

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANGELA BULLOCH
NEW WAVE DIGITS

1 – 30 MAY 2015

PRIVATE VIEW: THURSDAY, 30 APRIL, 6 – 8PM

Simon Lee Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new sculptures by acclaimed artist Angela Bulloch. Stacked columns of polyhedra, formed in steel, corian or MDF, populate the gallery space. Conceived and designed within a digital imaging program, this new body of sculptures, with their stylized geometry, electronic glow and manufactured surface sheen, might seem to channel New Wave Science Fiction - a genre typified by its imaginative, futuristic and often inaccurate notions of science and technology. Just as that genre's writers accelerated the age's visions of modernism, these geometric stacks suggest Brancusi's *Endless Column* as if refracted through vector graphics, reinforcing a sense of 'retro-futurity'. The temporality is confusing. Today, when much sculpture seems to be looking back toward the purity of minimalism, these works seem to refer to a later moment, when culture took imaginative leaps forward, postulating a world of stark angles and saw-tooth synthesizers.

The ambiguity of the word 'digits' - implying fingers, numerals or data - provides a point of entry to one of the fundamental themes of Bulloch's practice - the integration of the human subject with technology. Her interest in cybernetics, a field of study that links biological, social and technological systems, has been apparent in previous installations in which technology mediated our interaction with the work, in effect making us co-producers. In these works the interrelation is nuanced and layered - the sculptures are subtly anthropomorphic, suggesting bodies or parts of bodies. Two of the sculptures entitled '*Anima*' and '*Animus*' make reference to Jung's theory of archetypes: the male and female qualities that we subconsciously attribute to inanimate objects. From a cybernetic perspective this reference creates an intriguing paradox; could there be a trace element of the human within the non-living world, or is it merely psychological projection?

The works in the exhibition reveal another sense of indeterminacy; the flat planes and angles of each sculpture appear to animate as one moves around them, creating a disorienting illusion of shifts between two and three dimensions. As with other works in her corpus, this playful optical effect belies a complexity; the sculptures are essentially generated by perfect equations, their flattening out into patterned surface points toward their origins as endlessly replicable simulations of depth and volume. This slippage between the real and the virtual is perhaps melancholic, invoking an idealised space beyond our apprehension.

Concurrently with the exhibition, an outdoor sculpture in steel has been installed on Mount Street, Mayfair, at the entrance to Mount Street Gardens.

Angela Bulloch was born in Ontario, Canada and lives and works in Berlin. Her work is represented in major institutions and private collections worldwide, including Tate, London, Lenbachhaus, Munich, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Le Consortium Dijon, De Pont, Tilburg, and Guggenheim Abu Dhabi. Solo museum exhibitions include: Witte de With, Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam (2012); Stadtische Galerie Wolfsburg (2011); Lenbachhaus Munich (2008), Le Consortium, Dijon (2005). Major institutional group shows include *Seeing Through Light: Selections from the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Collection*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi (2014); *New Generation*, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais, Dunkirk, (2014); *The New Décor*, Hayward Gallery, London (2011); *Theanyspacewhatever*, Guggenheim Museum, New York (2008). Bulloch was recently commissioned to create a permanent installation for the new Cancer Centre at London's Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital, which will be unveiled next year.

**MAIN GALLERY:
CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT**

"I can't do that Dave.", 2015

Stack of six irregular rhombus
MDF painted pale pink
300 x 80 x 50 cm
(118 1/8 x 31 1/2 x 19 3/4 in.)

Stack Of Five Regular Rhombus Oiled MDF, 2014

150 x 45 x 30 cm
(59 1/8 x 17 3/4 x 11 3/4 in.)

Stack Of Five Irregular Rhombus Oiled MDF, 2014

150 x 48 x 30 cm
(59 1/8 x 18 7/8 x 11 3/4 in.)

Short Cardinal - Never Ending, 2015

Stack of three regular waisted forms,
grey MDF painted brown and red
90 x 42 x 30 cm
(35 3/8 x 16 1/2 x 11 3/4 in.)

New Wave Digit, 2015

Stack of six irregular rhombus,
grey MDF painted pale blue and dark green
180 x 30 x 45 cm
(70 7/8 x 11 3/4 x 17 3/4 in.)

Animus Ernest, 2015

Stack of four irregular rhombus, three Cameo White,
one Glacier Ice, with one light element
204 x 50 x 70 cm
(80 1/4 x 19 3/4 x 27 1/2 in.)

Heavy Metal Stack of Six 3 Blues, 2014

Stack of six irregular rhombus, powder coated steel
painted dark blue, green and turquoise
300 x 80 x 50 cm (118 1/8 x 31 1/2 x 19 3/4 in.)
Base: 130 x 130 x 1 cm (51 1/8 x 51 1/8 x 3/8 in.)

Never Ending with ipad, 2015

Stack of four regular waisted forms, grey oiled MDF with ipad
120 x 42 x 30 cm
(47 1/4 x 16 1/2 x 11 3/4 in.)

Stack of Six Regular Rhombus Seagrass Corian, 2014

180 x 45 x 30 cm
(70 7/8 x 17 3/4 x 11 3/4 in.)

Anima Eve, 2015

Stack of four irregular rhombus, one Cameo White,
three Blueberry Ice with one light element
204 x 72 x 50 cm
(80 1/4 x 28 3/8 x 19 3/4 in.)