



Tanoa Sasraku

Liths

17 February - 20 May 2023

Liths is an exhibition of new sculptural works by Hackney-based artist Tanoa Sasraku. Merging digital and handmade processes, Sasraku works with sculpture, tapestry, print and moving image to explore place and memory in relation to British and Ghanaian history.

For her exhibition at PEER, Sasraku presents *Liths*, a series of works that comprise sculpture and print. Lining the gallery floor are five freestanding rectangular wooden sculptures. Embedded within the monolithic black cases are sheets of hand-made Awagami Kozo Natural Japanese Paper, each depicting enlarged scans of fragments of stitched and embossed ink and earth pigment-stained newsprint, representing elements of an ongoing series of smaller works that Sasraku calls *Terratypes* (2022).

Produced in parallel to the *Terratypes* series, Sasraku's sculptural works presented at PEER act as a framing device for the reproduced images as if now seen under a microscope. The thin, almost flesh-like sheets of Kozo paper subtly move and buckle under their own weight and moisture, each hosting a unique image of newsprint marked by Sasraku's needle and embossing work, and stained with earth pigment foraged from Dartmoor, Devon, and Isle of Skye, Scotland.

Larger-than-human scale yet bodily in their stature, the *Liths* dominate the gallery forming a magnetic tension between each other, and directing the viewer through the space. Each *Lith* bares the marks of Sasraku's process of making, one that is deeply embedded in personal affinities toward landscapes that represent both a possible threat, as well as provide relief to her body, and act here as a surrogate for Sasraku's own image.

A series of talks, events, and workshops take place throughout Sasraku's exhibition exploring themes of memory, place and tradition. For more information please visit our website or ask a PEER Ambassador at front of house.

List of works

Liths (2022)

OSB 3 Board, Awagami Kozo Natural Japanese Paper, paint.

Dimensions variable

Biography

Tanoa Sasraku (b. 1995, Plymouth) lives and works in London. Recent exhibitions include *Tanoa Sasraku*, Vardaxoglou; *Terratypes*, Spike Island, Bristol, *Radical Landscapes*, Tate Liverpool; and *Testament*, Goldsmiths CCA, London (all 2022). *A Tower to Say Goodbye*, General Release, Chelsea Sorting Office (2021); *Recession Grimace*, Klosterruine, Berlin, (2020); *Tanoa Sasraku: O'Pierrot*, LUX Moving Image, London (2020); *Resist: be modern (again)*, John Hansard Gallery, Southampton, UK; *Nashashibi/Skaer – Thinking through other artists*, Tate St Ives, UK (both 2019). In 2021, Sasraku was awarded the Arts Foundation Futures Award for Visual Arts and is currently enrolled at the Royal Academy Schools.

Liths at PEER is presented with support from the Henry Moore Foundation and PEER Patrons and Network. With thanks to Vardaxoglou Gallery. Sasraku's *Liths* series was originally produced as part of her solo exhibition *Terratypes* at Spike Island, Bristol and was commissioned by Spike Island as part of the West of England Visual Arts Alliance programme, supported by Arts Council England.

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Spike Island



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