1. To separate the sacred from the profane, 2016

2. Heritage Studies #10, 2015

3. Heritage Studies #12, 2015

4. Heritage Studies #14, 2016

5. Career Suicide, 2016

6. Studies of Four Oxfordshire Schools, 1977

7. At the End of the Wee Hours, 1984

8. At the End of the Wee Hours, 1985

9. At the End of the Wee Hours, 1986


11. Casserole and Closed Mussels, 1964

12. Haacke’s political work is characterised by a playful humour which was often directed at public institutions that display and disseminate art.


14. Painting to Exit Only: When It’s Copied or Photographed, 1964 (2016)

15. No Drones, 2016


17. Approximation Mars I

18. Approximation V,

19. Katja Novitskova

20. Marcel Broodthaers


22. Darcy Lange

23. Hardeep Pandhal

24. Iman Issa

25. Marie Loboda

26. Lisa Pandhal

27. Hans Haacke

28. Yoko Ono

29. Louis Lawler

30. Marcel Broodthaers

31. Hans Haacke

32. Yoko Ono

33. Louis Lawler

34. Marcel Broodthaers

35. Yoko Ono

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99. Louis Lawler

100. Marcel Broodthaers

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Please ask our Visitor Assistants if you have any questions.

This exhibition guide is available in a large format. Please ask at the Information Desk located in the Café.

Modern Art Oxford is grateful to the many individuals, companies and organisations that have helped to realise this edition of the KALEIDOSCOPE programme.
Welcome to KALEIDOSCOPE, a celebration of 50 years of contemporary art, performance and experimental visual culture at Modern Art Oxford.

Because it’s a special year, we have tried something a little different. Instead of closing when artwork is being installed, the galleries will be open all year round in 2016. In KALEIDOSCOPE you’ll see works from past exhibitions at Modern Art Oxford sharing space with an exciting roster of new commissions. Artworks returning to the gallery from across the world appear alongside works by artists showing here for the first time. The past and the present are combined in what we hope you will find engaging, reflexive shows that touch on one of our most enduring preoccupations – the nature of time.

Over 700 exhibitions have been presented at Modern Art Oxford since the gallery was founded 50 years ago. KALEIDOSCOPE does not aim to be a definitive historical account by any means. It offers a snapshot of some of the many highlights in our history, captured in the exhibitions, performances, talks and events taking place throughout the year. It aims to reflect some key ideas in contemporary art over the past half a century.

The Vanished Reality

The artists in The Vanished Reality adopt different strategies to explore how the meaning of art is shaped by the political, economic and social conditions in which it is produced and presented. The context in which we encounter a work of art can often impact significantly on the way in which we perceive it. These overlooked framing devices are retrieved and subjected to scrutiny by the artists included in The Vanished Reality.

In the Upper Gallery, you may enter through a circular sculpture by Maria Loboda. Inspired by the chinowa found at Shinto shrines in Japan, this structure marks a space that is charged with significance. With this gesture, Loboda pokes fun at the hallowed environment of the gallery and equates it to a sacred or religious space. From here, you can encounter works by artists from different generations: from the conceptual art of Broodthaers, Darcy Lange and Hans Haacke produced in the 1960s and 70s, to recent works by Louise Lawler, and contemporary commissions by Loboda and Hardeep Pandhal.

The title of this exhibition comes from a fictional 1967 interview between Belgian artists Marcel Broodthaers and René Magritte, in which Broodthaers described his desire to reinstate “the vanished reality” surrounding – and contributing to the meaning of – Magritte’s surrealist paintings. This wish to contextualise works of art was soon reflected in his own practice, when in 1968 Broodthaers invented a museum, fragments of which began to feature throughout his home and exhibitions. This Museum of Modern Art, Department of Eagles served to deconstruct the systems through which art is classified and distributed, illustrating the highly subjective ways in which art accrues meaning and value.

KALEIDOSCOPE celebrates the role art plays in shaping our perception of the world. For each of us, our visual perception is influenced as much by our unique experiences as what we see in front of us. Our interest is in your understanding of contemporary art and life. Whether you’re looking at an artwork from the 1960s or watching a new performance, being here you are also part of Modern Art Oxford’s history. We hope you’ll share your memories of the gallery with us online:

#KALEIDOSCOPE Twitter @mao_gallery Instagram @mao_gallery

MODERN ART OXFORD
12 November - 31 December
THE VANISHED REALITY
KALEIDOSCOPE