

IBID PROJECTS

35 Hoxton Square | London | N1
6NN United Kingdom

Louise Despont

The Fool

19 November – 23 December 2011

t: +44 (0)207 998 7902

f: +44 (0)207 729 3309

info@ibidprojects.com

www.ibidprojects.com

IBID PROJECTS is pleased to announce the solo exhibition of Louise Despont entitled *The Fool*. This will be the artist's first solo show in the UK.

Louise Despont will present 17 new large and small-scale drawings. In *The Fool* her work continues to explore drawing as abstract meditations, integrating symbols and forms to link her art to the inscription of narratives and to mystical or literary concerns. Employing and recasting a vocabulary of elements and constructions found within a set of architectural stencils and compasses, the artist renders her drawings on the pages of antique ledger books.

The show's title refers to the Fool card in the tarot card deck. Heavy with symbolism, The Fool is the card of infinite possibilities and represents curiosity, naïve innocence, the beginning of a journey and is historically interpreted as the protagonist of the story. The Fool is synonymous with a number of variants including: the mad man or beggar, the idiot, the jester or clown, the wise man in disguise, the joker, and the wild card.

In works like *Acrobats* (2011), imagery of the Circus, which shares a certain territory with the tarot, depict two performers meeting like lovers. In other works, Despont has adopted elements and symbols from the tradition of Thangka paintings as seen in *Spring Diver* (2011) and *Jester with Crow* (2011), which show Mudras (certain ritualized and symbolic hand gestures). Highly detailed and saturated, the works take on a meditative quality – in many cases being inspired by Persian tribal and prayer rugs.

Louise Despont was born in 1983 in New York City. She received her BA in Art Semiotics at Brown University in 2006. Recent solo shows include *The Directory*, IMO Projects, Copenhagen, DK and *House of Instruments*, Nicelle Beauchene Gallery, New York, US. Recent group shows include *Night Scented Stock*, curated by Todd Levin, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, US; *Group Show*, IBID Projects, London, UK and *The Pencil Show*, Foxy Production, New York, US.

For more information or images please contact chelsea@ibidprojects.com.