

EVERARD READ

LONDON

PRESS RELEASE: *For immediate release, January 2019*

WILLIAM PEERS

FANFARE

8 – 30 March 2019

Everard Read London presents an exhibition of new sculpture by William Peers. Entitled, *FANFARE*, the exhibition comprises 15 new works, carved in Carrara or Portuguese marble.

With this new body of work, Peers continues exploring the relationship between positive and negative shapes. Removing more marble allows the negative shapes to play a greater part; the focus shifts between the marble contours and the air around them - a conversation between matter and space.

Peers' practice routinely involves imposing boundaries and rules and then working through his process, exploring the forms that emerge. Recently he has been investigating the movement of a line freed from the earth, travelling in space like an air current, weightless and uninhibited. This resulted in a series of sculptures with continuous loops, each one the journey of a slight volume through space. This new collection of sculptures is an exploration of the process of interrupting this loop.

"The point at which the form begins and ends seems to desire an event – a resolution," Peers' reflects, "A trumpet head, has been one solution. In other cases, the form has started to grow out of the base. I like the fact that this process has given rise to a shift towards figuration. We are at once reminded of creatures and plants in nature."

The exhibition comprises rhythmical forms; some twisting and animated, others languorous and sensuous. It is as if they delight in teasing the viewer; is that an elephant's trunk? A creature from the deep ocean? A musical instrument? Are they none of these – or all of these combined? Do they mimic nature, or are they nature?

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These works are a celebration of form and shape and their playfulness belies the intensive labour and exhaustive honing and shaping that gives them their impossibly smooth curves.

This is William Peers' second solo exhibition with Everard Read London. Previous exhibitions include seven solo exhibitions with John Martin Gallery in Mayfair as well as exhibitions in New York and San Francisco. Public exhibitions include *On Form* at Asthall Manor, Woburn Abbey and Glyndebourne. Two of Peers' monumental sculptures are permanently displayed at Linthwaite House in Britain's Lake District as part of the Leeu Hotel Group's collection

For more information, please contact:

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Photo credit: Pooch

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Registered in England and Wales: 9642502 | VAT Registration number: 219 7990 61

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About Everard Read London

Everard Read was established in South Africa in 1913, making it Africa's oldest commercial gallery. Everard Read London opened in Chelsea in March 2016 and presents modern and contemporary art from southern Africa. The gallery also shows contemporary work by exceptional artists from around the world. Everard Read has galleries in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Franschhoek and London.

Everard Read London is located at 80 Fulham Road, London SW3 6HR and is open weekdays, 10am – 6pm and Saturdays, 12pm – 4pm. www.everardlondon.com

About William Peers

(b. 1965, UK)

William Peers studied at Falmouth Art College after which he was apprenticed to a stone-carver, Michael Black, who urged him to work slowly and entirely by hand. Peers worked in the marble quarries of Carrara, Italy, and later spent time in Corsica where he found a tranquil retreat to work and develop his ideas. His earliest carvings were figurative and followed the long history of English stone carving brought to prominence by Henry Moore and Eric Gill.

In the 1990s Peers moved to Cornwall and there followed a period of fifteen years where he exclusively carved relief sculptures in Hornton Stone. Over time his work has become increasingly abstract. In 2007 he created a large series of work in Portuguese marble. The change of material had a dramatic effect on the style of his work. In 2010 he embarked on a series: *100 Days: Sketched in Marble* in which he carved a marble sculpture each day for one hundred days. Working repeatedly within a time limit led him to a bolder approach to carving. Recently the relationship between positive and negative shapes has become an interest, and several larger works for the landscape have seen a dramatic change in scale in his work. Two of his monumental sculptures are permanently displayed at Linthwaite House in Britain's Lake District as part of the Leeu Hotel Group's collection.

In his recent exhibitions, 'The Space Between' and 'A Line in Space', Peers has been exploring the relationship between positive and negative shapes. Removing more marble allows the negative shapes to play a greater part, and the focus is not only on the marble contours, but on the air that surrounds them; a conversation between matter and space.

Past exhibitions include seven solo exhibitions with John Martin Gallery as well as exhibitions in New York and San Francisco. Public exhibitions include *On Form* at Asthall Manor, Woburn Abbey and Glyndebourne.

Previous Exhibitions

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2018

Solo exhibition, A Line in Space - John Martin Gallery, London, UK

2016

Solo exhibition, The Space Between – Everard Read London, UK

2014

on form sculpture, group exhibition – Asthall Manor, Oxfordshire

Solo exhibition 'Carvings in Marble' – John Martin Gallery, London

2013

on form London, group exhibition – The Crypt, St Pancras Church

2012

Woburn Artbeat, group exhibition – Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire

Sculptural, group exhibition – Coombe Trenchard, Devon

on form sculpture, group exhibition – Asthall Manor, Oxfordshire

Pertaining to Things Natural, group exhibition – John Martin Gallery at Chelsea Physic Garden

2011

Glyndebourne Festival, group exhibition – East Sussex

Joze London, group exhibition – London

'10 Joze Show, group exhibition – Sussex

2010

'10 Joze Show, group exhibition – Sussex

on form sculpture, group exhibition – Asthall Manor, Oxfordshire

Solo exhibition '100 Days' – John Martin Gallery, London

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2009

Art London, group exhibition – John Martin Gallery, London

'09 Joze Show, group exhibition – Sussex

'09 Joze Show, group exhibition – Sussex

Sculpture at Woburn, group exhibition – Sladmore Gallery at Woburn Abbey, Beds

2008

on form Sculpture, group exhibition – Asthall Manor, Oxfordshire

The Secret Garden, group exhibition – Solomon Gallery, Dublin

2007

New Work in Marble – John Martin Gallery, London

2006

Art London – John Martin Gallery, London

Joint exhibition with Neale Howells – Moncrieff-Bray Gallery, Sussex

2005

Stone Carvings, solo exhibition – John Martin Gallery, London

2003

Chelsea Flower Show

2002

The Armory Show, New York

Solo exhibition, Wall-hung carvings – John Martin Gallery, London

2001

Three Eastern Heads, Art2001, Business Design Centre

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2000

Eight carvings, Summer Exhibition – John Martin Gallery, London

1998

New Artists 1998, Group Show – John Martin Gallery, London

1997

Group shows – John Martin Gallery, London

1996

Exhibition of carvings – John Martin Gallery, London

1995

One-man exhibition of prints and interior form sculptures – Hyde Park Gallery, London

1994

Joint family exhibition – Hereford

1993

Exhibition of carvings – Gigondas, France

1992

Exhibited works for Oxford 'Art Week'

1991

Exhibited stone carvings – Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London