

## FRENCH RIVIERA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **Cary Loren – Junk Mail from the Palace**

#### **French Riviera**

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[frenchriviera1988.com](http://frenchriviera1988.com)

28 April – 28 May 2017

Open Friday – Sunday  
12 – 6pm & by appointment

Preview Sunday 23 May, 3 – 6pm  
Performance at 3.30pm



Blue King Harem

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French Riviera is pleased to present the first solo exhibition in London by Detroit-based artist Cary Loren. *Junk Mail from the Palace*, began as a series of collages made over the past year inspired by Sir Richard Burton's translation of the *Arabian Tales of a Thousand and One Nights*. After reading the tales, Loren began to select stories that stood out with elements of poetic mystery and imagination. The collages are attached to specific tales but also veer off in new directions, becoming variations on the narrative by the storyteller Scheherazade. Details of the *1001 Nights* are blended with pop culture, politics, symbols and myths. The collages are made from Victorian paper scraps, newsprint, photos and cut papers, sometimes painted, stained and shellacked. A site specific installation will transform the French Riviera interior using fabrics, carpets, hangings and designs to evoke the theme and mystery of *1001 Nights*.

During the afternoon preview on Sunday 23 May, at 3:30 pm, London based musician Kenichi Iwasa and Loren will improvise an electric-acoustic performance based on *1001 Arabian Nights*.

Further information and images: [mail@frenchriviera1988.com](mailto:mail@frenchriviera1988.com)

Notes to editors:

- Cary Loren was born in Detroit, Michigan, USA in 1955. He is a writer, artist, filmmaker and musician. In 1973, he began a summer apprenticeship with the artist Jack Smith in New York. He is a founding member of the bands Destroy All Monsters, Monster Island and Cannibal. His work is held in the collections of the Pompidou Center, Paris and Museum of Modern Art, New York. In 1982, he opened Book Beat bookstore in Oak Park, Michigan and currently resides in Detroit.
- Artists Samuel Levack and Jennifer Lewandowski opened French Riviera in 2011, in a high street shop in Bethnal Green that is also their studio, as an extension of their longstanding collaboration. The gallery provides a platform for British and international artists who are not represented by a commercial gallery in the UK, and aims to promote social cohesion amongst the multicultural communities of the East End. [levacklewandowski.com](http://levacklewandowski.com)
- Recent and forthcoming solo exhibitions at French Riviera include artists Lisa Brice, Thomas Dozol, Tom Ellis, Fabienne Hess, Nicholas Pankhurst, Lyle Perkins, Jessica Warboys, Lucy Woodhouse.