



TROUBLE IN PARADISE DEBRA SWANN

**EXHIBITION DATES 26TH FEB – 15TH MARCH
OPEN: THURS – SUN**

**PRIVATE VIEW TUESDAY 24TH FEB 6-8pm
THE WASP ROOM**

Tether Studios, 17a Huntingdon St, Nottingham, NG1 3JH

'Trouble in Paradise' is a solo exhibition by Debra Swann. It is a culmination of a three-week residency at The Wasp Room.

Swann's artwork is driven by her interest in science and a desire to travel through time. Exploring the boundaries between reality and fantasy she adopts personas such as the scientist or explorer as a way of developing implied narratives in her work. Presenting themselves as possible artefacts or specimens, the objects she makes substantiate the fabrication of myth or inferred narratives she creates.

Using mundane materials like sellotape, parcel tape and brown paper in the construction of her work Swann sets up a tension between what we believe we are looking at and the prosaic everyday.

Sometimes commenting on the domestic or private space the objects she makes present themselves as props or specimens which on closer examination begin to collapse and reveal themselves as fake.

It is important that the objects are not completely convincing, implying that the specimens have been constructed in the home and relate more to hobbies and womanly pursuits than scientific discoveries and worldliness.

Debra Swann- *"I have always been interested in the idea of travelling through time. Taking on personas, such as the Victorian collector or the colonial woman has allowed me to travel into the past. Through all my work I am juxtaposing significance and insignificance, searching to find meaning in things and exploring a desire for importance.*

"The installation will create a sense of time gone by, a series of generations of comings and goings, an apocalyptic scene of death, decay and regeneration"

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

Debra Swann was born in London, in 1969; she graduated from Goldsmiths College in 2001 with an MA in Fine Art. Swann has exhibited nationally and internationally in various group exhibitions such as Dreaming of a White, Arts & Business, London 2004/5; Death of Romance, Ganton Street, London 2004; Glitch, K3 Project Space, Zurich 2003. In 2005 Swann attended Braziers International Artists Workshop and has also completed an artist residency in Ecole Cantonale D'art du Valais (2002 – 2004) in Switzerland. In 2006 Swann had a solo exhibition after a 3-week residency, Curiosity Shop at Coleman Project Space in Bermondsey, London and exhibited in a two-person exhibition: Paraphernalia at APT Gallery, London. In 2007 Swann completed a six-week residency at Artspace, Sydney culminating in a three-person exhibition A Comedy of Errors. Recently she has exhibited in Cutnshunt at Contemporary Art Projects in London and was selected for the Castle Open, Nottingham.

The Wasp Room Gallery aims to introduce new artists to Nottingham by exhibiting local, national and international contemporary art work. The gallery will host six shows per year and is open Thursday to Sunday or by appointment.

The Wasp Room at Tether Studios, 17a Huntingdon St, Nottingham, NG1 3JH

For further information please contact Liam Aitken on 07921639951
For press enquiries email enquiries@tether.org.uk or visit the website www.tether.org.uk

