canvas. 130 × 100 cm.



H el ene Binet, *Angels from Ponte Sant'Angelo*, 2019/2020. Hand printed b/w silver gelatin. 38.7 x 38.7 cm

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Announces New Exhibition *Antoni Malinowski and H el ene Binet: Pigments and Photons*

Open 7 August 2024

Ealing, London: Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery announces a new exhibition, *Antoni Malinowski and H el ene Binet: Pigments and Photons*, which opens on 7 August 2024. This marks the first joint exhibition of Antoni Malinowski and H el ene Binet in a public gallery, celebrating their deep sensitivity and understanding of light and architectural space and form.

The works will be displayed throughout the manor house, conversing with the historic spaces designed by Sir John Soane. Malinowski explores the relationship between colour, light and space in what he describes as "light-sensitive pictorial instability". Binet is adept at capturing the interplay of light, shadow, texture, and detail in photography. Long-time friends, the two artists recently began collaborating, united by their shared passion for architecture and how the eye reads tone and shade.

Malinowski's paintings use specialist interference pigments to bend and scatter light, encouraging the visitor to shift their viewpoint and move around the room to experience different tones and qualities of the paintwork. His mixing of pigments with synthetic tempera, exemplified in *Almost Seen* (2016, Lapis Lazuli, synthetic tempera on canvas), achieves an optical play echoing that which Soane employed to illuminate his rooms. Recurring motifs, such as the chair, hint at spaces for withdrawing and reverie, echoing the serene environments of Pitzhanger and inviting a deeper meditative contemplation of colour and light in the rooms.

Binet's photographs in the exhibition focus on the figure of the angel, inspired by the numerous representations of female figures throughout the manor. Her series *Angels from Ponte Sant'Angelo* (2019–2020, hand printed b/w silver gelatin) captures details of the angel statues on Ponte Sant'Angelo in Rome, revealing an energy and sense of immediacy to these graceful figures. These

PITZHANGER

MANOR & GALLERY

works resonate with Sir John Soane's Grand Tour to Rome in 1778, where he drew inspiration from classical architecture and sculptures, including those on Ponte Sant'Angelo.

An intriguing aspect of the exhibition is the glass fragments displayed in the Breakfast Room. This assembly features items Malinowski has collected over many years, showcasing his deep fascination with colour and light. The display includes segments of Murano glass tesserae, which sometimes appear in his paintings, a further nod to Soane's passion for the quality of the light he encountered in Italy and his use of glass in trying to recreate this in some of his rooms.

Both Malinowski and Binet have previously done work in correspondence with Sir John Soane's buildings. Binet's photographic works include depictions of his central London home and collection at Lincoln's Inn Fields. In 2009, Malinowski had a solo exhibition at Dulwich Picture Gallery where he painted and drew directly onto the walls of the historic gallery.

Hélène Binet said, *"The photographs selected combine details of angels' bodies wrapped with animated cloths, giving you a hint that they could fly, and dry flowers that, seeing through the lens, can become wings. The camera transforms, displaces and suggests to give the observer the possibility to record their own story. The photographs are also carefully selected to flirt and dialogue with the subtle and ephemeral paint strokes of Antoni Malinowski."*

Antoni Malinowski said: *"We live in a world of the senses, and our sense of colour is part of our life experience. A confluence of perceptual experiences allows us to be in the world; colour is an essential component of this sensual interplay. Often regarded as a secondary quality, it is, in fact, as important as haptic 'seeing' of an object. And, of course, colour is physically embedded in the microstructure of the materials that make art and comprise architecture. The echoes of the perpetual Grand Tour are present in Hélène's photographs and my paintings. The recurring ancient themes filtered through pigments and light. We both work slowly—time becomes a folded dimension. Our conversation with Soane's work is centred around daylight as experienced in space-time."*

Pigments and Photons runs concurrently alongside Pitzhanger's other exhibitions: *Grayson Perry: The Vanity of Small Differences* and *From Waste to Wonder: The Art of Sustainable Transformation*, where contemporary art stimulates a new perspective of historic architecture.

www.pitzhanger.org.uk/antoni-malinowski-and-helene-binet

****END****

For all media enquiries, please contact aston.law@pitzhanger.org.uk, lily.mountford@pitzhanger.org.uk and press@pitzhanger.org.uk

To be kept up to date with the latest news, sign up to the Pitzhanger newsletter at pitzhanger.org.uk/newsletter

[Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [X](#): @pitzhanger

Listing Information

Antoni Malinowski and Hélène Binet: *Pigments and Photons*

Date: Open 7 August 2024



Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust
Mattock Lane, Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ
www.pitzhanger.org.uk pitzhanger@pitzhanger.org.uk 020 3985 8888
Charity Registration: 1152434 Company Registration: 08278049



PITZHANGER

MANOR & GALLERY

Artist

Antoni Malinowski
Hélène Binet

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery

Address: Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ
8-minute walk from Ealing Broadway Station (Elizabeth, Central, District Lines & National Rail)

Opening hours:

Wednesday to Sunday 10am–5pm, including Bank Holidays (First Thursday of the Month: 10am–8pm)

General Admission:

£12 Standard / £6 Students / FREE Under 16

FREE for Members

FREE for Ealing Borough residents every first Thursday of the month 5–8pm, and every Sunday 10am–noon

Notes to editors

About Antoni Malinowski

Since his first wall drawing installations in the mid-1980s, Antoni Malinowski has been working in various media, from video to canvases to mosaics, often at a vast scale. He has undertaken solo exhibitions at Camden Arts Centre, Dulwich Picture Gallery and Oriel Mostyn. He has exhibited as part of the Venice Architecture Biennale. Malinowski has collaborated with architects on permanent interventions, including a wall painting spanning three floors at the Royal Court Theatre (2000), London and the façade and interior spaces of the Coin Street Community Centre (2007), London. In 2013, Malinowski undertook wall and ceiling paintings at the HTA refurbished Chichester Festival Theatre and the foyer ceiling paintings at the new Everyman Theatre, Liverpool, designed by Haworth Tompkins—this won the 2014 Stirling Prize. Malinowski's paintings have been exhibited internationally in many private and public collections, including the Arts Council Collection and Tate.

About Hélène Binet

Hélène Binet is a Swiss-French photographer currently living in London. She studied photography at the Institute Europe di Design in Rome, where she spent most of her formative years. Over more than 35 years, Binet has captured contemporary and historic architecture. Her work has been published in many books and shown and collected in numerous museums. Her latest exhibitions are Nature Time and Architecture, Salone del Mobile, Milano, Light Lines: the architectural photographs of Hélène Binet, Royal Academy of Arts, London, and a retrospective of her work at the Power Station of Art Shanghai. As an advocate of analogue photography, she works exclusively with film. In 2019, she was awarded the Ada Louise Huxtable Prize for her exceptional contribution to architecture. She was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 2007 and. In 2015, she was the recipient of the Julius Shulman Institute Excellence in Photography Award.



Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust
Mattock Lane, Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ
www.pitzhanger.org.uk pitzhanger@pitzhanger.org.uk 020 3985 8888
Charity Registration: 1152434 Company Registration: 08278049



PITZHANGER

MANOR & GALLERY

About Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, built 1800–1804 by the renowned architect Sir John Soane, is a historic country house and a contemporary art gallery in Ealing, West London. Our mission is to promote Sir John Soane's legacy, inspire visitors with art, architecture and design and nurture creativity for all within an extensive outreach and events programme. It celebrates Sir John Soane's genius and influence as a designer, juxtaposing his architecture with a programme of ambitious contemporary art exhibitions. Pitzhanger reopened in the spring of 2019 following a major £12-million conservation and restoration project to return the manor to his original design, with support from HLF, ACE, Ealing Council, and other generous donors.

About Sir John Soane

Sir John Soane (1753–1837) is one of Britain's most visionary architects, celebrated for his idiosyncratic take on the neoclassical style and mastery of natural light. Soane bought Pitzhanger in 1800. He demolished most of the existing manor house apart from the Dance Wing and, from 1800 to 1804, designed and built a new home as his country estate, sitting on 28 acres of parkland. The legacy of Soane's distinctive buildings, teachings and collections has influenced generations of artists, architects, and designers.

Image Sheet

Please download high-resolution images from the [Press Kit](#).



Front façade of Pitzhanger Manor. © Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery. Photo by Andy Stagg