

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE



*Chute d'eau*, 2025, acrylic and gouache on organza and canvas, 210 x 240 x 11 cm  
(Photo: Gilles Mazzufferi)

## GEORGIA RUSSELL

### *The Sea Around Us*

September 5 – October 25, 2025

**Opening** on Friday, September 5, 2025, 6 – 9 pm  
on the occasion of *DC Open Galleries*

In presence of the Artist

With an introduction by Sabine Maria Schmidt PhD at 6.30 pm

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# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

Galerie Karsten Greve Cologne is pleased to announce *The Sea Around Us*, a new solo exhibition by Georgia Russell. Opening on the occasion of this year's *DC Open Galleries*, the exhibition presents a new body of work including paintings, works on paper, and painterly installations. In stylistic continuity with her distinctive technique of painting with a scalpel, Georgia Russell engages with contemporary social themes in her latest pieces. Combining organza, canvas and paper for the first time, she creates multilayered compositions that reflect the diversity and chaotic dynamism of our present time.

The title relates to a general feeling of our time – the sensation of “being at sea.” The flood of events unfolding at a rapid pace poses a challenge both to individuals and to society as a whole. Russell compares to the experience of a sea storm, in which up and down are turned around like in a swirl of waves.

*The Sea Around Us* derives from the eponymous prize-winning book by American biologist Rachel Carson, first published in 1951. The author therein describes both the science and the wonders of the ocean in a manner often referred to as "poetic," fusing fact and fiction. In a similarly poetic and observant perspective, Georgia Russell explores how landscape, and the sea in particular, is affected by humans and envisions scenarios of a potential “end of nature.” Amidst turbulence and immediacy, the beauty and mystery of the natural world are simultaneously and continuously evoked. Like Claude Monet painting the London smog at the end of the 19th century, Russell contemplates present-day pollution and overproduction through aesthetic means.

Georgia Russell's artistic practice is in a state of continuous flow - a reciprocal cycle of transformation. From the fabric remnants left behind during the creation of her paintings, she constructs fascinating assemblages. Without the use of fixative sprays or aerosols, these forms appear to float weightlessly in space, in constant motion. In a similar way, Russell collects excess paint using large sponges, transforming what might first seem like a by-product into new, monumental works on canvas and paper. By reintegrating what is seemingly superfluous into her creative process, she establishes a cycle in which color is free to unfold, mix, and interconnect. This deliberate openness - embracing flow, chance, and self-determined movement - imbues Russell's practice with a holistic dimension and subtly reflects her moral commitment.

The works in *The Sea Around Us* possess a watery quality: diffused and diluted colors, often in blue. Both the palette and the textures evoke marine plants and underwater world. A large-scale paravent marks the beginning of the exhibition. This installation-like piece creates a physical, immersive experience. The flexible structure of the panels and the intricate cut patterns conjure associations with aquatic flora, and the sensation of being surrounded by water. While some parts of the screen appear soft and flowing, others feel rough and tense—hinting at the ambivalent relationship between humans and water. It fascinates as a life-giving element, yet it can also evoke uncertainty and unease.

The structure of the paravent originates in an artist residency that Georgia Russell held at Chauny in France, in collaboration with the Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain Picardie in spring 2025. The geometrically framed wooden structure - left in its natural state and sturdy - acts as a rigid boundary that encloses the dynamic inner world without taming it. Within this tension between outer limits and inner life, a fragile (dis)order unfolds, spreading, intertwining, and resisting. The folding screen does more than separate; it marks an in-between space. The sea is not only a motif but a state of being - permeable, expanding, connecting. It draws boundaries and overcomes them simultaneously.

As she navigates these unknown waters, Georgia Russell remains to the distinctive tension at her oeuvre

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- the dialogue between lightness and structure, between permeable materials and the interplay of fluid and rigid forms. Her current works have emerged through an immediate, gestural process, driven by instinctive and spontaneous movement. Russell allows her pieces to grow organically from the moment - raw yet precise in expression. Formerly regular cut patterns give way to expansive voids; colors sometimes clash intensely, and the various materials - organza, canvas, and paper - are combined intuitively. These works reveal an artist who does not hold back but freely expresses herself through material.

From early on, Russell has explored the question: What makes an image seem alive? By protruding and cut-out parts, she transforms the painting into an object with a three-dimensional character. Russell's works are characterized by the vivid and intense interplay of rhythm, color and material, creating a dialogue with their surroundings through overlapping layers and emerging shadows. *The Sea Around Us* presents a multifaceted body of work that is both powerful and sensitive - a play of tension and lightness that poetically connects visual and intellectual dimensions.



Detail, *Chute d'eau*, 2025, Acrylic and gouache on organza and linen, 210 x 240 x 11 cm  
(Photo: Gilles Mazzufferi)

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Photo: Nicolas Brasseur

**Georgia Russell** was born in 1974 in Elgin, Scotland. She studied Fine Arts at the Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen and subsequently earned a Master's degree at the Royal College of Art in London. In 2000, she moved to Paris on a scholarship from the Royal College of Art.

Russell has an extensive international presence with solo and group exhibitions at institutions including the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Museum of Arts and Design in New York, and the Bellevue Arts Museum in Washington D.C. In 2014, she was "Artist of the Year" by Art Basel. The following year, the Het Noordbrabants Museum (Raenschdael Foundation) in Den Bosch, Netherlands, dedicated a solo exhibition to her work. In 2016, her works were shown at the Bayer Cultural Foundation in Leverkusen and the Museum Pfalzgalerie in Kaiserslautern. She was the winner of the 2020 edition of "Women to Watch / Paper Routes" at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington D.C. Russell's works are held in numerous international private collections as well as renowned public institutions, including the aforementioned museums as well as the Centre Georges Pompidou, the Pierre Bergé Collection and the Ruinart Collection.

Georgia Russell lives and works in Méru, Picardie, France. Galerie Karsten Greve has represented the artist since 2010.

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## Press images



### **Georgia Russell**

*Chute d'eau*

2025

Acrylic and gouache on organza and linen

210 x 240 x 11 cm

Photo: Gilles Mazzufferi



### **Georgia Russell**

*Loom*

2025

Acrylic and gouache on organza on metal frame

200 x 170 x 11 cm

Photo: Gilles Mazzufferi



### **Georgia Russell**

*Concrete Dreams*

2025

Acrylic and gouache on organza on metal frame

200 x 170 x 11 cm

Photo: Gilles Mazzufferi

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*Thin Air I*, 2025

Organza on metal frame

70 x 70 x 11 cm

Photo: Gilles Mazzufferi



Studio view, Georgia Russell,  
Méru 2024.

Photo: Nicolas Brasseur



Georgia Russell in her studio,  
Méru 2024.

Photo: Nicolas Brasseur

## **For all images:**

Courtesy The Artist & Galerie Karsten Greve, Köln | Paris | St. Moritz

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# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Georgia Russell. The Sea Around Us*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany  
*Georgia Russell. The Pattern of Surface*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France
- 2024 *Orné de Jours*, Eglise Notre Dame de l'Assomption, Valloire, France  
*Georgia Russell. Le Royal Monceau x Galerie Karsten Greve*, Le Royal Monceau Hotel, Paris, France
- 2023 *Georgia Russell. Ajouré – Lichtschnitte*, Galerie der Stadt Tuttlingen, Tuttlingen, Germany
- 2022 *Georgia Russell. Cells of Light*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France
- 2021 *Georgia Russell. Ajouré*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany
- 2020 *Georgia Russell. Paintings*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 2019 *Georgia Russell. Paintings*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France
- 2017 *Georgia Russell. The Open Window*, Kunstverein Ludwigsburg, Ludwigsburg, Germany
- 2016 / 17 *Georgia Russell. Time and Tide*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*Mit dem Messer gezeichnet. Skulpturen und Bildkörper von Georgia Russell*, Museum Pfalzgalerie, Kaiserslautern, Germany
- 2016 *Zeichnen mit dem Messer. Skulpturen und Bildkörper von Georgia Russell*, Bayer Kultur, Leverkusen, Germany
- 2015 *Georgia Russell. Kunst met een scalpel / Art with a Scalpel*, Het Noordbrabantse Museum, s'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands  
*Georgia Russell. Zeichnungen. Schnitte. Objekte*, Lippische Gesellschaft für Kunst e.V., Schloss Detmold, Germany
- 2014 / 15 *Artist of the Year: Georgia Russell*, Ruinart & Art, VIP Lounge Art Brussels, Art Basel Hong Kong, Art Basel, Art Basel Miami Beach, Art Cologne
- 2013 *Georgia Russell. Forms of Belief*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany
- 2011 *Georgia Russell. Difference and Repetition*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*Georgia Russell. Cutting Through Time*, England & Co, London, UK
- 2010 *Georgia Russell*, Galerie Dukan & Hourdequin, Marseille, France  
*Georgia Russell. Recent Work*, Contemporary by Angela Li, Hong Kong, China
- 2009 *Georgia Russell. Recent Work*, England & Co, London, UK
- 2005 *Georgia Russell. Recent Work*, England & Co, London, UK  
*Georgia Russell*, The American University of Paris, Paris, France
- 2003 *Georgia Russell. Paper Constructions*, England & Co, London, UK

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

2002

*Georgia Russell. Paper Constructions & Bookworks*, England & Co, London, UK  
*Georgia Russell*, American University of Paris, Paris, France

1997

*Georgia Russell. Honeymoon*, Under the Hammer, Aberdeen, UK



Photo: Nicolas Brasseur

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *Kunst ohne Grund. Hängende Skulpturen und Installationen aus Papier*, Kunstmuseum Villa Zanders, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany
- 2024 *51 WERKE*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany  
*Spring's Delight*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 2023 / 24 *Meisterwerke Masterpieces Chefs-d'œuvre Capolavori*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland  
*Beyond Words*, DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2023 *Femmes · Frauen · Women*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*Pirouettes*, Frac Picardie, Amiens, France  
*Horizon of the Void. Artocène Festival*, Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, France
- 2022 *Bibliomania. Das Buch in der Kunst*, Villa Zanders Art Museum, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany  
*Special show – Leading and emerging women artists*, Galerie Karsten Greve, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 2021 *Quand la matière devient art*, Maison Guerlain, Paris, France
- 2020 / 21 *MORGAN – RUSSELL – SHAPIRO | Premiere*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany
- 2020 *Ailleurs, Ici, Maintenant*, Espace Séraphine Louis, Clermont-de-l'Oise, France  
*Nous ne savions pas ce que vos yeux regardaient*, Fondation d'entreprise - Espace Écuireuil pour l'art contemporain, Toulouse, France  
*Paper Routes – Women to Watch 2020*, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington D.C., USA
- 2019 *Embodied Landscape*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France
- 2018 *Accrochage*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*Scharf geschnitten. Vom Scherenschnitt zum Papercut*, Galerie Stihl, Waiblingen, Germany
- 2017 *Autumn Show*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland  
*Künstlerräume II*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Köln, Germany  
*Schloss Kairos. Die Kunst des Augenblicks*, Kasteel van Gaasbeek, Gaasbeek, Belgium
- 2016 / 17 *Winter Accrochage*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 2016 *Summer Show*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany
- 2015 *Beyond Horizon. Reflection on the horizontal line*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*Accrochage*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 2014/15 *Odd Volumes: Book Art from the Allan Chasanoff Collection*, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, USA

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- 2014 *AD intérieurs 2014*, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France  
*Künstlerräume*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany
- 2013 *Accrochage*, Galerie Karsten Greve AG, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 2012 / 13 *Sculptures*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*The First Cut*, Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
- 2010 *On Paper II*, Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France  
*Cabinet de curiosité*, ART-O-RAMA, Marseille, France  
*SCOPE*, Dukan & Hourdequin, Basel, Switzerland  
*New Entries*, Galerie Dukan & Hourdequin, Marseille, France
- 2009 *Slash: Paper Under the Knife*, Museum of Art & Design, New York, NY, USA  
*Cut It Out: Contemporary Paper Cut Artists*, Otter Gallery, Chichester, UK  
travelling to: Southampton City Art Gallery, Southampton, UK  
*Contained Thoughts*, The Courtauld Institute Library Exhibition Space, London, UK  
*The Book Borrowers: Contemporary Artists Transforming the Book*, Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA, USA  
*Novel Ideas*, Oakville Galleries, Ontario, CA, USA  
*Bientôt 4 ans!*, Galerie Dukan & Hourdequin, Marseille, France
- 2008 *Culture Bound: Courtauld Institute of Art's East Wing Collection VII*, Institute's East Wing, Somerset House, London, UK  
*Holland Paper Biennial*, The Coda Museum, Apeldoorn, Netherlands  
*Imaginative Qualities of Actual things*, Price Tower arts Center, Oklahoma, USA
- 2006 *Literary Constructs: Chris Kenny, Liliane Lijn, Arthur Giardelli, Vito Drago, Rupert Spira, Georgia Russell*, England & Co, London, UK
- 2005 American University Paris, Paris, France
- 2003 *The Map Is Not the Territory III*, curated by Jane England at James Hockney Gallery, SIAD, Farnham, UK  
*Sartorial: an exhibition of conceptual clothing, art & fashion*, England & Co, London, UK
- 2002 *The Map Is Not the Territory II*, England & Co, London, UK  
*Festival Montmartre en Europe*, Paris, France  
*English Heritage*, Richmond House Exhibition, London, UK
- 2001 *Art Contemporain*, Centre d'Arts Albert Chanot, Paris, France  
*Royal Collage*, Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Cité des Arts Internationale*, Paris, France  
*Kilometre Zero*, Artist Event, Rue de l'Hirondelle, Paris, France  
*Postcard Exhibition*, Bowie Art at the RCA, London, UK
- 2000 *Mercedes Unique Artists Event*, Design Museum, London, UK  
*Mary Queen of Scots*, Edinburgh Festival Exhibition, Bourne Fine Art, Edinburgh, UK

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

*Anxious Words*, Waterstones, Picadilly, London, UK

*The Show* (graduate exhibition), Royal College of Art, London, UK

1999

*Interim Art*, Royal College of Art, London, UK

*Absolute Vodka Exhibition*, Royal College of Art, London, UK

*BBC Accommodation project*, BBC Broadcasting House, London, UK

*Aids Awareness Exhibition*, Hockney Gallery, Royal College of Art, London, UK

1998

*Royal Scottish Academy Annual Exhibition*, Edinburgh, UK

*Aberdeen Artists*, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Aberdeen, UK



Photo: Nicolas Brasseur

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

## Selected Public & Private Collections

Boghossian Foundation, Brussels, Belgium  
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France  
Ruinart Collection, Reims, France  
Pierre Bergé Collection, Paris, France  
Museum Pfalzgalerie, Kaiserslautern, Germany  
E.ON Collection, Essen, Germany  
Bayer Kultur, Leverkusen, Germany  
Pohl Collection, Marburg, Germany  
Stichting Paul von Resch Art Foundation, Netherlands  
Aberdeen Hospitals, Aberdeen, UK  
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

## Awards

2019            Listed in the *Women to Watch* 2020 edition, National Museum of Women Artists, Washington D.C., USA

2014            *Artist of the Year*, Art Basel Fairs

2005            *The Saltire Arts and Crafts in Architecture Award*, The Saltire Society COMMAN CRANN NAH-ALBA, Edinburgh, UK

2004            *Residency Cité des Arts Internationale*, Paris, France

2001            *Miller Holmes Paris Studio (Residency)*, Cité des Arts Internationale, France

2000            *Aurora Prize for Fine Art*, Royal College of Art, London, UK

1999            *Paris Studio (Residency)*, Royal College of Art, London, UK

## Commissions

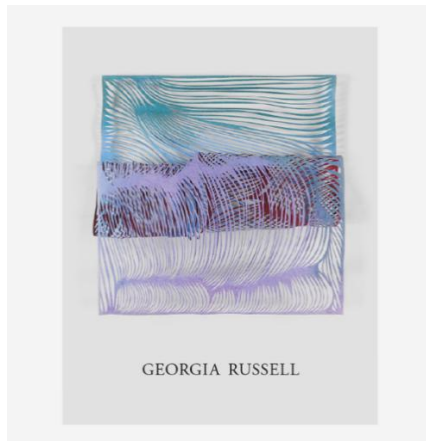
2004 / 05        *Uncover – Discover*, Hanging glass sculpture with automatic lighting  
(with Benetts Associates Architects), Jubilee Library, Brighton & Hove City Council,  
UK

*Untitled*, Stainless steel and glass screens (in collaboration with EPR Architects),  
Cardinal Place, Victoria, London, UK

2014            Ruinart – Creation of an ornamental flacon of Blanc de Blanc

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE

## Publications by Galerie Karsten Greve



**Georgia Russell**

*Georgia Russell*

2015

Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Paris, St. Moritz

Texts: Anne Béchard-Léauté, Valentine Oncins  
and Britta E. Buhlmann

200 p., 156 ill., 5 photographs

Hardcover, Edition: 1250

French and Italian



**Georgia Russell**

*Georgia Russell*

2015

Galerie Karsten Greve Cologne, Paris, St. Moritz

Texts: Anne Béchard-Léauté, Valentine Oncins  
and Britta E. Buhlmann

200 p., 156 ill., 5 photographs

Hardcover, Edition: 1250

German and English



**Georgia Russell**

*Time and Tide*

2016

Galerie Karsten Greve Paris

Texts: Heinz Peter Schwerfel, Mouna Mekouar

44 p., 28 ill., 3 photographs

Softcover, Edition: 1500

German, English and French

# GALERIE KARSTEN GREVE



**Georgia Russell**

*Paintings*

2019

Galerie Karsten Greve

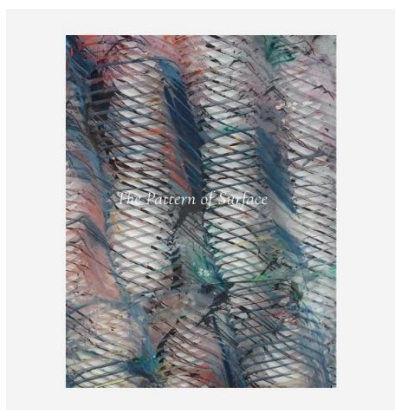
Cologne, Paris, St. Moritz

Texts: Nicholas Fox Weber, Daniel Kothenschulte

97 p., 30 ill., 24 photographs

Softcover, Edition: 1500

German, English and French



**Georgia Russell**

*The Pattern of Surface*

2025

Galerie Karsten Greve Paris

Texts: Graeme Bezanson, Devorah Lauter,

Aurélien Fouillet

120 p., 67 ill., 6 photographs

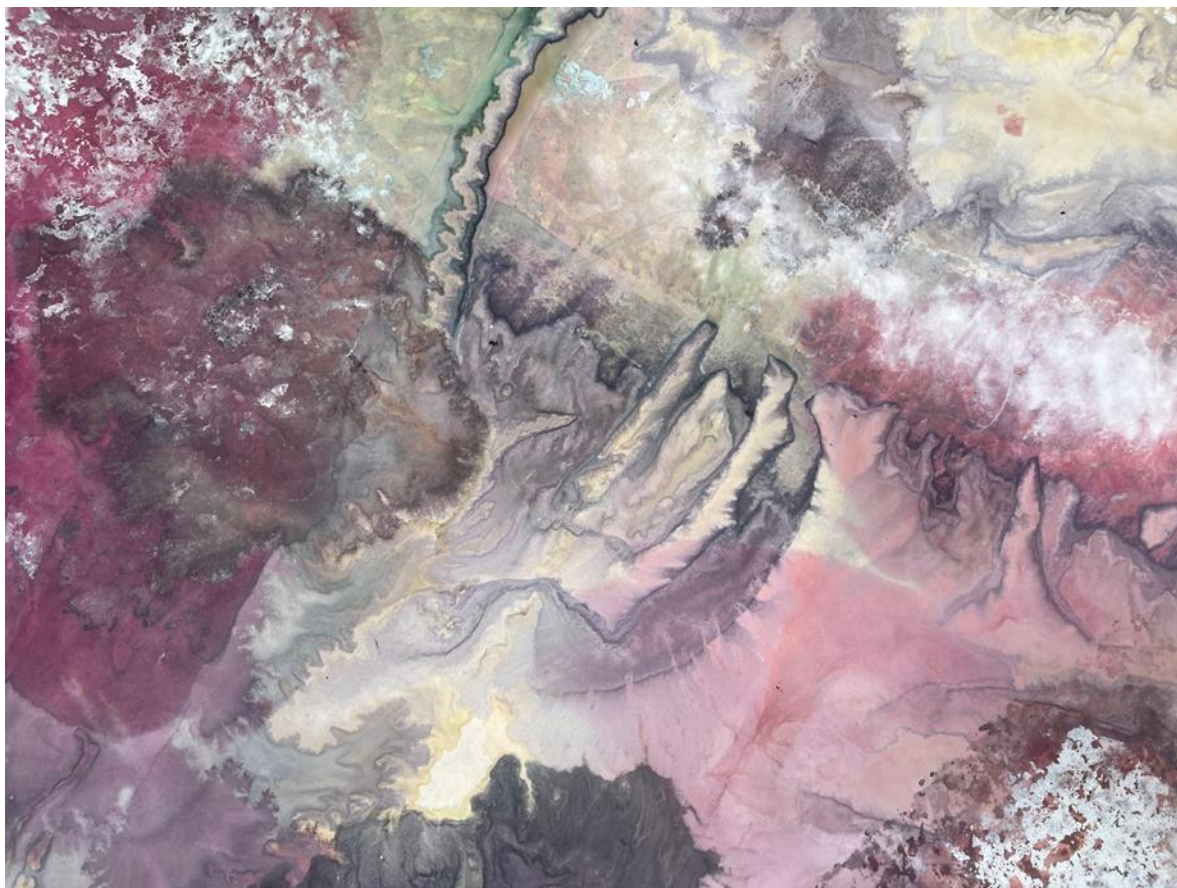
Hardcover, Edition: 1250

French and English

## Further Selected Bibliography

- 2022 *Bibliomania. Das Buch in der Kunst*, exh. cat. Kunstmuseum Villa Zanders, Bergisch Gladbach.
- 2020 Mason, Shana Beth: "Clear Cut: Georgia Russell", in: *Frontrunner*, No. 3, 2020, Coverstory, n. p.
- 2018 Tarnaud, Vanina: "Palimpsestes", in: *ARTRAVEL. Art & Design*, No. 79, February – March 2018, pp. 68–71.
- Scharf geschnitten. Vom Scherenschnitt zum Papercut*, exh. cat. Galerie Stihl Waiblingen, Waiblingen, pp. 82–85.
- 2017 *Georgia Russell – The Open Window*. exh. broch., Kunstverein Kreis Ludwigsburg e.V., 2017.
- 2015 *Georgia Russell. Kunst met een scalpel / Art with a Scalpel*, exh. cat. Het Noordbrabantse Museum, s'Hertogenbosch.
- Schwerfel, Heinz Peter: "Malen mit Skalpell", in: *art. Das Kunstmagazin*, August 2015, Coverstory, pp. 48 – 57.
- 2014 Lui, Esther: "Drawing with a Scalpel. Georgia Russell", in: *MAGAZINE P. Time Space people*, No. 4, June 2014, pp. 80 – 83.

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Saturday: 10 am – 6 pm

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