

KNIGHT WEBB GALLERY

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Press Release for immediate distribution - June Exhibition

In a Silent Way

Lesley Hilling and Anders Knutsson

5-27 June

Private View: 4 June

6-9 pm

The Knight Webb Gallery is pleased to present *In a Silent Way*, an exhibition of monochromatic paintings by Anders Knutsson and recycled sculptures by Lesley Hilling. Taking its name from the seminal Miles Davis album, this exhibition is a dialogue between two artists with similar influences, working on opposite sides of the Atlantic. The jazz metaphor illustrates the intangible elements in both artists work, be it the spacious Zen monochromes or nostalgic constructions of found wood and objects that weave a labyrinth of memory. *In a Silent Way* invites you to get to know two artists better through the prism of a shared rhythm.

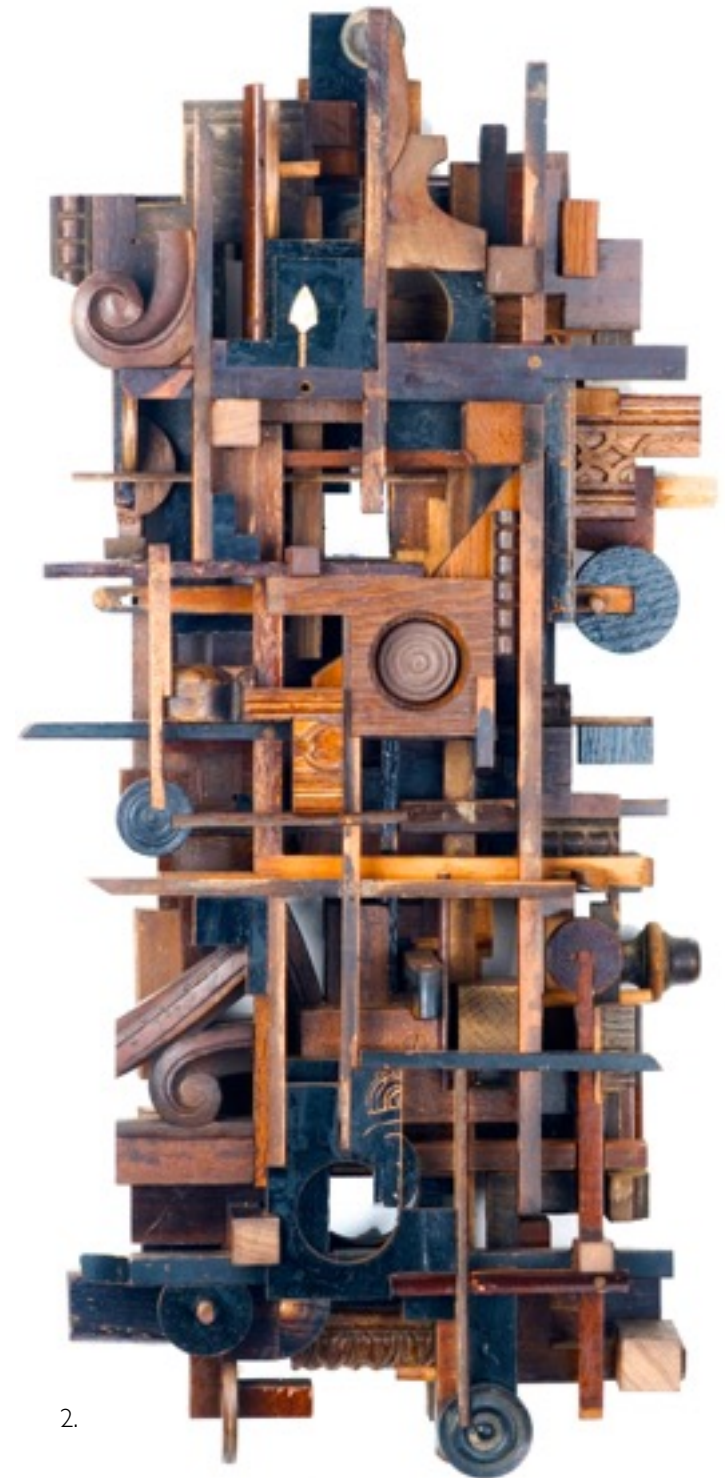
KNIGHT WEBB GALLERY 54 ATLANTIC ROAD BRIXTON LONDON SW9 8PZ



Jazz is the precursor of Revolution, Miles had said, Revolution follows it around. Our two artists grew out of cultural revolution. Knutsson, in the studios he shared with Barnett Newman in 1960s Manhattan, was in the heart of the reactionary second round of modernism, developing a lifetime of monochrome painting, in search of the purest essence of painting.

In a countercultural Brixton, Lesley Hilling has been living and working since 1983, her sculptures growing organically from discarded pianos and unwanted furniture. Her work takes the classical and the antiquated, then breaks it down to smaller building blocks, which rise up into modernist composite towers, like housing projects rising out of the slums.

The works in this exhibition respond to music. Knutsson's layers of translucent paint sing the blues in clear electric colours, inducing a second plane of consciousness. The way in which Hilling's intricate wooden sculptures have been pieced together invoke a staccato rhythm, a crescendo and diminuendo, a pause, a repetition. The way they grow organically without forethought has parallels in the improvisation of the jazz world. The marriage of Knutsson and Hilling's work has for us the spiritual and physical attributes of music, but more significantly the jazz scene that formed the cultural backdrop of their production.



Artists

Lesley Hilling

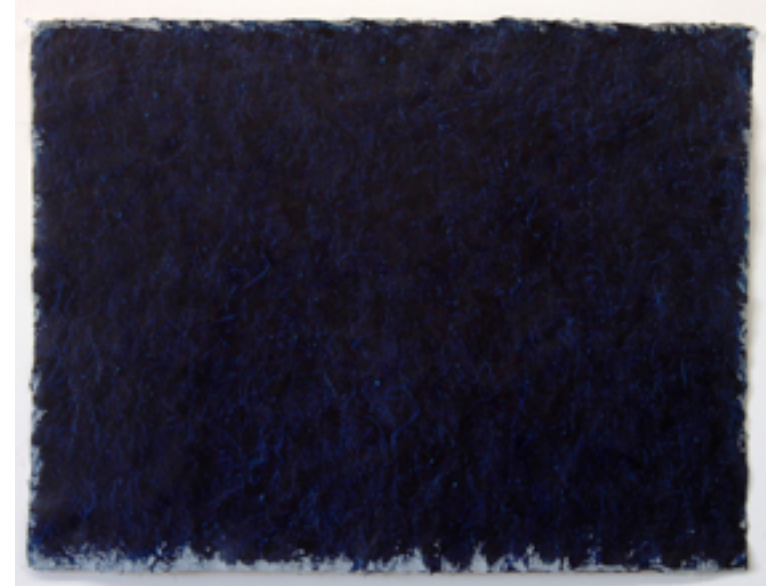
Hilling has spent a lifetime experimenting with recycled wood, often from discarded pianos. She builds towers, which grow organically out of wooden fragments. Her studio is a cabinet of curiosities of junk furniture and other ephemera. Found photographs, camera parts, and books are all objects that are integrated into her striking, constructions. There is a strong sense of the past, something contemporary yet antiquated between the varnished piano wood and the old camera lenses.



Anders Knutsson

Anders Knutsson is a Swedish Colourfield painter and a paid up member of 1960s New York avant-garde. He is involved in every stage of his work, from making his own paint to commissioning traditional weavers to fabricate his linen canvases. His paintings, made of almost transparent layers of colour, unveil subtle depths. Knutsson's aesthetics subscribe to the historical influence of East Coast Minimalism, which ran simultaneously to its counterparts in music and sculpture during the late 1960's and 1970's.

4.



What connects these two artists, apart from a gallery?

This exhibition makes the connection between a shared cultural context and a love of jazz music yet there is also a deep concern for materials in the work of both artists. Anders paintings may have as much in common with sculpture as they have with paintings in some respects. Furthermore both artists have arrived at moments of maturity in their work. Having spent decades refining their practice, both Knutsson and Hilling are producing work at a highly attuned level. On the other hand these artists still tell very different stories: Hilling's wooden sculptures are woven with memories and associations. Knutsson's oeuvre is a search for the spiritual. Together the works talk to each other of two different intangibilities. With their quiet internal energy, the colourfield paintings support the antiquity of Hilling's sculpture and invite a moment of reflection, in a silent way.

Quick Details

Title: In a Silent Way

Artists: Lesley Hilling and Anders Knutsson

Private View: 4 June 2015 - 6-9 pm

Exhibition Dates: 5-27 June 2014

Location: Knight Webb Gallery, 54 Atlantic Rd, Brixton SW9 8PZ
info@knightwebbgallery.com 020 7274 1793

Press Contact: Anna Bromwich 07847035530



Images

1. Anders Knutsson, # 6, *Jämtlands dräll 1*, 2014 50 x 34 in. 127 x 86cm
2. Lesley Hilling, *Afro- Blue*, 2014, Recycled wood, 60 x 25 x 17 cm
3. Lesley Hilling, *Sandman*, 2015, Wood and found objects, 68 x 70 cm
4. Anders Knutsson, *B 4*, 2013 oil on Richard de Bas paper, 57 x 50 cm
5. Anders Knutsson, # 23 *Se Orange*, 2013, 39 x 27.5 in. 100 x 70 cm
6. Lesley Hilling, *Endless Night*, 2010, Wood and found objects, 200 x 50 x 50 cm
7. Anders Knutsson, # 6, *Jämtlands dräll 1*, 2014 Detail 1

To request further imagery please email info@knightwebbgallery.com

