

Press
February 11, 2013

Basel

Kelly McCallum

Whispers of Heavenly Death

March 1 – April 13 2013

Opening Reception : Thursday, February 28, 2013 6-8pm

Taxidermy seeks to preserve life by celebrating death

The Laleh June Galerie is pleased to present Kelly McCallum's first solo exhibition in Switzerland. The exhibition is entitled *Whispers of Heavenly Death* as the artist said «it is the title of one of my favorite poems by Walt Whitman».

For *Whispers of Heavenly Death* Kelly McCallum will explode onto the Swiss art scene with her intricate juxtapositions of brilliant goldsmithing and memento mori.

McCallum exhibits a jeweler's interest in scale and detailing. In creating her sculptural pieces she draws from her interest in story telling, natural history, Victorian taxidermy, insects, precious metals and other treasures from her personal collection of oddities and natural wonders. Her work explores themes of death, decadence, decay and rebirth, as well as perceptions of preservation and disintegration. *Taxidermy seeks to preserve life by celebrating death. It is a strange half life, a suspension, an illusion;* she said.

Kelly McCallum was born in Toronto, Canada, in 1979. She received a MA from Royal College of Art London in 2006. Recent exhibitions include: *Plumage and Paradise* at the Shizaru, London, *Telling Tales* at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London and *Earthly Delights* at the Laleh June Galerie, Basel. McCallum lives and works in London.

Please join us on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition in the presence of the artist on Thursday, February 28, 2013 from 6 to 8pm at the gallery.

For further information, please contact the gallery at: +41 61 228 77 78 or Laleh at info@lalehjunecom.

LALEH JUNE GALERIE



KELLY MCCALLUM

Reflecting Pool, 2011

Taxidermy Deer, Ceramic 130" x 60" x 16"
Courtesy of the artist and Laleh June Galerie