

**LIAM GILLICK**

room 2: *The Thought Style Meets The Thought Collective B*, 2015

"A truly isolated investigator is impossible (...). An isolated investigator without bias and tradition, without forces of mental society acting upon him, and without the effect of the evolution of that society, would be blind and thoughtless. Thinking is a collective activity (...). Its product is a certain picture, which is visible only to anybody who takes part in this social activity, or a thought which is also clear to the members of the collective only. What we do think and how we do see depends on the thought-collective to which we belong" – **Ludwik Fleck**, 1935



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*The Thought Style Meets The Thought Collective*

12 October – 22 November 2015

**GALLERY OPENING TIMES**

Wednesday - Sunday

11.00 - 18.00 and by appointment

**MAUREEN PALEY.**

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## press release

Maureen Paley is pleased to present *The Thought Style Meets The Thought Collective*, an exhibition by Liam Gillick. This will also be the occasion of a launch of the new monograph, *From nineteen ninety A to nineteen ninety D* published by JRP|Ringier.

Combining works from the 1990s with new production this exhibition explores the way groups develop their ideas in cohesion and tension with the individual. Drawing on anthropologist Mary Douglas's interpretations of sociologist Ludwik Fleck, Liam Gillick juxtaposes works that were produced in collective environments in the 1990s with new structures and a film produced alone. As such, the exhibition reflects on the contradictions that arise between the individual and the group in relation to the production of art.

The title of the exhibition refers to Fleck and Douglas's investigation of the way a thought style links group members via their shared ideas, how they communicate and the methods they employ. These ideas affect the art's subjectivity and are reflected in a series of new text works.

The exhibition comprises three rooms that are titled *The Thought Style Meets The Thought Collective A, B and C* respectively. In room 1, *A broadcast from 1887 on the Subject of our Time* - originally produced in 1996, involves a radio broadcast directed towards a utopian community. The audio content is taken from Edward Bellamy's book *Looking Backward, 1887* - which includes an account of a radio broadcast before the invention of the medium.

Also included in the exhibition is a deployment of the work, *When Do We Need More Tractors? Five Plans*, 1999 - where certain specific actions are outlined by the artist for others to fulfill. This work is combined with a new series of Discussion Platforms, a new neon work titled *X Came to Know P*, 2015 and a new film produced by the artist *Margin Time 2 (The Heavenly Lagoon)*, 2013.

## first floor

room 2: *The Thought Style Meets The Thought Collective B*, 2015

individual works:

***When Do We Need More Tractors? Five Plans***, 1999

dimensions variable

edition 2 + 1 AP

execute one or more or all of the below:

- 1) Get together all the material required to build a bonfire. Old pieces of wood, paper, trash. Place the pile of material in the middle of a room.
- 2) Mix together vodka and glitter. Using a piece of cloth, clean the floor. Glitter should be left stuck to the floor.
- 3) Pour a litre of vodka on the floor. While the vodka is still wet cover the spill with clean white A4 sheets of paper, so that no-one gets their feet wet.
- 4) Buy a video copy of *One Plus One* by Jean-Luc Godard. Watch the film and make notes of the graffiti written on the walls at various moments during the film. If you like you can repeat this graffiti in a chosen space. Some examples might be: Maoart, Sovietcong, Cinemarxism.
- 5) Buy fresh lemons. Use the lemons, that means cut them in half and hold them in your hand, to clean any door handles, window handles, hand rails that exist in the space under consideration. Squeeze the juice of any remaining lemons onto the floor, or even better, out of the window or exterior door onto the street below.

***Arbitrated Platform A***, 2015

chrome powder coating, opaque Plexiglas

150 x 150 cm - 59 1/8 x 59 1/8 inches (hanging from the ceiling)

edition of 2

***Arbitrated Platform B***, 2015

chrome powder coating, opaque Plexiglas

150 x 150 cm - 59 1/8 x 59 1/8 inches (hanging from the ceiling)

edition of 2

***Arbitrated Platform C***, 2015

chrome powder coating, opaque Plexiglas

150 x 150 cm - 59 1/8 x 59 1/8 inches (hanging from the ceiling)

edition of 2