# ICA

**Press Release**
**27 June 2012**

**Bloomberg SPACE and the ICA**
**Hannah Sawtell**
**Vendor**
**5 October - 13 January 2013**

**ICA**
**Hannah Sawtell**
**Osculator**
**9 October - 18 November 2012**

Image credit:
Hannah Sawtell
Degreasor In The Province Of Accumulation 12, 2012
Bent lacquered steel, phosphate acid, archival laser print on 'blue black' paper, magnets
160 x 160 x 20 cm / 63 x 63 x 8 ins
Image courtesy of the artist and Vilma Gold, London

Working collaboratively for the first time at Bloomberg SPACE, the ICA and Bloomberg are pleased to announce two specially commissioned exhibitions by Hannah Sawtell, *OSCULATOR* at the ICA, and *VENDOR* at Bloomberg SPACE. Each venue will feature a site-specific commission, linking the two spaces. These exhibitions mark Sawtell's first solo projects in the UK and will feature installations and a video work.

Both exhibitions employ material developed from Sawtell's experience of the Bloomberg office space during her current residency. Over the next few months the artist will compile material from the digital realm, sourcing images from the internet and live screen-shots of news footage on office monitors. Sawtell will develop a visual inventory of 'contemporary material' or 'surfaces', which will explore the boundaries of image production and consider the culture of over-proliferation.

The artist's parallel semi-archival projects will investigate the politics of seduction as well as the idea of the 'market' through spatial and visual devices. By categorising and recording certain images, the artist reveals new relationships between objects and creates playful but critical dialectical encounters.

Sawtell's diverse practice utilises a variety of mediums and processes. Images, textures, skins and surfaces are sourced from the internet and the global landscape of contemporary matter. These tools are reconstructed and redeployed as physical interventions or installations that focus attention on the various qualitative differences in images, objects and sound.

Operating as 'real-time' collages, Sawtell's video and image-based works reconstruct contemporary media as fragmentary documents that collide visual tones with digital noise. By utilising generic editing programmes to cut digital information and formats, Sawtell initiates a process that designates the computer and its screen as a lens.

Her work contemplates the parallel physical and virtual dimensions of surplus capital and cybernetic tensions of today's fast access imagery and information. Sawtell's careful compositions exemplify new technologies of excess, access and psychic conflict; contemporary surplus production and accumulation.

**Editor's Notes**

**About Hannah Sawtell**
Hannah Sawtell was born in London in 1971. Sawtell has been included in group shows at Vilma Gold, London, International Project Space, Birmingham, Dependance, Brussels, and Limoncello, London. She most recently participated in a project for the Clocktower Residencies, New York. Her forthcoming solo shows include Vilma Gold, London and Focal Point Gallery, Southend-on-Sea. She lives and works in London.

**About Bloomberg's commissioning programme**
Bloomberg SPACE's collaboration with the ICA on Hannah Sawtell's commission *Vendor* will be the first of a new programme in the gallery, which will see innovative collaboration with institutions across the globe to commission new works of art.

The new programme will bring together our two philanthropic passions of supporting institutions and commissioning new works. Since 2002 Bloomberg SPACE has worked with more than 360 artists and has commissioned over 170 new works. This new direction towards collaborative curatorial practice will open up new opportunities for artists and organisations to take on projects they thought were otherwise impossible. Upcoming projects in 2013 include commissions with South London Gallery and Charles Atlas and Tramway and Matthew Darbyshire.

**About Bloomberg**
Bloomberg, the global business and financial information and news leader, gives influential decision makers a critical edge by connecting them to a dynamic network of information, people and ideas. The company's strength—delivering data, news and analytics through innovative technology, quickly and accurately—is at the core of the Bloomberg Professional service, which provides real time financial information to more than 300,000 subscribers globally.

From dance on the streets and theatre in squares, to pavilions in parks and installations in galleries and museums, Bloomberg is committed to artistic projects that propel original ideas and reach new audiences. As an innovative communications company, Bloomberg has a particular interest in ways of inspiring audiences through new technology. Through our philanthropy programme, we help charities and non-profit organisations around the world with education and literacy programmes, health and medical research, social work, arts and culture, public parks and the environment.

www.bloomberg.com

**Press information:**
Naomi Crowther | Press Officer ICA | naomi.crowther@ica.org.uk | +44 (0)20 7766 1407
Catrin Thomas | Head of News & Media Comms, Bloomberg | cthomas106@bloomberg.net | +44 (0) 20 7392 0673

**Listings information:**
Hannah Sawtell, *Vendor*, Free exhibition at Bloomberg SPACE: 5 October - 13 January 2013
www.bloombergspace.com | Email: gallery@bloomberg.net
50 Finsbury Square, London, EC2A 1HD, Tel: +44 20 7330 7950

Hannah Sawtell, *Osculator*, Free exhibition at the ICA: 9 October - 18 November 2012
www.ica.org.uk | Twitter @icalondon | www.facebook.com/icalondon
Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH, Tel: +44 (0)20 7930 3647

The ICA exhibitions are complemented by a wide range of events, performances and talks relating to the artists featured and central themes of the programme.

Please see www.ica.org.uk for full information and details.

Supported by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND