Press release
28 May 2012

Piotr Janas
3 July – 9 September 2012

Image credit: Untitled, 2012, courtesy Foksal Gallery Foundation

The ICA is delighted to present the first London solo exhibition by Warsaw-based artist Piotr Janas. With his paintings, Janas presents amoebic forms recalling organs, bodily fluids and various body parts that contrast with hard edged machine-like mechanisms that seemingly puncture and wound. Fleshy pinks and reds associated with living organisms are juxtaposed with violent brushstrokes. Each painting evoking the actions of scratching, pulling and prodding, creating a sense of depth as one representational element penetrates another. Organic forms taper into talons as they scrape against the walls of their own interior. Mixing the imagery of Constructivism, Francis Bacon, Hans Bellmer and Paul Thek, these dark invocations are ultimately indebted to the language of surrealism.

The exhibition is kindly supported by the Polish Cultural Institute London and Foksal Gallery Foundation.

Piotr Janas was born in 1970. He has had solo gallery exhibitions at Foksal Gallery Foundation (2009 & 2003), Nicolas Krupp, Basel (2009), Bortolomi, New York (2007) and Jack Hanley Gallery (2005). In 2010, Janas was included in the project Villa Reykjavik, Reykjavik as part of Foksal Gallery Foundation's exhibition. Previously in 2006, Janas participated in the group show *Infinite Painting: Contemporary Painting and Global Realism*, curated by Francesco Bonami at the Villa Manin Centro d'Arte Contemporanea as well as Polish Painting of the 21st Century at the National Gallery of Art in Warsaw and the 50th International Venice Bienniale in 2003. Lives and works in Warsaw.

Press information:
Naomi Crowther | Press Officer ICA | naomi.crowther@ica.org.uk | 020 7766 1407
Listings information: Piotr Janas, Free exhibition: 3 July – 9 September 2012
www.ica.org.uk | Twitter @icalondon | www.facebook.com/icalondon
Book online www.ica.org.uk Call Box Office 020 7930 3647 Textphone 020 7839 0737
Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH

Please note: we will be temporarily closed for the Olympics Monday 23 July - Friday 17 August, reopening Saturday 18 August.

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