

PRESS RELEASE | FEB 2019

SKIP Gallery x Selfridges presents
Like It or Lump It

Part of the State of the Arts campaign
4–31 March 2019



Maja Djordjevic, visual concept for *Nothing To Wear Again!*, 2019

Baker & Borowski presents a new SKIP Gallery series and Fitting Room Residency at Selfridges' Oxford Street store.

- *Exhibition begins with the unveiling of Serbian artist **Maja Djordjevic**'s sculpture 'Nothing to Wear Again!', on Monday 4 March.*
- *From Monday 18 March, artist and performer **Paul Kindersley** and friends present Bosch-inspired performance-art piece 'Ship of Fools', showing until 31 March.*
- *Meanwhile **Claire Pearce** undertakes the first Fitting Room Residency, transforming a changing room with a two-part installation using coloured light and Snapchat filters.*
- *Like It or Lump It is a central strand in Selfridges' State of the Arts campaign to make art more accessible by presenting it in unconventional settings.*

From Monday 4 March, Selfridges' Oxford Street flagship plays host to a new and unexpected artistic intervention. On the shop floor between Chloé and Gucci, artist-curator duo Baker & Borowski present – Like It or Lump It – the latest, largest and most ambitious project in SKIP Gallery's three-year history.

In collaboration with Selfridge's nationwide State of the Arts campaign (which also includes events and exhibitions in Birmingham, Manchester and online), SKIP founders Lee Baker and Catherine Borowski have selected three artists-on-the-rise to participate in the provocative month-long programme.

Maja Djordjevic, Paul Kindersley and Claire Pearce are the latest in a growing line of artist collaborators invited to create site-specific artworks for Baker & Borowski's mobile exhibition programme, centring on a converted skip. Chosen for their playful wit, uncompromising approach and convention-puncturing work, the three follow in the footsteps of David Shrigley, Gavin Turk, Richard Woods and Ben Eine, all of whom have taken on the challenge of creating work for Britain's most unusual exhibition space.

'The artists we've chosen are like a mash-up of London: an extravaganza of cool, cutting edge, visually sumptuous people who are creating the city's off-Mayfair cultural scene.'

– **Catherine Borowski, co-founder SKIP Gallery**

By breaking art out of its expected gallery context and planting it in unexpected environments, Baker & Borowski encourage – perhaps even coerce – the public to confront each artwork head on and consider how its meaning might be influenced by its setting in a receptacle for rubbish. Now it's the turn of the shoppers of Selfridges. As they pass through the heart of the store and encounter the modified skip, visitors will be invited to consider topics ranging from the playful to the provocative.

Over the course of the month, the three artists of Like It or Lump It will use sculpture, theatre and digital technology to explore subjects ranging from identity, body politics and gender to authenticity and cultural history. While Djordjevic and Kindersley will reveal work in the skip itself, Claire Pearce has been charged with fulfilling Baker & Borowski's first Fitting Room Residency, which will see one of the store's changing rooms transform into a playful digital installation for the age of the selfie.

'In an age of frightening conservatism we have gravitated towards artists that are trying to push back. Our choice of artists for Selfridges has definitely come from the questions the artists raise about the notions of beauty and identity in the 21st century.'

– **Lee Baker, co-founder SKIP Gallery**



Paul Kindersley, *I Wanna be a Glamour Model*, 2016 (film still). Courtesy of Paul Kindersley and Belmacz Gallery.

SKIP Gallery Programme

4–17 March: **Nothing To Wear Again!** by Maja Djordjevic

Serbian-born multidisciplinary artist Maja Djordjevic has built up an international reputation for the tragicomic adventures of her 'pixel' nude girl, portrayed in sculpture and oil paintings in the style of MS Paint. For her UK debut, Djordjevic has created 'Nothing To Wear Again!' – a playfully pink cartoonish skip sculpture with a computer-doodle aesthetic. Through a skip full of strawberry ice-cream topped with giant cherry and two nudes, she uses an ostensibly spirited scenario to explore themes of feminine power and the female gaze.

18–31 March: **Ship Of Fools** by Paul Kindersley

Inspired by medieval mummings' plays and Hieronymus Bosch's 15th-century allegory Ship of Fools, artist, make-up enthusiast and YouTuber Paul Kindersley is transforming the skip into a boat – a ship of fools, in fact. For the last two weeks in March, five characters loosely based on the figures in Bosch's painting – the Mother, the Father, the Pancake Eater, the Pearl Thief and an owl – engage in a rambling, circular and ultimately inconclusive dialogue. Tasked with putting on a play they are not familiar with, from a script that defies logic, the five actors will create a confounding but unforgettable piece of experimental theatre.

4–10 March: **Infernal Desires** by Claire Pearce

While the SKIP series unfolds on the shop floor, another intervention will be underway in the changing rooms, as Claire Pearce becomes the first artist to participate in Baker & Borowski's new Fitting Room Residency programme. Pearce's work is often rooted in the relationship between contemporary female identity, the internet and popular culture. Comprising two parts, this residency will see Pearce using monitors to project a changing sequence of colours into the fitting room and exploiting the glitches in Snapchat face-recognition to create a series of distorted films and gifs featuring Selfridges team members and mannequins.



Claire Pearce, *Skin and Blister*, 2018. Courtesy of the artist.

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Notes to editors

Like It or Lump It

4–31 March 2019

Selfridges, 400 Oxford St, Marylebone, London W1A 1AB

SKIP Gallery Series commissioned by Baker & Borowski

Nothing To Wear Again! by Maja Djordjevic (4–17 March)

Ship of Fools by Paul Kindersley (18–31 March)

Ground Floor, Accessories Hall, Selfridges (Located between Gucci and Chloé)

Fitting Room Residency commissioned by Baker & Borowski

Infernal Desires by Claire Pearce (4–10 March)

Fitting Room, Second Floor, Designer Galleries

Paul Kindersley performance times:

Tuesday 19: 6.30 – 7.30pm

Wednesday 20: 1.30 – 2.30pm

Thursday 21: 6.30 – 7.30pm

Tuesday 26: 6.30 – 7.30pm

Wednesday 27: 6.30 – 7.30pm

Thursday 28: 1.30 – 2.30pm

About Baker & Borowski

Baker & Borowski is an artist-curator partnership between sculptor and placemaking specialist Catherine Borowski and painter and music producer Lee Baker. Catherine is the founder and creative director of Produce UK, working with brands, businesses and developers to conceive and deliver experiential placemaking strategies ranging from installations and exhibitions to large-scale festivals. Lee's artistic career began in the 1990s, when he drew on his love of manga and experience customising cars to produce site-specific installations at locations around the UK. This evolved into work as a scenic artist for the likes of the National Theatre and English National Opera; then grew into an international fine art career characterised by vividly colourful large-format paintings and installations. In 2017 the two artists teamed up to re-conceive the idea of the exhibition space, launching SKIP Gallery and more recently, the duo has introduced the Fitting Room Residency – another site-specific exhibition programme that this time takes place in the changing rooms of shops and department stores. United as Baker & Borowski, the duo are on a mission to bring unexpected eruptions of art into the everyday urban landscape.

www.baker-borowski.com

About SKIP Gallery

In 2016, Baker & Borowski re-conceived the idea of the exhibition space, presenting the London public with an ongoing series of collaborative, site-specific artworks housed in skips in everyday public locations. With their associations of mundanity, disposal and renovation, skips are a ubiquitous but frequently overlooked reminder of the throw-away culture of the city, lending a playfully profound irony to the exhibition of artwork within them.

Since then, Baker & Borowski have collaborated with some of the biggest names in contemporary art, including David Shrigley (Look At This, June 2017), Gavin Turk (Transubstantiation, November 2017) and Ben Eine, as well as 'the world's most artistic football club' AS Velasca in Milan. Their mobility allows SKIP Gallery to exhibit anywhere there is a parking space, bringing unexpected eruptions of art into the everyday urban landscape, anywhere in the world. Since its beginnings, the gallery has become more than a mobile exhibition space; it is a continuous, transitioning artwork in itself, connecting artists around the world through an ongoing programme of collaboration.

skipgallery.com

Instagram [@SkipGallery](https://www.instagram.com/SkipGallery)

Twitter [@SkipGallery](https://twitter.com/SkipGallery)

About Maja Djordjevic

Maja Djordjevic (b. 1990) lives and works in Belgrade, Serbia. A graduate of the city's Faculty of Fine Arts, she typically creates oil and enamel paintings with the crude cartoonish look of basic computer paint software, often featuring Djordjevic's signature 'pixel girl' avatar naked in a variety of tragicomic scenarios. Her work has been shown at Belgrade's 57th October Art Salon's Be Yourselfie group exhibition, at LISTEArt Fair in Basel, and in solo shows at the Dio Horia gallery in Mykonos and the Hole Gallery in New York.

About Paul Kindersley

Born in Cambridge, Paul Kindersley (b1985) graduated with a BA in Fine Art from Chelsea College of Art & Design, University of the Arts, in 2009 and received the Transition Gallery Prize the same year. An artist, image maker and storyteller, he blends performance, film and installation, using drag to parody cultural, social and political systems, blurring the boundaries between fantasy and reality, personal and public. Kindersley lives and works in London and exhibits worldwide. He has performed at solo and group shows in Reykjavik, Vienna, Geneva, Stockholm and more, and has been artist-in-residence at both Guest Project Space and Unilever in London.

About Claire Pearce

Emerging artist Claire Pearce (b. 1994) graduated from Edinburgh College of Art with a BA in Intermedia Art and is currently studying for her MA at the Slade School of Fine Art in London. Her work is concerned with female identity in the age of the internet internet, using the tropes of popular culture and consumerism to investigate and challenge the nature of femininity and the female sexual self. Pearce's wry humour and deft use of imagery have won her exhibitions across the UK, as well as the Anthony Dawson Print Award in 2018, and the title of 'Best Visual Artist' at the Edinburgh Student Arts Festival 2016.

About State of the Arts at Selfridges

Running from 1 January to 31 March 2019, State of the Arts is a nationwide campaign dedicated to presenting art in unexpected places and making it accessible to all. Harnessing dozens of contributing artists, galleries and arts collaborators, Selfridges has organised a programme of events and exhibitions across its London, Birmingham and Manchester stores and at selfridges.com – including dedicated art window displays, an in-store art trail, and a six-episode podcast series. For more information and booking details:

www.selfridges.com/stateofthearts

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