

THOMAS DANE GALLERY

Amie Siegel
Bloodlines

Private view: 26 April 4-8pm

Exhibition dates: 27 April – 23 July 2022

Thomas Dane Gallery
3 Duke Street St. James's
London, SW1

Thomas Dane Gallery is delighted to announce an exhibition of Amie Siegel's new large-scale moving image work, *Bloodlines*, and an associated series of prints, *Cloude*, *Clot* and *Cloot* (all 2022), at the London gallery beginning 27 April, 2022. Siegel's layered, meticulously constructed works embrace moving image, installation, photography, painting, and performance to trace and perform the undercurrents of systems of value, cultural ownership and image-making.

Filmed in numerous private estates throughout England and Scotland, as well as in public institutions, *Bloodlines* follows the movement of paintings by English artist George Stubbs (1724-1806) from aristocratic homes and private country houses to an exhibition in a public art gallery, then back again. First depicted within the lavish decor and stillness of the stately home interiors, the paintings take on a new presence when installed by museum workers on gallery walls and seen by a viewing public.

Bloodlines exemplifies Siegel's understated formal precision, revealing systems of class and inherited wealth and subtly suggesting colonialism's role in establishing and perpetuating their structures. Offering an intimate look into the world of cultural property and the ownership of heritage, the film explores distinctions between private and public realms, and the labour (and leisure) that maintains each. Through the iterative and conceptual quality of Siegel's work, *Bloodlines* conveys a rich constellation of images and ideas and sets up a narrative that unfolds associatively in the viewer's consciousness. Motifs such as flowers, fireplaces, wallpaper, dogs, horses, and other creatures and patterns of action build and echo throughout the film, accruing meaning. Time, too, becomes both subject and material in the uncannily immutable settings of each home. Distinctions between their interior and exterior worlds, the absence and presence of people; stillness and movement; animate beings and inanimate objects; images of past and present; reality and artifice, all are brought to the fore. A sense of empathy is conveyed, as viewers encounter a cast of both human and animal protagonists.

As the film unfolds, Siegel draws out subtle and poetic connections between her subjects and those of the paintings. People, property, animals, and objects move between the domains of the real and the represented, creating a mirror of human, equine and artistic bloodlines. Without voice-over or narration, Siegel's intimate camerawork, her signature carefully composed tracking shots, and her deft analogical editing, all expose the dual processes of image-making and perceptions of power. Siegel's deployment of a seductive cinematic language within the cool restraint of her conceptual rigour sets up a critical parallel to both the expressive surfaces of Stubbs' paintings and the sumptuous interiors and grounds of the homes that helped provide him with his very subjects. In this way, Siegel directs our gaze and opens a window onto visions of cultural identity held tightly within the frameworks that fix its imagery.

In the print series *Cloude*, *Clot* and *Cloot* (2022), Siegel combines details of the sky as portrayed in several of the Stubbs oil paintings featured within *Bloodlines*. The puffs and veils of cloud, atmosphere, and greenery in the prints are reproduced at one-to-one scale to the original works, suggesting a gathering of imagery that is instantaneous—like the weather—and, just as artworks that come together for exhibition only to drift apart again, combine to produce new meanings from their unexpected juxtapositions and proximity.

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In conversation: Amie Siegel with Adrian Searle at ICA London

Wednesday 22 June, 7pm

Amie Siegel will be in conversation with Adrian Searle, art critic at The Guardian newspaper, discussing *Bloodlines* (2022).

Institute of Contemporary Arts
The Mall
London SW1Y 5AH

Please visit ica.art/learning/amie-siegel-adrian-searle-in-conversation to book.

Bloodlines is a commission of the National Galleries of Scotland with support from Art Fund and the Contemporary Art Society, and with additional production support from Princess Grace Foundation, New York, and PALOMAR. *Bloodlines* is also currently on display at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art (Modern One), Edinburgh, until 4 September, 2022.

Amie Siegel (b. 1974, Chicago, USA) lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Recent solo exhibitions include *Medium Cool*, Blaffer Art Museum, Houston; *Winter*, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao; *Strata*, South London Gallery; *Ricochet*, Kunstmuseum Stuttgart; *Double Negative*, Museum Villa Stuck, Munich and *Provenance*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Group exhibitions include the 34th São Paulo Bienal, Gwangju Biennial; Dhaka Art Summit; CAPC Bordeaux; Witte de With, Rotterdam; Vancouver Art Gallery; MuMA, Melbourne; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; MAXXI Museum, Rome; Hayward Gallery, London; CCA Wattis, San Francisco; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, among many others. Her work is in public collections including The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Tate Modern, London; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh; and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York.

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Gallery Hours: Tuesday to Friday 11am–6pm, Saturday 11am–6pm, or by appointment

Admission: Free

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Nearest Tube: Green Park or Piccadilly Circus

Instagram: [@thomasdanegallery](https://www.instagram.com/thomasdanegallery)

Twitter: [@ThomasDaneLDN](https://twitter.com/ThomasDaneLDN)

Facebook: Thomas Dane Gallery

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