



## TENDERPIXEL GALLERY

AN INNOVATIVE EXHIBITION SPACE FOR EMERGING ARTISTS

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## PRESS RELEASE

### AGNÈS POITEVIN-NAVARRÉ

#### THE KNOWLEDGE: LAND OF WISDOM & LAND OF ACHIEVEMENT

PRIVATE VIEW: DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> FROM 6-9PM

EXHIBITION: DECEMBER 18 – JANUARY 15

ARTIST TALK/Q&A – JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 3PM

Tenderpixel is pleased to present a new exhibition of work from artist Agnès Poitevin-Navarre. Coupling the grammar of cartography with elements from the Proust Questionnaire entitled “The Knowledge – Land of Wisdom & Land of Achievement”, the artist explores notions of identity and expectations. This mapping installation also plays with the notion of the census, and addresses the ‘reputations’ of London’s boroughs.

The point of entry of the project is the **Questionnaire**. Originally a Victorian party game, Marcel Proust made it famous by providing some great insights into his own psyche. He believed that “in answering the questions, an individual reveals his true nature”. The gallery maps will function—in a Proustian sense—as a catalyst for participants to remember their life-stage/phase during which they confided their achievement and aspirations, just as the taste of the *Madeleine* triggered Proust's journey “In Search of Lost Time”.

Poitevin-Navarre skilfully shifts traditional signifiers within the language of cartography from historical streets, landmarks and monuments to the ephemeral experiences of individual community members making up each ‘neighborhood’. By democratically collating and plotting thousands of responses of people onto a series of London borough maps, the artist highlights emergent patterns of collective wisdom, personal achievements and aspirations. The anonymity of each response encourages an unbiased interpretation: contributors can be true to themselves whilst answering and the audience, downstream, is unable to pass judgment based on gender, age, race and class. The project inspires universal kinship between people who might not at first identify with each other through their social, cultural and racial backgrounds. Each map reveals a spectrum of individual experiences reflecting exceptional and mundane facets of life –each one woven into a tapestry known as the London’s global village.

Agnès Poitevin-Navarre lives and works in London. She graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 1997 and since then, has exhibited work and projects nationally and internationally. Critical themes within her artistic practice are notions of identity, and the perceptions of cultural, linguistic and racial categorization.

#### QUESTIONNAIRE DE PROUST

What is your greatest achievement?  
What is the most important lesson life has taught you?