

TAKE IT  
IT LEAVE  
OR  OR  
LEAVE IT  
IT TAKE

**sal** spanish artists in london

MARIA ALVAREZ · TRINIDAD BALL · MARISOL CAVIA  
LOLI CARDEÑOSO · SILVIA RAMONA ESTEVEZ  
MANUEL NOGUERA · NATALIA RIVERO

**PRIVATE VIEW**  
29 May 2013, from 7pm to 9pm

29 MAY TO 9 JUNE

**arthouse** 

140 Lewisham Way  
London SE14 6PD

MARIA ALVAREZ ECHENIQUE



TRINIDAD BALL



LOLI CARDEÑOSO



NATALIA RIVERO



MANUEL NOGUERA



LOLI CARDEÑOSO



AT MUERTO DE AMOR



NATALIA RIVERO



TRINIDAD BALL



SILVIA RAMONA ESTEVEZ



MANUEL NOGUERA



MARISOL CAVIA



MARIA ALVAREZ ECHENIQUE

# TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

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A VOICE THAT EXPRESSES OUR FEELINGS THROUGH THE WORK THAT WE PRODUCE. This voice is unique to each one of us. Our creations are expressions of our concerns and beliefs, our fears, or our deepest hopes. They represent a personal journey through life that uses a universal language, art.

Take it or leave it.

This exhibition includes installation, sculpture, painting, photography and music. Our creations explore the incredible possibilities of what our artistic voices can say to others. They celebrate the diversity of the many ways that creativity and artistry can be revealed to those who view them. Take them or leave them, they are all an incredible experience.

CURATED BY MANUEL NOGUERA





Above  
*Flame Into Winter*  
Porcelain, stains, gold Enamel,  
transfers & wooden lamp base  
28.0 x 16.0 x 16.0 cm

Below  
*Spring To Life Through The Magic Of The Earth*  
Porcelain, black clay & glaze  
Size variable



Above  
*Nature's Angel – Seen Too Much*  
Porcelain, Stains & glaze  
30.0 x 25.0 cm

My work aims to spark some thought on man's place in the natural world through the language of ceramics and the creation of striking juxtapositions, strange metamorphoses and multi-layered surreal images. Working with clay gives me many possibilities for expressing my creativity and ideas through shapes, surfaces & volume while also bringing personality, imagination and inspiration into play. The resulting organic character of the final pieces enhances the themes & subjects of my work, creating a vibrant portrait of mankind and nature



Left  
*Pa amb tomaquet*  
Oil on canvas  
30.0 x 40.0 cm

Below  
*The State of the World*  
Oil on canvas  
90.0 x 110.0 cm

Born in Barcelona of Catalan parents, Trinidad started painting in 1997. Since then she has exhibited in the UK and abroad and her paintings can be found in private and public collections around the world.

In this painting 'The State of the World', I try to convey my uneasiness about the current global drive to profit and greed which is distorting social and economic relations. In the current conditions it is all too easy to forget that money is just one small part of what real life is about and the way in which we relate to one another and think about who we are and what we hope for.





*Left*  
*Cherries*  
Porcelain cherries on kiln shelf fragment  
18.0 x 9.0 x 14.0 cm

*Top right*  
*Dove wall plaques*  
Porcelain wall plaques  
23.0 x 15.0 cm (each)

*Below*  
*Red Handed*  
Porcelain dish with hand relief and red glaze  
22.0 x 12.0 x 6.0 cm



Marisol is an installation artist whose work often uses elements informed by personal and public issues. In this installation she addresses Euro zone's financial crisis that has affected so many people in Europe. It is a comment on the countries which appear incapable of either confronting the real events that affect their economies or of

putting themselves in a position to correct the economic imbalance and turn the tide of social transformation that is going to be the result of the current crisis. The Pigs are a reference to the major European economies that have been or need rescuing.

When Manuel Noguera suggested The Lewisham Art House as the venue for our next exhibition I thought this beautiful Edwardian building, which started life as a public library in 1913, was an excellent choice. The choice of theme, however, was more problematic. TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT, or perhaps TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT! An offer of choice or an obligation to choose? An obligation to choose I think! Torture for many of us who would actually want to both take it and leave it simultaneously.

Standing back to look at the work I have made for this exhibition I think I have interpreted it as temptation... shall I take it or shall I leave it?

Loli Cardeñoso is a London based ceramic artist who graduated from Central St Martin's in the year 2000. She is a founder member of SAL and a member of London Potters.



*The State of Things*  
Mixed media Installation  
2.25 x 1.5 x 1.0 m



*Untitled Head*  
Acrylic on canvas  
30.0 x 24.0 cm

I am an artist from Jerez de la Frontera, currently living in London. My work is Figurative and Abstract. It reflects my emotions and my preoccupation with the classical principles of drawing and painting. I believe every individual has their own subjective viewpoint in regards to shape, form and colour. For that reason I chose to let my paintings speak for themselves...



*Tree (Installation)*  
Recycled materials (plastics, fabrics, clothes, wire)  
2.5 m high (approx.)

In my work, intuition plays a large part in the creation process. It allows me to tap into a chaotic space, a place where my worst fears, my best hopes and my old, old memories are stored allowing me to create the many pieces for this installation.

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT, for me represents my artistic voice, a voice that I want the viewer to hear through the blizzard of ideas as they share my work with me. Within the installation there will be a place to TAKE a message with you, or to LEAVE one behind. That choice enables you to be involved with the creative process and become a part of it.

I made the tree out of old clothes and forgotten fabrics. This tree represents us all, with our many branches, our many colours and textures. And there is one apple. That apple symbolises knowledge and temptation. TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT



Top  
*Alithea in The Secret Garden I (series)*  
Watercolour and oil pastels on paper  
50.0 x 66.0 cm (without frame)

Above  
*Alithea in The Secret Garden III (series)*  
Watercolour and oil pastels on paper  
47.0 x 62.0 cm (without frame)

Natalia has a postgraduate Diploma from the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

'Alicia in the Secret Garden' paintings are the illustrations for a children's book in working process. The pictures feature her own daughters playing at Kew Gardens in south London. The title refers to the classic children's novel 'The Secret Garden' by the English author Frances Hodgson Burnett.

The artist has been inspired by the Victorian novel precisely because its themes have an echoing resemblance to present social issues. And she identifies her work with the main idea behind the story: The natural environment has healing effects on the well-being of children.

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT, you could overlook my paintings and think: TRADITIONAL! And walk away, or you could stay and enter my world, it is up to you.

If you decide to take me on board, please find further information about 'Alicia in the Secret Garden' on my website: [www.nataliarivero.com](http://www.nataliarivero.com)

"I've stuck in a lonesome life  
I've been dancing for a lonesome choir  
you told me it was my fault  
so please don't judge me if you find me drunk tonight.

Hide my bones in this holy ground  
among the savior and the clown  
the undertaker is pleased to help  
and the ravens will gladly eat my flesh.

Now my heart rests in this pine box  
waiting for yours to come  
as you see there's no way back  
how I wish you could find a road to the start.

Light a candle for the ones who are gone  
for the dust that we all came from  
speak louder and make your speech unique  
'cause just time is the time's critique.

What happened to the good old boys?  
some were forgotten  
some rest in your hall  
walk down through the places I liked to roam  
remind my name and l'll last forever more.

Bring me roses whenever you can  
over the cold stone  
sit by my side  
there will always be trust between us.

Forget what I said take the chance that I left."

Invited artist by SAL

Date of the concert:  
**31 May from 7pm onwards**

*Indie/folk band from Madrid (Spain)  
based in Whitechapel, London*

SAL STARTED LIFE AS A GROUP OF SPANISH ARTISTS LIVING AND WORKING IN LONDON, BUT THE ART COMMUNITY IS A FLUID ONE AND SAL HAS EVOLVED NATURALLY TO INCLUDE SPANISH ARTISTS WHO HAVE MOVED AWAY FROM LONDON AND OTHERS WHO HAVE CLOSE CULTURAL, ARTISTIC AND FAMILY TIES WITH SPAIN NO MATTER WHERE THEY CAME FROM ORIGINALLY.

We welcome members from a wide range of disciplines, which at present include: ceramics, glass, painting, photography, video and multimedia installations.

SAL was created for the purpose of presenting our creative activity and our proposals to audiences in London, both to Spaniards living in Britain for whom our activities could work as a bridge between two cultures and to people of other nationalities interested in the artistic output of our group.

We present our activities and our proposals as a way of cultural consumption of the "contemporary", concerned with an analysis of the moment we are living.

## Goals

- \* To raise an interest in Spanish Culture in other collectives and cultural contexts
- \* To reflect on our "identity conflicts" as Spaniards living in a different country and on the influence of this condition in our work
- \* To introduce and promote the work of this group of creators, increasing the visibility and dissemination of their artistic output and projects
- \* To analyse the artistic and cultural reality of the milieu in which we live and work
- \* To exchange and promote experiences with other contemporary art groups and foster these cultural and artistic exchanges in Britain, in Europe and internationally
- \* To set a network of professional, artistic, cultural, commercial and institutional contacts to help develop the feasibility of our project with the support of Spanish institutions in London, as well as private companies or individuals wanting to collaborate with our proposal
- \* To work as a link for other Spanish artists arriving in London; be a point of reference for institutions or individuals interested in artistic and cultural activities in London

## Activities

- \* Organising collective, individual and thematic exhibitions, with the participation of photographers, visual artists, poets, musicians, performers
- \* Collaborating with members of the Spanish community, different social groups, teaching institutions, etc. by proposing workshops, didactic and ludic activities, or any other kind of artistic interventions with the aim of reflecting on and putting new energy into culture
- \* Promoting encounters to enrich the social interactions among the members of the group, their collaborators and other people close to them

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