

New exhibition deals with migration and our sense of collective identity

Wednesday 20 November 2019 – Saturday 25 January 2020

Private View Tuesday 19 November, 4pm – 8pm



We Live in Uncertain Times (2016).
Digital print on Dibond. Courtesy the artist.

A major new exhibition *Tolerance* by Patrick Altes at Gerald Moore Gallery confronts negative cultural stereotypes and advocates for tolerance and respect in times of angst, division and separatism.

Born in colonised Algeria and having lived in many countries - including South Africa under apartheid – before settling in Britain in 2006, international artist Patrick Altes's work is deeply informed by his own personal history and the diasporic experiences that have both defined his identity and fuelled his artistic exploration.

Altes has created several installation pieces for this exhibition, together with new digital collages, posters and paintings, often involving the layering process that has become a hallmark of his work.

A leading light in the emerging Franco-Algerian art movement, Altes's first-hand experience of unjust, brutal and discriminatory societies fuelled a sense for the politically, socially and humanly acceptable which has become a thematic concern visible in all his creative work. With perilous

journeys depositing migrants on European – and now, British - shores, Altes turns his attention to the harrowing circumstances that increasingly accompany migration and resettlement.

The exhibition curated by Middle Eastern Art specialist Janet Rady and supported by the Arts Council will encompass outreach and public engagement activities. These activities will encourage pupils, students and participating members of the public to reflect on our values and ideas– bringing concepts such as the rule of law, diversity, democracy and individual liberty into the conversation.

Karim Sergoua, Curator of the third Mediterranean Biennale of Contemporary Art of Oran says:

“From the onset, Patrick Altes strikes you with his empathy, his intelligence, his creativity as well as his artistic proficiency. His engagement with memory takes its roots in his early life in North Africa and has influenced a complex visual language that powerfully serves its purpose. His current creations elicit strong powerful sweeping emotions in the viewer.”

There will be a free panel discussion on Saturday 11th January at 2pm on ‘Tolerance, Migration and Identity’ with speakers Nadene Ghouri, writer and broadcaster and S.I Martin, writer and black British historian.

www.geraldmooregallery.org

Gerald Moore Gallery
Mottingham Lane
London, SE9 4RW
Free entry

Opening hours
Tuesday 4pm-7pm
Saturday 10am-4pm or by appointment

For further information please contact Phoebe Ruffels, phoebe.ruffels@damsonpr.com or 0203 981 5200

GERALD MOORE GALLERY

Gerald Moore Gallery is a young centre for modern and contemporary art with learning at its heart. Opened in April 2012, in Mottingham, the gallery is uniquely set within the grounds of Eltham College and is a valuable resource for the students and the local community. The gallery has gained momentum hosting some exciting exhibitions including works by Matisse, Louise Bourgeois and Cornelia Parker, whilst supporting emerging local artists. In unison with the exhibitions, the gallery's outreach programme works with local community groups, teachers and schools, creating lasting relationships with our locality. Gerald Moore Gallery was made possible with the foresight and generosity of Old Elthamian, Dr Gerald Moore, many of whose works are archived at the gallery and who has a permanent exhibition on display. www.geraldmooregallery.org

PATRICK ALTES

Altes is an artist of French/Spanish origins, whose work has been deeply informed by his own personal history. Born in Algeria, he has made a distinctive contribution to the postcolonial discourse

and the emerging Franco-Algerian art movement. As a young adult, he lived in South Africa for two years under the apartheid. He was working at the University of Fort Hare, a key institution in higher education for black Africans, which counted among its former students a number of prominent leading opponents of the apartheid. This was his first-hand experience of a society based on discrimination, repression and deprivation of civil and political rights for a large part of the population. It deeply marked him and fuelled in him a sense for the politically, socially and humanly acceptable. He is interested in the evolving relationship between the contemporary world and our deeper humanity.

He was twice recipient of the prestigious Leverhulme Trust Award. He co-curated Algerianism 1, as part of the pan-Arabic Nour Festival in London's Kensington and Chelsea (2015). He also participated in the 3rd Biennale of Mediterranean Contemporary Arts in Oran, Algeria (2014), Art Bahrain (2015), the 7th International Festival of Contemporary Arts (FIAC) at the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Arts in Algiers (2015), and Art 16 London (2016) and the 4th Biennale of Mediterranean Contemporary Art in Oran (2017). He has works in the Museum of Modern Arts of Oran (MAMO), and the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Arts of Algiers (MAMA).
www.patrickaltes.com

JANET RADY

Based between London and the United Arab Emirates, Gallery Director and Curator, Janet Rady is a Specialist in Contemporary Art from the Middle East, with over thirty years' experience of the International Art Market including Leading Auction Houses and Major Commercial Galleries.