

Jerwood Encounters: Family Politics
Curated by Photoworks

Joanna Piotrowska, *VI Frowst*, Silver Gelatin Hand Print, 2012

6 November – 8 December 2013
Jerwood Space, London

**Artists: Jonny Briggs, Robert Crosse, Nikolai Ishchuk,
Joanna Piotrowska, Claudia Sola and The Photocopy Club**

The forthcoming Jerwood Encounters exhibition, *Family Politics*, curated by **Photoworks** will show at **Jerwood Space, London** from **6 November – 8 December 2013**.

The exhibition will present new commissions and existing work by six early career photographers relating to 'Family Politics' - the curatorial theme of the first issue of *Photoworks Annual* which will launch alongside the exhibition. The exhibiting artists include invited artists **Claudia Sola** and **The Photocopy Club**; and artists selected from an open call, **Jonny Briggs, Robert Crosse, Nikolai Ishchuk** and **Joanna Piotrowska**. The exhibition explores the different ways in which artists consider and use photographic practice resulting in an expanded view of the medium.

As a subject, the family is both private and public: the site of intimate inter-personal relations and a social construct subject to public and political pressures. This relationship is mirrored in examples of family photography. The majority of family pictures serve essentially private functions, accruing meaning through their relationship to the memories, experiences and histories of individuals. However, the family is also the subject of public photographic representation and contestation largely through digital media and 'over sharing'. This involves a wide variety of practices, including representations in the mass media, art and advertising.

Family Politics features a variety of approaches to photography with each work drawing on photographic language as a reference point.

The exhibition coincides with the publication of **Photoworks Annual** which explores the Family Politics theme further with commissioned work from Jowhara Alsaud and Claudia Sola, Folios by Broomberg & Chanarin and John Clang; conversations between: Marianne Hirsch and Lorrie Novak, Wendy Ewald and Anthony Luvera, Bettina von Zwehl and Kelley Wylder and writings from Michael Bonesteel, Susan Bright, Terry Dennett, Geoffrey Batchen, Blake Stimson, Sarah James, Stephanie Schwartz, and Judith Habelstram, Aaron Schuman, Blake Morrison, Andrew Kötting, Sue Hubbard and David Company amongst others.

For further details about the exhibition and accompanying events please visit:
jerwoodvisualarts.org

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**Press contacts: Isabel Cooper Parker Harris.
Tel: 01372 462190. Email: press@parkerharris.co.uk**

Exhibition Information

Title: Family Politics
Exhibition dates: 6 November – 8 December 2013
Address: Jerwood Space, 171 Union St, London SE1 0LN
Opening Times: Mon-Fri 10am–5pm, Sat/Sun 10am–3pm
Admission: Free
Nearest tube: Southwark, London Bridge or Borough
Website: jerwoodvisualarts.org
Twitter: #FamilyPolitics13 #PWannual @JerwoodJVA @photoworks_UK

Photoworks Annual (£20) is available in galleries and independent bookshops worldwide and direct from Photoworks: photoworks.org.uk/annual

Jerwood Visual Arts will present a series of evening events to accompany the exhibition. Events are free but must be booked in advance, for more information please check the Jerwood Visual Arts website.

Artist Biographies

Jonny Briggs is an artist in search of a lost childhood. Through performative installations, comic metaphor, and photomontage, Briggs creates images that re-capture childhood. Briggs graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2011 and has most recently had a solo exhibition, *Ancestral Home* at Simon Oldfield Gallery, London. jonnybriggs.com

Robert Crosse is influenced by people, conversation and the development of relationships. He creates film and video works that document and re-evaluate the world before him. Crosse graduated with an MFA from Slade School of Fine Art in 2012, and has recently exhibited as part of the group show *21st Century* (2012) at Chisenhale Gallery, London. robertcrosse.com

Nikolai Ishchuk explores photography's material condition within his artwork. His most recent photosculptures and mixed media works trace links between photography, visual material culture, late capitalism and architecture. Ishchuk graduated with an MA and Postgraduate Diploma in Fine Art from Chelsea College of Art, and has exhibited at Whitechapel Gallery, in *The London Open* (2012). nikolai-ishchuk.com

Joanna Piotrowska explores relationships between individuals through carefully arranged sculptural poses that allow the viewer to question the intimacies of those captured. Piotrowska graduated with MA Photography from Royal College of Art in 2013 and will be exhibiting at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in *Bloomberg New Contemporaries* (2013). joannapiotrowska.com

Claudia Sola is constantly searching for new ways to place daily happenings into a universal context. Her works have a strong political intention, often resulting in personal documents that reflect the way we are. Sola lives and works in Amsterdam. claudiasola.org

The Photocopy Club are a project based collective with the aim of bringing photography back in its physical form through the curation of regular exhibitions. Based in Brighton, The Photocopy Club are currently working with artists on an international scale to curate an exhibition opening in Hong Kong in 2013. thephotocopyclub.com

Notes to Editors

Jerwood Visual Arts is a contemporary gallery programme of awards, exhibitions and events at Jerwood Space, London and on tour nationally. Jerwood Visual Arts supports and showcases the work of talented emerging artists. It aims to make connections and provoke conversations within and across visual arts disciplines. A major initiative of the Jerwood Charitable Foundation. www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

Photoworks curates, commissions and publishes new writing on photography and produces exhibitions, books and events including the Brighton Photo Biennial. Photoworks is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England. *Photoworks Annual* is published every Autumn. Pairing established names with emerging talent, it provides a platform for existing and newly commissioned work by writers, photographers and artists. photoworks.org.uk

Jerwood Encounters are one-off curated exhibitions which provide artists and curators with new exhibition opportunities and the chance to explore issues and territories in the borderlands between the main disciplinary fields of the Jerwood Visual Arts programme. Previous exhibitions in the Encounters series have included: *After Hours*, curated by Nick Eagleton, 15 May – 23 June 2013; *"Now I Gotta Reason"*, curated by Marcus Coates and Grizedale Arts, 7 November – 9 December 2012; *ASSEMBLY* curated by Sarah Williams, 9 May – 24 June 2012; *TERRA*, curated by Hayley Skipper, Forestry Commission England, 9 November – 11 December 2011; *SHOW*, curated by Sarah Williams, 16 March – 21 April 2011; *For the Sake of the Image*, curated by Suki Chan, 3 March – 1 April 2010 and *Passing Thoughts and Making Plans*, curated by Catherine Yass, 4 November – 13 December 2009.

Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting emerging artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with integrity. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org