

# TEMPORARY GALLERY

14 SEP. - 17 NOV. 2013

KATE DAVIS. EIGHT BLOCKS OR A FIELD

"Eight Blocks or a Field" presents a new body of work by Kate Davis (born in New Zealand, lives in Glasgow) that engages specific histories of play, and determinations of value, from a feminist perspective. In these new works, Davis weaves together the teaching theories of Friedrich Froebel and Maria Montessori (with their emphasis on tactile experience and their differing views on the structuring of play), and a strange collection of makeshift dolls made from base materials, read through the lens of feminist economics. These sources, amongst others, are used to examine the ubiquitous digital technologies and seemingly abstract economic systems that shape much of contemporary life. This exhibition asks us to reconsider (and perhaps articulate anew) the use value of certain objects that have become redundant or obsolete. "Toy is hand tool - not artwork" wrote Walter Benjamin, himself a collector of toys. If Davis's previous work has often used feminist approaches to rethink how histories are produced (not least the history of art), in "Eight Blocks or a Field" feminist economics is employed as a 'hand tool' by Davis to question our systems of value and hierarchies of play.

Artist book

with texts by Regina Barunke, Abraham Cruzvillegas, Maria Fusco, Ellie Herring and Dominic Paterson. Design: James Brook

Exhibitions (selection):

2012 The Drawing Room, London; Sanctuary/Comraich, Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute; eva International 2012, Limerick; "Olinka or Where Movement is Created", Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico; 2011 Galerie Kamm, Berlin; 2010 GoMA, Glasgow; Museo de la Ciudad, La Galeria de Comercio, Mexico; CCA, Glasgow (with Faith Wilding); 2009 "The End of the Line: Attitudes in Drawing", a Hayward Touring Exhibition, Art Sheffield 10 (collaborative commission with Jimmy Robert); "Das Gespinst", Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach; 2008 Sorcha Dallas, Glasgow; 2007 Tate Britain, London; 2006 Kunsthalle Basel, "If I can't dance I don't want to be part of your revolution", De Appel, Amsterdam

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