



## PARADISCO

ANDI GÁLDI VINKÓ

In her debut UK show, Hungarian photographer Andi Gáldi Vinkó presents Paradisco, an ongoing series of sociological portraits exploring Gáldi Vinkó's generation of disaffected youth. Alluding to an elusive paradise, the title combines 'Para', slang in Hungarian for 'fear', with 'disco', a term universally understood to indicate fun. This duality – capturing both the frailty and absurdity of the world, as well as the desire to celebrate one's own place in it – runs throughout Paradisco. In a recent profile in Photograph Magazine, Elisabeth Biondi highlights how 'an important aspect of Gáldi Vinkó's work is the exploration of how we see ourselves and how we perpetually attempt to control how we are perceived.'

Gáldi Vinkó's saturated photographs are often overexposed by either flash or sunlight, giving the final print a flat appearance with little or no depth. The subjects – whether people, animals or still-lives – are an array of idiosyncratic characters, inhabiting a world that is at times driven by extravagance and others by melancholy, with an underlying element of surrealism: an elegant woman in a striking blue coat stares directly at the camera, half of her face covered by a mask, while cigarette smoke curls towards the viewer; a shadow hovers ominously over a fire in an idyllic setting; standing against a dilapidated blue wall in Sri Lanka, a man holds a giant, garish pink teddy bear in a plastic bag, his upper body concealed entirely.

Paradisco started in 2010, as Gáldi Vinkó started shooting photos which never matched other projects, but began building a life of their own. The images are often restaged moments the photographer has observed, also featuring her own friends and objects from her life.

Andi Gáldi Vinkó was born in Budapest, Hungary and is based in London. She studied photography at the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and at ESAG Penninghen. Her work has been exhibited internationally in group and solo shows, from the US through Europe to China. Recent exhibitions include: Slideluck at Photoville, NYC (2014); Paradisco, individual, Erika Deak Gallery, Budapest (2014); Second Skin, Mai Manó, Budapest (2014); Janndi, Berlinskej Model, Prague (2013); Inside Out individual, Kunsthalle, Budapest (2013); Live Sync, World Expo, Botschaft Galerie, Berlin (2011) MoCA, Shanghai (2010) to name a few). Her personal projects and editorial works are featured in both print and online magazines, including The New Yorker, Vice, Dazed & Confused, Photograph Magazine, Papermag, Harper's, Numero, Tank Magazine, C-photo, Wild Magazine.

The book Paradisco will appear later this year, published by PogoBooks.

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**OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY 4TH JUNE 2015, 7-10PM**

**RSVP VIA FACEBOOK: [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/886780941389077](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/886780941389077)**

**OPENING HOURS: 5TH - 29TH JUNE 2015, 9AM-5PM DAILY**

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