

PRESS RELEASE

BICHA
STIMULATION
FOR THE NATION

Girls at Play

New paintings and drawings
by Derek Marks

13 January - 6 February 2011

Opening Reception: Thursday 13 January, 2011 | 6.30 to 9.30pm



Derek Marks, *Girls Dangling III: Silent Separation*, Oil on canvas, 2010

Girls at Play, new paintings and drawings by Derek Marks, can be divided into three themes: girls dangling, girls drawing and girls making pacts; each representing something of the cloistered worlds of privacy and uniformity.

The subjects portrayed are not aware or even interested in the viewer, but only in their activities and, to varying degrees, each other. These images do not only represent play but are playful.

Often the girls faces are averted from view and their individuality hidden with uniform clothing. While at the same time, there is a powerful sense of society and of belonging, reinforced by the compactness of the groupings. The work becomes conversations about identity, both singular and group.

This playfulness is also found in the execution of the work – colour separates one part of the body from another with no visible flesh to make the link, but the construction

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Derek Marks, *Girls: Inseparable III*, Charcoal, 2010

of the body is such, that one is left with no doubt of the understanding of human anatomy underpinning such decisions. What appears absent at first, makes itself quite present in time.

These are sensual works paying homage to the charm and beauty of youth – evoking strong references to a more innocent state of being, while displaying an absolute joy in the art of image making and painting.

For further information, text or images, please contact António Capelão.

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Open Tuesday through Sunday from 11am till 7pm

Bicha represents living contemporary artists from the UK and around the world – working in sculpture, ceramics, drawing, illustration, painting, photography, printmaking, etching and metal work.

Bicha Gallery | Girls at Play | 13 November -6 February, 2011
New paintings and drawings by Derek Marks

020 7928 0083, 7 Gabriel's Wharf, South Bank, London SE1 9PP | 11 am - 7pm Tues-Sun
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