



You are here: > [Norway and the UK](#) > [Arts](#) > [Art](#) > [Arcana: A Group Show](#)

Feb Mar | **Date:** 14 February 2014 - 16 March 2014
14-16

Arcana: A Group Show



Martine Poppe

Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery presents ARCANA, a group show bringing together the works of Gemma Nelson, Martine Poppe and Amy Stephens. Together, these three female artists mix together photography and mixed media, just as they mix together mysteries, secrets and visual stimuli. The work of Martine Poppe (Oslo) is also part of the show 'New Order: British Art today' at the Saatchi Gallery.

You are surrounded by colour, vivid photographs, vibrant canvases and shiny, copper sculpture. And then, amongst this sea of visual stimulation, there is non colour, pastel and cream working their way in, as arresting as their neighbours for their sheer contrast. Symbols and shapes vie with each other for your attention – some obscured, others arresting, and yet more hidden in plain sight.

For **Gemma Nelson**, it is the creation of illusory spaces through intricately constructed and highly detailed paintings that has become her hallmark. Working in Indian ink and mixed media, she weaves together fairytales, female sexuality and the idea of webbing along with drawing on the aesthetics of patterning and totemic tattoos.

Arcana has seen **Martine Poppe** explore subjects that are new to her. "My motifs here are all chosen light-heartedly and I'm trying to add a touch of humour to some of my pieces for the show," she explains. What sets her work apart from her two contemporaries, at least on an aesthetic level, is a sparing use of colour, her muted canvases expressed in milky hues and delicate brush strokes, creating a luminous, floating effect. Her work is also currently exhibited at the [Saatchi Gallery](#).

Finally, **Amy Stephens** presents all new works that have been inspired by a recent residency in the Sultanate of Oman in late 2013. Working in abstraction, Stephens often creates minimalist line drawings and sculptures that invade and interact with the architectural space in which they are installed. Within the context of Arcana, her works respond to the ideas of tradition and myth explored within Nelson's work, while their play on perspective and abstract nature are at harmony with those of Poppe. From nearly 100 photographs taken in the Gulf, Stephens has chosen two images that highlight an open and closed doorway respectively. Using a range of fabrics and forms, she invites viewers to question this barrier and its in-between space. In doing so, the association of the door as an everyday object is thrown off kilter, out of context and into a state of flux.

Together, these three female artists create their own arcana, mixing different media – from sculpture and painting to photography and mixed media – just as they mix together mysteries and secrets and visual stimuli. The works, though different, call to each other through their shared reference of cultural idiosyncrasies, mythographies and mythologies, a rich link that binds them all together, yet allows each to float, separate, a portal, both transporting and bringing back to the present.

ARCANA at Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery

14th Feb - 16th March

11am - 6pm Tuesday - Saturday
11am - 5pm Sunday

Private View: 13th Feb, 6:30pm - 9pm

533 Old York Road
Wandsworth, London SW18 1TG

[More information and directions](#)

Royal Norwegian Embassy in London

25 Belgrave Square
London SW1X 8QD

Phone: +44 (0) 20 7591 5500
E-mail: emb.london@mfa.no

Embassy Opening hours
Monday - Friday 09:00 - 16:00

Consular services:

Phone enquiries: Monday-
Friday 10.00-11.00
(Wednesdays closed)

Norwegian passport collection hours:
13.30-15.00 (Wednesdays closed)

Stay connected with us on:

