

# HAUSER & WIRTH

23 SAVILE ROW LONDON W1S 2ET  
TELEPHONE +44 (0) 207 287 2300 FACSIMILE +44 (0) 207 287 6600

Press Release

## Matthew Day Jackson Everything Leads to Another

Hauser & Wirth London, Savile Row  
20 May – 30 July 2011  
Opening: Thursday 19 May 6 – 8 pm



'In my work there is no past. History is a part of everything. Everything leads to another. As the sum of history moves out in 360 degrees from its center – which does not exist – it envelops the present. Perhaps you could say I am interested in moments of sublime beauty which carry their counterpart, otherwise known as terror, so closely that it is difficult to delineate one from the other. This has been the guide from the beginning. In my search for the edge, I meet heroes along the way and see myself reflected in the surfaces of the things I encounter'.

Matthew Day Jackson



**'Everything Leads to Another' marks Matthew Day Jackson's first exhibition at Hauser & Wirth, presenting a major body of new works by the American artist across both gallery spaces. Regarded as one of the most engaging and inventive artists of his generation, Jackson's work is all-encompassing, seeking connections that exist between seemingly disparate themes. As wide reaching as impressionist painting to the surface of the moon; art history to rap music; nuclear testing to paranormal activity; Jackson formally reconfigures his diverse, culturally loaded materials and forms, revealing the character of the world anew through telling juxtapositions.**

'Axis Mundi' a sculpture re-purposing the cockpit of a B29 and 'Reflections of the Sky', the largest of Jackson's moonscape works, dominate the space of the north gallery. The latter work, a long, panelled landscape replicating the format of Monet's 'Reflections of Clouds on the Water-Lily Pond', creates an impression of the surface of the moon. Taken from a Mercator map, the moon's surface is created through laser etching on a

## HAUSER & WIRTH

gypsum board. Otherwise known as Wallboard or Drywall, the inexpensive, mass-produced material often used in domestic interiors creates a melancholic image/object that discusses our need to conquer through exploration. 'Axis Mundi' is constructed from a reconditioned B29 cockpit – the first pressurised bomber and the aircraft model that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The exterior of the iconic nose section has been polished to a high mirror finish, bringing the surface back to near factory appearance. The cockpit retains its pressurising barrier, suggesting through abbreviated form the bomber as a space age craft. The interior of the nose houses a wunderkammer of anthropological and archaeological curiosities, referencing a Victorian-era natural history museum. Drawing parallels to the study of science and God, Jackson's 'Axis Mundi' presents a modern day ark that suggests the location of the beginning of a new world through the use of the world's most destructive technology.

In the south gallery, the second half of the exhibition features work that deals with notions of mortality, or the material of being. Many of the works refer directly to the artist's body, and through photography and sculpture the human form is reimaged and reformed. Jackson states, 'We are not simply flesh and bone, but also the materials through which we express ourselves to the world outside. The siding of our home, the brand of automobile that we drive to the clothes we wear, these things become who we are. Much, if not all of this is shared, so as I become me, I become you'.

Self-portraits exist in many different forms. These seemingly dissimilar forms and narratives are held together tightly through the use of materials and repurposed iconography and the meaning they imbue. Mounted on one wall are photographs of two life-sized food golems – one sweet and one savoury – that take the shape of Jackson's body. On another wall, X-rays of surgically implanted metal body parts belonging to both male and female friends, acquaintances and total strangers are pieced together to create a skeleton rescaled to the artist's proportions. Finally, 'Me, Dead at 37' continues an ongoing series of photographs documenting fantasy scenarios of the artist's own death.

Also in the South Gallery, new video works featuring the artist, his family and friends are presented in a living room environment. 'Everything Leads to Another', the work from which the exhibition takes its name, is a rap-pop hybrid confection created collaboratively with Tim Bright that takes the form of a music video, yet functions as a sort of press release. Written by Jackson, the lyrics are a meditation of creativity, exploring pop as a performance of attraction. 'In Search of...Ghosts' is a documentary based on the late 1970s American TV programme that investigated the paranormal and the unexplained. It discusses the formalisms of a haunting, and how the spectre of history makes itself known in the present. The film follows on from the first episode which tackled the subject of anthropomorphism as the primary lens that we use to understand nearly everything around us. Within this narrative, this first episode tracked the artist's mysterious (and fictional) disappearance. 'In Search of...Ghosts' was shot on the site of the Apple II House used in the Nevada nuclear tests and features footage of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima



## HAUSER & WIRTH

and a submerged B29 sitting silently at the bottom of Lake Mead in Nevada.

Matthew Day Jackson was born 1974 in Panorama City CA. His recent solo exhibitions include 'In Search of...', MAMbo Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna, Italy (2011); 'The Immeasurable Distance', MIT List Visual Art Center, Cambridge MA (2009) which travelled to Contemporary Art Museum, Houston TX (2009). His numerous group shows include exhibitions at the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China (2010); Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark (2009); Hayward Gallery, London, England (2009); Punta della Dogana, Venice, Italy (2009); Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands (2008); Contemporary Arts Museum Houston TX (2008); Whitney Biennial, New York NY (2006) and PS1 Contemporary Art Center, New York NY (2005). Major forthcoming exhibitions include Kunstmuseum Luzern, Switzerland (2011); and Gemeente Museum, The Hague, Netherlands (2012). He lives and works in Brooklyn NY.

### About Hauser & Wirth

Hauser & Wirth is an international gallery, founded in Zurich in 1992 by Iwan and Manuela Wirth and Ursula Hauser. In 1996 the Zurich gallery opened in the former Löwenbräu brewery building, along with other contemporary art galleries, Kunsthalle Zürich, and Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst Zürich.

In 2003, Hauser & Wirth opened Hauser & Wirth London on Piccadilly in an historic building designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, adding a new and energetic dimension to London's growing importance as an international art centre. Hauser & Wirth's outdoor sculpture programme, inaugurated in September 2009, is located behind the Piccadilly gallery in Southwood Garden, St James's Church. In 2006, Hauser & Wirth at Colnaghi was created on London's Old Bond Street. Hauser & Wirth New York opened to the public on the Upper East Side of Manhattan in September 2009. In September 2010, Hauser & Wirth re-located their Zurich space to a new temporary location at Hubertus Exhibitions while the Löwenbräu building undergoes major renovation.

In October 2010 Hauser & Wirth opened its new gallery at 23 Savile Row. Offering 15,000 square feet of exhibition space, the gallery provides an outstanding setting for larger exhibitions and more expansive installations. In addition, 7,000 square feet of the building's first floor has been developed for an extensive library and archive and new offices.

### Forthcoming exhibitions:

**Rodney Graham**  
**'Vignettes of Life'**  
**12 June – 30 July 2011**  
**Hauser & Wirth Zürich**

**David Zink Yi**  
**'Pneuma'**  
**29 June – 30 July 2011**  
**Hauser & Wirth New York**

**Phyllida Barlow**  
**2 September – 22 October 2011**  
**Hauser & Wirth London, Piccadilly**



[facebook.com/hauserwirth](https://www.facebook.com/hauserwirth)



[twitter.com/hauserwirth](https://twitter.com/hauserwirth)



[youtube.com/hauserwirth1](https://www.youtube.com/hauserwirth1)

### Press Contact:

**Kristina McLean, [kristina@suttonpr.com](mailto:kristina@suttonpr.com)**  
**+44 207 183 3577**

Full Copyright and Courtesy Credits:

Reflections of the Sky  
2010  
Drywall, wood, stainless steel  
203.2 x 1280.2 x 7.6 cm / 80 x 504 x 3 in  
Installation view, 'In Search of...', MAMbo, Bologna, Italy, 2011  
© Matthew Day Jackson  
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth  
Photo: Matteo Monti

Axis Mundi  
2011  
Repurposed cockpit of a B29 aircraft, aluminium, red oak, glass, steel, plastic, lead, bronze, iron, obsidian, leather, silver, stainless steel, concrete  
373 x 480 x 590 cm / 146 7/8 x 189 x 232 1/4 in  
© Matthew Day Jackson  
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth  
Photo: Peter Mallet

Food golem (savory)  
2011  
Digital C-print  
Mount size: 198.1 x 86.4 cm / 78 x 34 in  
© Matthew Day Jackson  
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth  
Photo: Peter Mallet