



Press release

Two Hopes

17 – 26 October 2007

British Council Georgia in cooperation with Art Caucasus is pleased to announce the exhibition 'Two Hopes' in the frames of the annual International Contemporary Art Forum - Art Caucasus 2007.

'Two Hopes' is curated by BasementArtProject.com. It reflects on a multi-layered picture of a post-ideal society from the artist's perspective. It intends to shift the standpoint from the objective to the subjective, investigating the artist's experience in the contemporary world in opposition to the magnificent utopian dream. The exhibition begins with a search for the ideal society and moves to a reflection on migration and relocation to the new territories. More questions are raised than answered paralleling the interplay between conceptual and formal structures.

Artists include: **Andro Semeiko, Yu-Chen Wang, Mamuka Japaridze, Cyril Lepetit, Mathijs Lieshout, Nick Goulis, Mauricio Lupini, Charlie Tweed, Toine Klaassen** and **Clare Gasson**.

Tbilisi Opera and Ballet Theatre. Rustaveli Avenue, Tbilisi, Georgia www.opera.ge

Opening: Tuesday 16 October 18:00

Exhibition continues: 17 – 26 October 14:00 to 18:00

For further information, please contact Nutsa Kuridze Tel+ 995 99 28 38 18 or e-mail nutsa.kuridze@ge.britishcouncil.org www.britishcouncil.org/ge-arts-events.htm

BasementArtProject.com is a contemporary visual arts network led by London-based artist, Yu-Chen Wang, with a group of artists, curators and researchers. BasementArtProject.com collaborates with international artists to develop progressive work and organises events and exhibitions in various venues across the UK and Europe. For more information, please contact info@BasementArtProject.com www.BasementArtProject.com/twohopes

Andro Semeiko (b.1975 Ozurgeti, Georgia) lives and works in London. Semeiko studied at Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Arts (Tbilisi, 1998), Utrecht School of the Arts (Utrecht, 2000), Goldsmiths College (London, 2001) and the Royal Academy of Arts (London, 2006). He has exhibited in New Contemporaries 2001, Camden Arts Centre and Sunderland Museum (London-Sunderland, 2001) and Shine, The Lowry Gallery (Manchester, 2002). In 2007 his work has been exhibited in Beauty Unrealized, PSWAR (Amsterdam); Celeste Art Prize 07, Truman Brewery (London); New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery (London); Sotheby's/RAS Auction (London) and The Juddykes, John Jones (London). He has received the Kunstanjer 2000, Prince Bernard Culture Prize (The Netherlands) and British Institution Prize 2004 (London).

Yu-Chen Wang (b.1978 Taiwan) lives and works in London. Wang studied at Goldsmiths College, London (2000-01) and Chelsea College of Art and Design, London (MA Fine Art 2001-02). She has exhibited internationally, including tent., Podion Gallery, Amsterdam (2002), Tank.TV, ICA, London (2004), Caution, Uneven Surfaces, temporarycontemporary, London (2004), Synch Festival in Athens (2005) and Darklight Film Festival in Dublin (2006). She was short-listed for the Guardian/Observer Award (2002), the Pizza Express Prospects 2004 Drawing Prize (selected by Tim Marlow) and The Vauxhall Auteur Theory Film Competition 2005 (Curzon Soho, London 2005; ICA, London 2006; Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival, France 2006). Her works have been shown on BBC Big Screen, Manchester, curated by Cornerhouse (2006/07);

Archipeinture: Moving in Architecture at Camden Arts Centre, London and Curzon Soho, London (2006); Satellite Works/Oeuvres Satellites, La Centrale, Montreal and Galerie L'Oeil de Poisson, Quebec City, Canada; Saison Vidéo 2007, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais, Dunkerque, France; New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London (2007).

Mamuka Japaridze (b.1962 Tbilisi, Georgia) lives and works in Tbilisi. Japaridze studied at Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Arts (Tbilisi, 1986). He has exhibited his work in 'What Is What', Ethnographic Museum, Carvasla, (Tbilisi, 1992); C.C.A., Vita Nova, (Minsk 1994); 'Rain Diary' (with Anthea Nicholson), Blue Gallery (Tbilisi, 1995); 'Ramses Looking' (with Anthea Nicholson), Ramsey Isle of Man & King Street Gallery (Bristol, 1995); 'Transformation', UNESCO (Paris 1998), 12345, Fields Gallery (London, 2001) and 'Doople Eye', Foundry (London, 2001). Japaridze has represented Georgia in 'From Tartarus Experience', Georgian Pavilion at the 48th Venice Biennale (1999). His recent exhibitions include Pea-Musha Pelamusha, Green Man, (London, 2007) and Atmosphere 41 Degree, Siemens Sanat (Istanbul, 2007). In January 2008 he will be taking part in a group exhibition at Parlour, London.

Cyril Lepetit (b. 1970 Cherbourg, France) lives and works in London. He studied in Caen and Belfast where he received a MA in Fine Art (1995). He lived in Paris until 1999, before going to Japan and Taiwan for a four-month residency. He has been living and working in London since his return. His works have recently been exhibited at the Camden Arts Centre, London; Leroy Neiman Gallery, Columbia University, New York; Abattoirs, Musee d'art Moderne de Toulouse; ICA, London; Liverpool Biennial 2006; Art Concept Gallery, Paris, Tadehalli Museum Helsinki, Ha Prestgard in Norway and Beijing & Shangai in the exhibition Metropolis Rize: New Art from London.

Mathijs Lieshout (b.1975 The Netherlands) lives and works in Amsterdam and Utrecht. Lieshout studied Fine Arts at Hogeschool voor de Kunsten Utrecht (1995-2000) and philosophy at Universiteit van Amsterdam (2000-2003). He has exhibited in: Project Basis, Artis Den Bosch (Den Bosch 2005); Toine's Immortality Bar, Stadsgalerij (Heerlen 2005); Creation is Beautiful, Destruction is Awesome, Galerie minimaal twee weken, (Schiedam 2005); Subgoed, Kunsthuis Syb (Beetsterzwaag 2005); Sequence, De Roode Bioscoop/The Space (Amsterdam/London 2005/06); Enter the Callcenter, Performancelab/Kunstvlaai6 (Amsterdam 2006); Nuzem, Kunstlab Orbino (Alkmaar 2006); New life and the dream garden, Fieldgate Gallery (London 2007); We (don't) need another hero, Gil&Moti Homegallery (Rotterdam 2007).

Nick Goulis (b. 1976 Corfu, Greece) lives and works in Athens. Goulis received BA at the School of Fine and Applied Arts in Thessaloniki, Greece (2001) and MFA in Fine Art at the Sandberg Institute, Amsterdam (2006). He has shown in Greece, the Netherlands, Italy and the UK, including recent solo shows, Sorry Hi8ters, Athanasiadou Art Advice (AAA), Athens (2007); I hope I won't die poor (2006) and not so famous (2005), Gallery De Praktijk, Amsterdam. He has taken part in several group exhibitions, such as New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London (2007); Part Time Punks, Deste Foundation, Athens (2007) and Art Rotterdam, the Netherlands (2006).

Mauricio Lupini (b.1963 Caracas, Venezuela) lives and works in Rome. Lupini studied architecture in Caracas, photography in Rome and in 2001 received his Masters in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College, London. His recent group exhibitions include: New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London (2007); Sequence, De Roode Bioscoop, Amsterdam and The Space, London (2006); Tropical Abstraction, Stedelijk Museum Bureau, Amsterdam (2005); San Juan Triennial (Puerto Rico, 2004), Prague Biennale I (2001). In 2002 Lupini produced a video-installation TV show: Unidad de Habitación for the exhibition Etnografía: modo de empleo, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas. Lupini's solo exhibitions were held at Museo Otero, Caracas (1999), Sala Mendoza, Caracas, (2000 and 1995) and Museo Jesus Soto, Ciudad Bolivar (1995). The National Art Gallery of Venezuela (GAN) published his book 'Things to Consider Before Shooting' in 2001.

Charlie Tweed (b.1974 Reading) lives and works in London
Tweed will graduate from the MFA Fine Art, Goldsmiths College, University of London in 2008. He gained a BA (Hons) in Fine Art, Oxford Brookes University in 1997. His recent Exhibitions include: We Like it a lot, Nettie Horn Gallery, London, 'One must be so careful these days', Alma Enterprises, London. New Contemporaries 2007 - Touring to Walsall, Manchester and London, 'Kaleidoscope', Livebox Gallery, Chicago, USA, 'Multichannel', Artsway, UK and Indie Memphis Festival, Memphis, USA (all 2007).

Toine Klaassen (b. 1973 Eindhoven, The Netherlands) lives and works in Rotterdam. Graduated from Rietveld Artacademy, Amsterdam (1995-2000), Klaassen's daily research into 'archeology of the nowadays' has produced exhibitions such as Immortality Bar at Stadsgalerij Museum for Contemporary Art Heerlen (2005); web-based project: Six Films on BasementArtProject.com (2006); the artist in residence Orbino with the project Fatamorgana organised in the shipping containers of Unit 1 at Alkmaar, The Netherlands (2006); an experimental laboratory in the group show, Sense and Sensitivity at Tent, Center for visual arts Rotterdam (2006); Satellite Works, La Centrale, Montreal and Galerie L'Oeil de Poisson, Quebec City; Reservation (5x 24hours performance), Temporary Museum, Amsterdam; New Life and Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London; HEROES, Gil & Moti Home Gallery, Rotterdam (2007).

Clare Gasson (b. UK) lives and works in London. Writing sits at the heart of Gasson's practice – in whatever form that takes i.e. she could be narrating a ballad she has written or a script for a film with all the directions described. The works often disorientate the listener spatially. Her work has been seen and heard in recent exhibitions and publications including: 'Fold'07' launched at Late at Tate Britain, 'clickanywhere' – an online show at: www.clickanywhere.crisap.org, 'Untitled' issue 40; a solo show at Parker's Box, New York, proposed, as part of the sound exchange project, with The Showroom, London. Selected group shows at: Galerie Lucy Mackintosh, Lausanne, Switzerland; Fieldgate Gallery, London; Galerie de la Friche Belle de Mai, Marseille, France.