PRESS RELEASE FLOWERS

TOM HAMMICK, SOLO BOOTH LONDON ORIGINAL PRINT FAIR

4 May - 7 May 2017

T: 020 7920 7777 press@flowersgallery.com www.flowersgallery.com

Flowers Gallery is delighted to participate in the 2017 edition of The London Original Print Fair (Stand 49) with a solo presentation of prints by Tom Hammick. On view for the first time will be several new woodcuts forming part of a narrative cycle to be exhibited in an upcoming solo exhibition *Lunar Voyage* at Flowers Gallery, New York in October 2017.

Tom Hammick has described landscape in his work as a metaphor to explore an "imaginary and mythological dreamscape." In the large woodcut Cloud Island Hammick imagines an extra-terrestrial voyage, drawing inspiration from early space exploration and the utopian search for new human habitats. Viewed from above, a domestic dwelling is cast adrift on an ocean beneath a



Terrestrial, 2017, Reduction Woodcut, 118 x 150 cm, 46 1/2 x 59 1/8 in

galaxy of stars, while in the distance a rocket prepares to launch to the full moon beyond.

Continuing this theme in *Terrestrial*, a family of figures gaze through the trees up to a distant moon. In both works the evocation of isolation and loss is measured with a sense of mystery and longing, exploring fragile notions of home, the environment, and the personal quest for identity.

Also on display will be a complete set of woodcuts made in response to a year-long residency at English National Opera (ENO) in 2015. Hammick created a series of images synthesising the tensions and relationships of the drama on stage with the colour and pattern in his prints and paintings. Comprising twelve prints in total, the series will be on view in its entirety.

A duo of prints titled *The Remembered Present Part 1* and *2* take inspiration from Peter Sellars' production of *The Indian Queen*, picturing the confrontation between two cultures from a feminine perspective. Following its depiction of corruption and human violence in *Part 1*, the dream of salvation in *Part 2* suggests a belief in the power of the imagination to restore faith. *Carmen and the Bull* was produced in response to the passionate tale of Bizet's *Carmen*. Despite the suggestion of imminent danger and suffering in this image, Hammick portrays the fearlessness of his female protagonist through her proud, solid stance.

ABOUT TOM HAMMICK

Tom Hammick (b.1963) is a British artist based in East Sussex and London. Hammick is a painter as well as a printmaker, known for his psychologically-charged landscapes and emotive handling of colour. Recurring motifs of isolated human dwellings (forest cabins, modernist houses, studios or compounds) appear to withhold an internal drama, with unsettling perspectives and uncanny dream-like settings. Drawing inspiration from a wide range of sources, from Japanese prints to Northern European Romanticism, Hammick's work also summons the uneasy atmosphere of a crime thriller, or a dystopian suburban nightmare.

Tom Hammick was the winner of the V&A Prize at the International Print Biennale, Newcastle, in 2016, and the print *Violetta and Alfredo's Escape*, 2016, was acquired by the V&A.

He has work in many major public and corporate collections including the British Museum (Collection of Prints and Drawings); V&A (Victoria and Albert Museum); Bibliotheque Nationale de France (Collection of Prints and Drawings); Deutsche Bank; Yale Centre for British Art; and The Library of Congress, Washington DC.

Tom Hammick: Lunar Voyage will be on View at Flowers Gallery, New York from 24 October - 17 December. www.flowersgallery.com

For more information please contact Hannah Hughes, hannah@flowersgallery.com/ 020 7920 7777







From left to right: Crowd Control; The Remembered Present Part 1; Hermann's Declaration; All 2015, Reduction Woodcuts, $30 \times 38 \text{ cm} / 113/4 \times 15 \text{ in}$







From left to right: Carmen and the Bull; Walther walking to Nuremburg; Eyes for Listening; All 2015, Reduction Woodcuts, 30×38 cm / $11 \, 3/4 \times 15$ in

Image credits: All images (c) Tom Hammick, courtesy of Flowers Gallery London and New York