

2c Kings Grove, Peckham, London Se15 2NB.



m² Gallery

27.03.09

T. +44 (0)20 7771 1600
E. info@m2gallery.com
W. www.m2gallery.com

Happy as a Dead Bird; Kate Hamilton

27th March – 8th May 2009

"I'm as happy as a dead bird," my grandmother used to say.

It is hard to find your soul. It is hard to find your soul mate. It is hard to stand once your soul mate leaves. It is hard to see the wood from the trees, or the birds in the trees mid-summer. The sound of typing drowns their song.

A starling: fallen from the loft, presented as a gift, not to be eaten or stuffed but photographed, appears again as a powerful dream. A duck, dead, found lying by a pond in the English countryside: crestfallen Ophelia and her child follow. A chair put out on the street; a skirt forming a garden landscape or funeral curtain. And white flags.

A man in Gaza, killed while feeding his birds in his top floor apartment. His friends saved by the white flag they wrapped around themselves.

Inexplicable events. Collapsible time.

Happy as a dead bird in the park.

Working with found objects Kate's photographs play upon known structures and the viewers' expectations. Her use of birds and the human form to inhabit familiar landscapes open the pictures to new and surprising narratives. It is through these narratives that she explores the unconscious by weaving fragments of images into a disconnected whole. The juxtaposition of 'the familiar' and 'the strange' give a sense of controlled disorientation and of an intended structure reminiscent of dreams.

Kate completed an MA in Photographic Studies from the University of Westminster in 2004 after gaining a BA in Fine Art and English Literature from the University of Exeter. Her previous work 'At the threshold of the light and reassuring world' was exhibited in Forest Hill and Regents College.

m² Gallery is a non profit making arts organization promoting the display of art through the m² exhibiting space that can be viewed by all visitors to Kings Grove, Peckham, London Se15 2NB. It is administered and curated by the m² Gallery committee. Proposals are welcome from all sections of the community who would like to exhibit in the space.