



**THE MEMORY GIRL AND OTHER STORIES**  
**Exhibition of mono-prints, paintings and sculptural installation**  
**Michelle Souter**  
**ROLLO Contemporary Art**  
**51 Cleveland Street, London W1T 4JH**  
**11<sup>th</sup> July – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**Michelle Souter**, draws, paints and stitches tales of uncomfortable relationships and childhood. Distorting her own autobiography with interjections of other people's stories in ***The Memory Girl and Other Stories***, Souter weaves a fantastical world within the gallery space.

With overtones of Tracey Emin, Paula Rego and Louise Bourgeois combined; Souter is part of the next generation of emerging artists tackling darker themes of female experience.

***The Memory Girl and Other Stories*** at **ROLLO Contemporary Art** will be Michelle Souter's first solo show since graduating from Central St Martins MA in Fine Art in 2007, where her degree show collection was sold out to renowned collectors. Souter's work has also been included in ***Magical Thinking***, Elevator Gallery's opening show in 2007, ***ROLLO Preview 08***, ***PAPER*** and ***The Truth Isn't Sexy*** Leeds 2007; a charity auction raising money against sex slavery. Michelle Souter's exhibition at ROLLO is part of the gallery's commitment to promoting female art in the UK, following critically acclaimed exhibitions: *Maybe Too Nude* Paula Rae Gibson and *Cast: Angela Reilly* in the last 4 months.

Souter's work is founded in life drawing; deforming and mutilating the traditional female figure with animalistic components, the repetition of genitalia and genital symbols and the inclusion of seemingly random text; lyrics from songs, personal memories or quotes taken out of context.

Souter's work appears confessional, obsessive and fantastical whilst displaying her incredible skill in the traditional art subject of anatomical drawing.

To create her mono-prints Michelle Souter must draw in mirror image on the back of paper which is pressed against an inked up board. In addition to drawing in reverse Souter uses her non writing hand to draw her mono-prints. The results imbue Souter's work with a childlike aesthetic, suggest a link to psychoanalytical practice and free association and emphasises her incredible skill in drawing.

The idea of memory and personal history is built upon in Souter's sculptural work, using found and abandoned materials from charity shops- blankets, clothes, household materials- Souter creates hanging sculptures which are instantly vested with stories and personal histories.

Souter's expressionistic paintings, using rags as well as brushes to apply acrylic to the canvas, bear a raw-ness and impulsive aesthetic mirroring her emotional revelation.

**For further details contact Philippa Found, Gallery Director, ROLLO Contemporary Art on 020 7580 0020 [philippa@rolloart.com](mailto:philippa@rolloart.com)**