

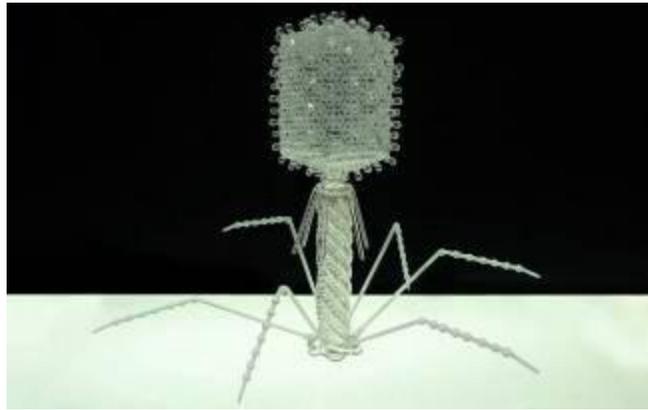
# TRAUMA

## Group Show



2 December 2011– 18 February 2012  
Private View Thursday 1 December 2011  
GV Art Gallery, 49 Chiltern Street, Marylebone, London W1U 6LY

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Luke Jerram, *T4 Bacteriophage*, glass

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**Artists:** Susan Aldworth, Suzanne Anker, Katharine Dowson, Charlie Franklin, Rachel Gadsden, Shelley James, Luke Jerram, Andrew Krasnow, Michal Macku, David Marron, Darragh O’Callaghan, Anais Tondeur, William Utermohlen, Jacek Wankowski.

Traumas are both personal and impersonal, physical and psychological, short-lived and long-lasting. Sometimes only visible through the lens of a microscope, their impact can be both unique and universal.

This exhibition, curated by Dr Jonathan Hutt and Bojana Popovic, attempts to understand the various manifestations of trauma both natural and man-made; revealing the intimate experience of those who live with trauma while also investigating perceptions of sometimes concealed mental distress.

The artists involved in this project employ a diversity of approaches, charting the full dimensions of trauma from the micro-molecular to those on a global environmental scale.

*Trauma* showcases Luke Jerram’s delicate glass sculptures which underscore the fragility of the human body when faced with viral infection while questioning their role in mankind’s continued existence. As Jerram states, “Without viruses, the genetic revolution we are now experiencing would be impossible. They serve numerous beneficial functions that we are just beginning to research and understand.”

Rachel Gadsden takes a divergent approach utilizing a series of powerful markings and impressions. Externalizing the invisible world of those living with HIV/AIDS in South Africa she attempts to capture the physical sensations of trauma drawing on her own unseen disability to create a direct emotional connection between subject, artist and viewer.

For Anais Tondeur, the thirty kilometre exclusion zone surrounding Chernobyl nuclear plant is the starting point for an investigation into the afterlife of trauma. The works explore botanical mutations as a microcosm for the wider reaching implications of this man-made disaster, be it personal, societal or environmental.

Under the banner of the Art and Science series, this new exhibition at GV Art seeks to expand cross-disciplinary collaboration amongst artist, scientist and community. This holistic approach is designed to find links between the clinical exploration and personal experience of trauma which are both underpinned by, and understood through, a shared concern for humanity.

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## NOTES FOR EDITORS:

Once again after the success of their *Brainstorm* exhibition, GV Art is working with scientists from varied backgrounds to push the exploration into the inter-relationship between art and science.

**Dr David Dexter**, Reader in Neuropharmacology, Centre for Neuroscience, Imperial College London, has provided slides depicting the effects of various diseases including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's on neurons and cells. His colleague, **Dr Steven Gentleman**, is a Professor of Neuropathology at Imperial College London but also works for MS and Parkinson's UK tissue bank running a research programme looking at the causes of Parkinson's as well as the effects of head trauma is also participating in this exhibition.

**Dr Jake Burrell** just finished his PhD at the Royal Marsden Hospital. His primary research interest is developing MRI imaging methods for visualising and measuring tumour blood vessels and tumour oxygenation. Jake has also developed the use of vascular corrosion casting of tumours as part of the process of validating new imaging biomarkers for wider use in the clinic.

**Dr Megan Dowie** is a neuroscientist in the MRC Anatomical Neuropharmacology Unit at the University of Oxford who, in the work she provides to GV Art, focuses on neurodegeneration as seen in Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and Huntington's disease. A microscopic view, this example of chronic trauma also embodies the idea regarding invisible trauma.

Curator **Dr Jonathan Hutt** lives in Shanghai and has a PhD in Chinese History from the Australian National University. His specialism is in Chinese intellectual history of the late Qing and Republican eras. He contributes to numerous scholarly journals including *East Asian History*, *The China Journal*, and *China Heritage Quarterly*. Jonathan is also an independent curator who has worked with GV Art on a number of previous exhibitions including *Of the Flesh* and *Artist Without a Head*.

Assistant Curator **Bojana Popovic** is currently a third year student from the Courtauld Institute of Art finishing her BA in History of Art. She has been interning at GV Art and was invited to curate the *Trauma* exhibition with Jonathan Hutt.

**GV Art** is a contemporary art gallery which aims to explore and acknowledge the inter-relationship between art and science, and how the areas cross over and inform one another. The gallery produces exhibitions and events that create a dialogue focused on how modern man interprets and understands the advances in both areas and how an overlap in the technological and the creative, the medical and the historical are paving the way for new aesthetic sensibilities to develop.

*"GV Art is fast becoming a central venue for the meeting of art and science."* Philip Ball, *Chemistry World*, October 2011

### VISITOR INFORMATION

GV Art, 49 Chiltern Street  
London W1U 6LY  
nearest tube Baker Street  
Tel: 020 8408 9800  
Email: [info@gvart.co.uk](mailto:info@gvart.co.uk)  
Web : [www.gvart.co.uk](http://www.gvart.co.uk)

### GALLERY OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Friday 11am - 6pm,  
Saturdays 11am - 4pm  
or by appointment.  
Admission Free



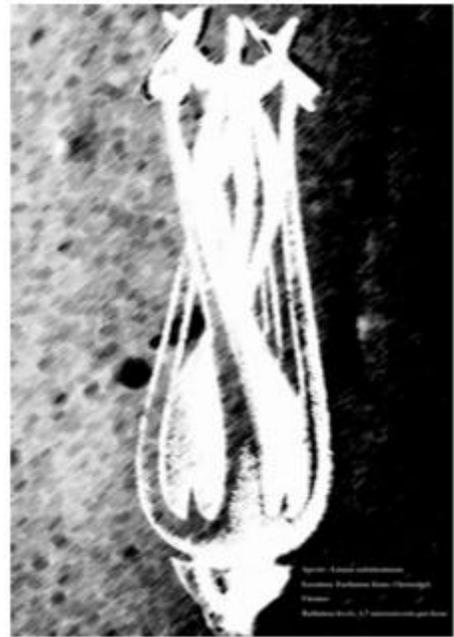
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Images

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Jacek Wankowski, *Encrustation - Samurai Blade*,  
Stainless steel, weathered mild steel, 90x75x55 cm



Anais Tondeur, *Herbarium of surviving specimens  
from the Exclusion zone*, Photogram,  
29x40 cm



Rachel Gadsden, *Untitled (detail)*, mixed media



Katharine Dowson, *Silent Stories*, Glass, life-size