

# VITRINE



[Press Release \(For immediate release\)](#)

## Sam Porritt | A Certain Change

15 September 2018 - 27 January 2019

Preview: Friday 14 September 2018, 6 - 8pm.

VITRINE, Basel.

VITRINE is delighted to present Sam Porritt's first solo exhibition with the gallery in Basel, exhibiting a new series of works made with the space in mind and exploring ideas of limitlessness and directionality.

The centrepiece of the exhibition will be a sculpture of a lighthouse. Human in scale, the work will turn in its entirety as it casts out a light, the moving beam of light falling on interior walls and out into the surrounding public space.

Porritt describes his approach to the unique VITRINE space as wanting to create a site-responsive work that would turn, move and animate the space which after a time led him to the lighthouse. He was also drawn to the motif of the lighthouse for its symbolic associations; providing a guiding light in a disorientating and changeable environment they stand defiant in stormy seas, singular against the horizon, beacons that warn of the dangers beneath them.

Referencing both individual and shared histories, Porritt's work in drawing, sculpture, text, the moving image and performance, is largely concerned with human agency and its associated ethical implications. For 'A Certain Change' sculptural works will be accompanied by drawings that continue off the paper in all directions. Using no more than the drawn line these works achieve an ordered chaos akin to the play of light on water.

For the past decade drawing has been a constant in Porritt's wide ranging practice, he uses it to detect and root out the underlying and interlocking logic of things. This is most apparent with his drawings of invented patterns which at first can appear simple but gain in complexity the more you look at them.

The artist's intention that the lighthouse be read as metaphor is compounded by it being shown here in Switzerland; Basel being home to the only seaport of an otherwise landlocked country. The human height of the lighthouse lends the sculpture a melancholic air and at the same time there is a strange comfort to be taken in watching it stoically maintain its lonely vigil.

**Sam Porritt (b. 1979, London, UK, Lives and works Zurich, CH)** graduated with a BFA in sculpture from the Chelsea School of Art and Design (2002). In 2005 he received his Post Graduate Diploma from the Royal Academy Schools, London. He was selected for the Swiss Art Awards 2017 and his book 'ASSEMBLY – Cast of Characters' was published by SIDE ISSUES, Zurich, CH (2015).

Solo exhibitions include: 'The Golden Rule', CIRCUIT, Lausanne, CH (2017); 'The Lonely Target', c.o.m.p.o.s.i.t.e, Brussels, Belgium (2017); 'Grist To The Mill', VITRINE, London, UK (2016); 'Hidden In Plain Sight' (with Fabio Pirovino), Frutta, Rome, IT (2016); 'Falling Gets Me Down', Naming Rights, London, UK (2015); 'The More You Look, The More You Look', 100 plus, Zurich, CH (2014); 'Captive Audience', MOK, Rotterdam, NL (2013); 'Heads & Faces', PEER, London, UK (2013); and, 'Going Forward...' Anne Mosserie-Marlio Gallery, Zurich, CH (2013).

Recent group exhibitions include: 'Tipping the Scales' at Paradise Works, Manchester, UK (2018); 'A Journey from a sweeping gesture to a lasting effect', VITRINE, Basel, CH (2016); 'Being Boring', Living Art Museum, Reykjavik, IS (2016); 'L'Hospice des Mille-Cuisses' CAN, Neuchâtel, CH (2015); 'Works on Paper by Sculptors', The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK (2015); 'Hairy Plotter and the Polygrapher's Tones', Toves, Copenhagen, DK (2015); 'Kunstvlaai', solo presentation with Q. Projects, Amsterdam, NL (2014); 'Pleasure Principles', Foundation d'entreprise Galeries Lafayette, Paris, FR (2014); 'Enjoy The Squares & Triangles You Know. Discover The Squares & Triangles You Don't Know', Arcade Fine Arts, London, UK (2013); 'The Red Queen' MONA, Tasmania, AUS (2013); 'Emmy Moore's Journal: An Exhibition Based on a Letter in a short Story by Jane Bowles', SALTS, Basel CH (2013); and 'Nothing is Forever' at the South London Gallery, London, UK (2010).

He has curated the exhibitions 'What's in a Band? Eyes, Ears, Mouth & Nose!' at Corner College, Zurich, CH (2012) and 'Oneself As Another', at K3 Project Space, Zurich, CH (2011).

Sam Porritt is included in the 17th edition of Tallinn Print Triennial main exhibition 'Cloudusters: Intensity vs. Intention' at EKKM, Tallinn, EE (June - July 2018) and has forthcoming solo exhibitions at VITRINE, Basel, CH (September 2018) and INDIANA, Vevey, CH (November 2018).

**For press enquiries, image requests and private view accreditation please contact:**

**Helena Kate Whittingham**  
**press@vitrinegallery.com**  
**+ 44 (0) 7894899695**

Notes to Editor

1.

Installation views / press image selection will be released on Tuesday 11 September 2018.

2.

VITRINE is focused on artistic experimentation and development; material-, process- and installation-led practice at its core.

VITRINE operates a hybrid business model encompassing both commercial gallery and non-profit projects. The gallery was founded by Alys Williams in London in 2012 (grown from a project space launched in 2010) and in Basel in April 2016. Establishing a strong reputation as a selector and nurturer of new talent, VITRINE invites and fosters the development and presentation of new work in spaces in London, UK, and Basel, Switzerland; at art fairs internationally; and through off-site projects in collaboration with partner organisations.

VITRINE nurtures a rigorous commitment to artist development and represents a growing number of international artists: Nadim Abbas, Edwin Burdis, Tim Etchells, Jamie Fitzpatrick, Clare Kenny, Wil Murray, Sam Porritt, Maya Rochat and Charlie Godet Thomas; alongside further exhibited and associated international artists.

VITRINE's spaces promote a new model of exhibition-making, encouraging experimentation and installation. Whilst enclosed behind glass, the works extend beyond its boundaries into the surrounding public space. Exhibitions viewable 24/7; Internal viewing rooms open by appointment.

VITRINE's gallery on Vogensplatz has been designed by Swiss designers Jens Müller and Thomas Wüthrich, who collaborate under the label PANTERAPANTERA. The design creates a unique exhibition space echoing VITRINE's original space on Bermondsey Square and encapsulates a hidden, inner viewing room; evolving and pushing the possibilities of this unique gallery model further.