

# Fiona Banner selects from the V-A-C Collection: Stamp Out Photographie

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British artist **Fiona Banner** (b.1966) chooses works of art from the V-A-C Collection, Moscow, in an installation that plays with museum display conventions.

Renowned for exploring the visual possibilities of language, Banner's selection focuses on the blurred boundaries between language photography and painting. She is drawn to pieces from the Collection which are self reflexive, and they challenge their own medium. For example, works by artists **Christopher Williams** and **Shannon Ebner**, at first seem to represent nature, but are in fact photographs staged with meticulous attention to detail. Similarly, **Sherry Levine's** *Khmer Torso* (2010) is a cast of an ancient Buddhist sculpture; it questions ideas of authenticity.

Banner has devised an installation which reveals but also conceals the image. Rejecting conventional gallery lighting, instead she uses coloured light which flows gently through Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black in a direct reference to the CMYK system commonly used for printing images. She says, 'I want to make a theatre for the works to act in. It is a play on the act of looking, on our perception.'

The display includes **Gerhard Richter's** *Kerze* (1982), a painting of a single, glowing candle famously used as the cover of Sonic Youth's 1988 album 'Daydream Nation'. **Andy Warhol's** *Jackie* (1964) is a painting based on photographs of Jackie Kennedy Onassis. While *Stretch* (1964), a major black & white painting by **Bridget Riley** is an optical art work which appears to shift and vibrate. This presentation also includes a video by Russian born artist **Olga Chernysheva**, which provides a filmic soundtrack for the exhibition.

This exhibition is part of the Whitechapel Gallery's programme of opening up rarely seen collections from around the world.

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A publication devised by Fiona Banner and edited by Whitechapel Gallery Curator Omar Kholeif is available in the bookshop for £14.95

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