

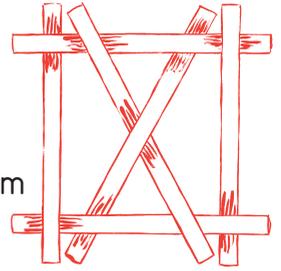
Flore Nové-Josserand

City Growth Blues

19 September to 12 December 2015

Public preview: Friday 18 September, 6-8pm

Eastside Projects



The city is mutating at an extraordinary pace.

A million homes. A million workplaces. A million loves and ruins. They are not fit for purpose – their old brick bones are creaking, their delicate concrete abdomens brittle. Their inhabitants are sickly and slow. “It’s time to fix them up! There’s no room for them in the new world!”

Temporary plywood scales and gigantic steel exoskeletons prop up exhausted, bloodless building carcasses. Huge machines cut through cables and walls, pierce stones, smash the rafters and balconies, clew them down to rock and rubble and dust. Soon, new foundations will be poured. Demon machines will spin a new body for the building – a solid sturdy gown of glass and Teflon, plastic, kryptonite and diamonds, rising to the sky, shining like the sun, to attract wealthy exotic butterflies. Young! Beautiful! Rich! Voracious!

The city is molting. The city must renew itself, faster, faster! Not a moment to lose. Hurling into the future, devouring the present. “Wleeeeeeeeeeeee!”

‘City Growth Blues’ is both solo exhibition and a part of ‘Display Slow’ at Eastside Projects. Nové-Josserand

creates a space made up of and displaying a number of architectural loadings through drawing, painting, photography and constructing.

The artist has been struck by the number of boarded up properties, condemned or closed off spaces that she witnesses as a side effect of gentrification and the privatisation of space. City Growth Blues draws on the ubiquity of temporary loadings – non-specific yet immediately recognizable constructions, which, for the artist, suggest aggression, co-opting of public space, and abandonment to forces beyond human scale.

Nové-Josserand's works are made to be beautifully misbelated openings and masks, slowing, teasing, revealing and staging her questions: How does it feel to be a perceiving body in this environment? And what is the physical sensation of space?

Flore Nové-Josserand (born 1980, Paris, France, lives and works in London) has been a member of Extra Special People (ESP) at Eastside Projects since 2012 and this public project has developed from the ESP open call in 2013. Recent solo and two person shows include Zabludowicz Collection: Invites (2015), The Scream of the Commode, IMT, London (2013), Warm Breeze Over Rock, The Royal Standard, Liverpool (2013) and Flatfile, Eastside Projects, Birmingham (2012). Group shows include Display Show, Temple Bar Gallery, Dublin (2015), Head to Head, Standpoint, London (2014) and RIFF/T, Baltic 39, Newcastle (2014).

Eastside Projects makes art public and is based in a free public gallery that is being imagined and organized by artists. Eastside Projects commissions, produces and presents contemporary art, demonstrating ways in which art may be useful as part of society.

Eastside Projects, 86 Heatl Mill Lane, Birmingham B9 4AR
Free entry, open Wednesday to Saturday, 12-5pm
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