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PRESS RELEASE

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION:

PETER LIVERSIDGE: doppelgänger

1 August – 21 September 2013

In recent years London-based artist Peter Liversidge has become known for his polymathic approach to exhibition-making, inundating curators with pages of proposals which are sent via the post. The proposals start life on an old manual typewriter, typed at his kitchen table. Brimming with ideas for projects, performances and artworks that may or may not be made, the proposals invite the reader into the artist's mind. Since 2006 Liversidge has worked in this peculiarly generous way with institutions across Europe, including the Tate Gallery, Liverpool; The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art; the National Gallery of Finland and most recently the Whitechapel Art Gallery in London, whose summer 2013 exhibition includes 68 such proposals tailored to the theme of Utopia.

For his exhibition at Ingleby Gallery for this year's Edinburgh Art Festival, Liversidge has typed a pair of proposals: an entire exhibition stemming (unusually for Liversidge) from a single thought – his fascination with a sequence of etchings by German Symbolist Max Klinger.

The series in question, known as *Ein Handschuh, The Glove*, was first published as a set of 10 etchings in 1881 and recounts the bizarre psycho-sexual adventures of a lady's elbow length glove, dropped on a Berlin roller skating rink and picked up by the bearded figure of Klinger himself. The action that follows, in a series of dreams and nightmares, anticipates both the theories of Sigmund Freud and the hallucinatory style of the Surrealists.

Klinger's theme is obsession: a visual poem on the madness and mania of love, the glove a lingering symbol of the artist's desire for an unidentified woman about whom he knows nothing. In Liversidge's hands the emphasis shifts and the story becomes a much wider one asking questions on the obsession of creativity and the workings of artistic imagination.

Liversidge's exhibition unpicks Klinger's story in two parts; all ten of Klinger's original etchings have been painstakingly remade, each one at a giant scale, so that the tiny image of the original grows to life-size, revealing



all of the marks of its making. In front of each frame, as if dropped from the scene, sits a glove, hand carved from white Carrara marble, a supremely elegant twist which enhances the sense of an object that appears to have been somehow found from the original, despite the fact that of course it wasn't there before. In keeping with the spirit of losing and finding, the marble gloves will continue to appear throughout the run of the show.

Downstairs, Gallery II has been transformed into a panelled room in a late 19th century style: an imagined parlour from Klinger's Leipzig home that appears to contain a suite of Klinger's original prints. The parlour prints are not what they first seem. On further examination they turn out to be subtly altered facsimiles of Klinger's etchings made to precisely the same scale as the originals. These pieces provide a context for Liversidge's larger works and become a further extension of the journey from one artist's imagination to another. In Liversidge's hands Klinger's glove has become the self-referential evidence of the theme of obsession itself, and so a metaphor for the entire artistic process.



In the strangeness of Klinger's *Ein Handschuh* a dropped glove is transformed into a gauntlet questioning the compulsions of the creative mind. Klinger threw it down, Peter Liversidge has picked it up.

EDINBURGH ART FESTIVAL COMMISSION:

PETER LIVERSIDGE: Flags for Edinburgh

Flags for Edinburgh is a project by Peter Liversidge commissioned by Edinburgh Art Festival.

Liversidge has invited anyone in the city with a flagpole to fly a white flag which bears the text: HELLO. In a city which doubles in size in August, Liversidge's proposal invites Edinburgh, visitors and residents alike, to join in a collective and universal greeting. In the artist's own words, "a simple welcome across the rooftops. A buoyant, floating 'hello'".



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For images and further information, please contact Ingleby Gallery on 0131 556 4441 or email info@inglebygallery.com

Image credits (left to right from top):

Peter Liversidge, *Handlung (Action)*, After Max Klinger, 2013, two-colour screenprint and Carrara marble, with Peter Coates

Peter Liversidge, *Wünsche (Yearnings)*, After Max Klinger, 2013, two-colour screenprint and Carrara marble, with Peter Coates

Peter Liversidge, *Wünsche (Yearnings)*, After Max Klinger (detail), 2013, Carrara marble, with Peter Coates

Peter Liversidge, *Flags for Edinburgh*, 2013, public art commission for Edinburgh Art Festival 2013, photograph by Stuart Armit