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Kate Marshall Press Pack

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Biography

Born in the UK in 1982, Kate Marshall lives and works in Devon. After completing a foundation course in Art and Design at Falmouth College she graduated from Goldsmiths in 2004 with a BA in Fine Art and Art History. In 2006 she was selected for the Noise Festival, a national showcase for emerging creative talent judged by Stella Vine. Live art performances have become a feature of her shows. Wall and ceiling paintings have taken place in Heidelberg, Germany and at the 2006 Liverpool Biennial, which received coverage on BBC2. Her recent solo exhibition in London's East End included a specially designed peepshow booth and was singled out by the Sunday Times as a must-see. In December Kate will exhibit at the Florence Biennale and plans to show in the USA and Mexico in 2008.

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Work

Kate's primarily figurative work "flirts between painting and drawing". Her self-consciously decorative pieces address the ironies and contradictions of "high" and "low" art and depictions of the sexualized female image in popular culture, in particular the fetishization of the twee and the increasing kitsch value of pornography. Her inspiration comes from images of women "culled from a glossy magazine, a fairy tale, historic art and literature, trash culture, ancient myth and coffee table erotica."

Recently Kate has strayed from her favoured media of acrylic on board to mono printing, allowing a new approach to recurrent themes in her work, primarily her love of paint's "alchemic power" to reappropriate images for consumption by a different audience. The subjects are as diverse as the work of Boucher: often derided as mere titillating interior decoration; china figurines, dismissed as twee ornaments and pornographic images that were once obscene and/or arousing that have become almost quaint over time. Kate is currently studying printing and experimenting with etching.

Sugary, pastel colours dominate the paintings, carefully chosen to reference a role of painting as decoration. Candy-floss pinks, soft peaches, custard yellows and pale violets suggest sweets, unfashionable bathroom suites or paint names. They represent a "feminine" colour range that has the power to change the feel of a room.

The drips and dribbles come from enjoying the process of working quickly with a brush. Unlike the drips found in the work of the abstract expressionists these are not intended as masculine power marks, but as a celebration of the feminine *visqueux*. This was a term used by the philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre to explain his perception of femininity and evokes a sense of cloying, enveloping sliminess. By reappropriating this concept Kate seeks to overwhelm its derogatory connotations.

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Education

2000 – 2001 Falmouth College, Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 4RH
Foundation Art and Design

2001 – 2004 Goldsmiths College, University of London, New Cross SE14 6NW
BA Fine Art and Art History (2:1)

Selected Past Exhibitions

June 2007 – *Dirty Pretty Paintings* – solo show – The Empire Gallery, 32A Vyner Street, London EC2 9DG

April 2007 – *Sizzle*, Red Propeller Gallery, The Shambles, Fore Street, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 1PU

April 2007 – *Surreal Salon*, cabaret, performance art and exhibition, Exeter Phoenix Centre, Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter, Devon EX4 3LS

February–April 2007 – *Sweet Nothings* – solo show - Bourgeois Pig, Ingramstrasse 7, Heidelberg 69117, Germany including live painting performance at the *Lange Nacht der Museen*

December 2006 - *Hung Drawn and Christmas*, raising money for Shelter, Eyestorm, Unit 4 Bankside Estate, 5-11 Sumner Street SE1 9JZ

November - December 2006 – *Sweet Nothings* – solo show, Exeter Eyestorm, Exeter Quay, 27 Commercial Road, Exeter, EX2 4AE

November 2006 – *Quixotic*, Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road, London N22 7AY

September 2006 - *Noise Festival* at the Liverpool Biennial, View Two Gallery, 23 Matthew Street, Liverpool L2 6RE

August - September 2006 - *My Life in Art*, Broadway Market, London E8 4QJ

July 2006 - *ART@E3*, Degree Art, C6 Riverside, 417 Wick Lane, London E3 2JG

May - June 2006 - *London Style*, Eyestorm Milan, Via Santa Maria 3, 20123 Milan, Italy

May 2006 - *Glimpse*, 43 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RS

August 2005 - *The Art Bar*, The Great Barn, Place Barton, Higher Ashton, Exeter, Devon EX6 7QP

March 2005 - *Space Studios*, 129 - 131 Mare Street, Hackney, London E8 3RH

January 2005 - *Punch*, Wills Art Warehouse, 3 Heathmans Road, London SW6 4TJ

October 2004 - *Recent Graduates Exhibition*, The Affordable Art Fair, London

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Images



Red Petal Dress acrylic on board 60 x 60 cm (2006)

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I Could Gobble You All Up (pt 1) acrylic on board 100 x 100 cm (2004)



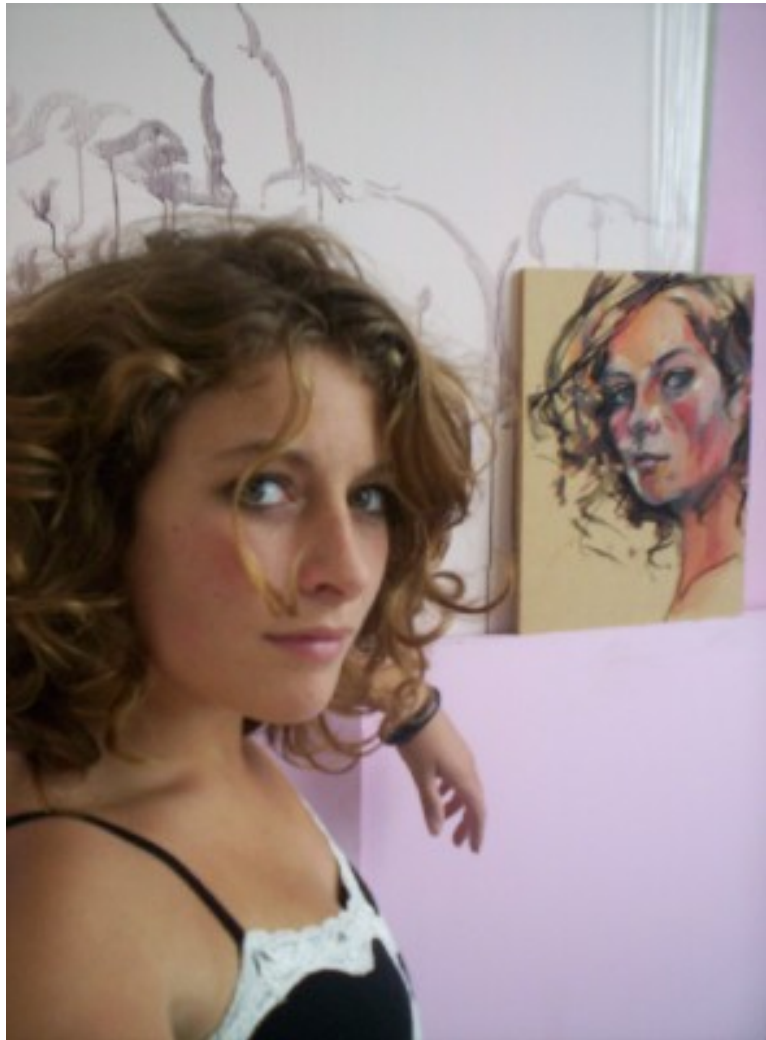
Legs Spread 'O' monoprint 21 x 30 cm (2007)

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Self Portrait charcoal and acrylic on board 28 x 37 cm (2005)

For more information, to arrange an interview or studio visit, please contact Jack Corrigan

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