

WHITNEY

Press Release

Whitney Museum of American Art
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Trisha Baga (b. 1985), *Plymouth Rock*, 2012 (installation view, Vilma Gold, London, 2012). Two-channel video projected from memory cards, acrylic on canvas (three parts), spray paint on CD player, foil, bubble-wrapped plinth, box of electrical wires, spray paint and acrylic on foam, and water bottle; 27:12 min. Installation dimensions variable. Collection of the artist; courtesy Greene Naftali, New York

NEW YORK, October 26, 2012--This fall the Whitney Museum of American Art presents *Plymouth Rock 2*, the first solo museum exhibition of New York-based artist Trisha Baga. Organized by curatorial assistant Elisabeth Sherman, the installation will be on view in the Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Lobby Gallery from November 7 through January 27, 2013.

Baga has called the story of Plymouth Rock, “The saddest story of an object, where it becomes a symbol, and then is moved from place to place through overly elaborate processes, broken in half and brought back together.... Right now they’ve built a gazebo around it to protect it from the rain. A rock protected from the rain. It’s my favorite sculpture story.” Using a two-channel

video, Baga taps into the metaphor of the mythologized but historically dubious landing site of the Pilgrims to create her own fractured narrative. Baga draws connections between familiar cultural touchstones and her own intensely personal memories using images of waves alluding to the Mayflower voyage, visual references such as a fish out of water and excerpts from her family home videos. At the same time, she meticulously positions her own paintings, sculptures, and found objects in the gallery to interfere and interact with video projection in a carefully choreographed examination of real and virtual space.

Originally shown as part of the show “Trisha Baga: Rock” at London’s Vilma Gold Gallery last spring, the installation’s second iteration—or sequel--has been custom tailored for the Whitney’s lobby gallery with new paintings, sculptures and materials sourced and created in New York.

Baga, 27, has become known for multilayered videos and performance works that address media consumption in the Internet age. She often plays with perceived contradictions, juxtaposing disheveled and ordered, comic and poignant, tangible and immaterial images within her works. Originally from Venice, Florida, Baga received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Cooper Union School of Art and Master of Fine Arts at the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts at Bard College. She has been featured in numerous group exhibitions, including *Hasta Mañana* at Greene Naftali (2011), *Greater New York Cinema* at MoMA PS1 (2010), and *Adventures Close to Home* at Anthology Film Archives (2009).

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the world’s leading museum of twentieth-century and contemporary art of the United States. With a history of exhibiting the most promising and influential artists and provoking intense debate, the Whitney Biennial, the Museum's signature exhibition, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in the United States. In addition to its landmark exhibitions, the Museum is known internationally for events and educational programs of exceptional significance and as a center for research, scholarship, and conservation.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

Yayoi Kusama's <i>Fireflies on the Water</i>	Through October 28, 2012
Signs & Symbols	Through October 28, 2012
Oskar Fischinger	Through October 28, 2012
...as apple pie	Through early 2013
Wade Guyton OS	Through January 13, 2013
Richard Artschwager!	October 25, 2012-February 3, 2013
Trisha Baga: Plymouth Rock 2	November 7, 2012-January 13, 2013
Sinister Pop	Opens November 15, 2012
Dark and Deadpan: Pop in TV and the Movies	Opens November 15, 2012
Blues for Smoke	February 7-April 28, 2013
Jay DeFeo: A Retrospective	February 28-June 2, 2013

The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, New York City. Museum hours are: Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. General admission: \$18. Full-time students and visitors ages 19–25 and 62 & over: \$14. Visitors 18 & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 p.m. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.