

THE COMMON GUILD

Visual arts: Projects / Events / Exhibitions

'How to Look at Everything'

Zbyněk Baladrán, Simon Martin, Nick Relph and Falke Pisano

3-31 March 2012

Downstairs:

Falke Pisano

Chillida (Forms & Feelings), 2006

2 channel DVD on monitors, 14 mins

Courtesy the artist, Hollybush Gardens and Ellen de Bruijne Projects

Falke Pisano's work examines the relationship between our physical and theoretical understanding of objects and ideas. Through texts and spoken word she creates a densely woven web of subjective descriptions and reflections. Here, Pisano examines her relationship to a series of photographs taken by David Finn of sculptures by the Basque sculptor Eduardo Chillida. As she turns the pages of the photo book, she considers the relationship between the specific objects, their depiction, the experience of the photographer and her own emotional responses to the images.

Simon Martin

Carlton, 2006

16mm colour film transferred to DVD, 8 mins

Courtesy of the artist.

Simon Martin's work reflects upon material culture. He is interested in how we understand ourselves through social structures, mythologies and collective memory as evidenced in art and design objects, mass media and the built environment. His film offers a philosophical mediation upon the 'Carlton' cabinet, designed by Ettore Sottsass in 1981. The camera circles the object with reverence and curiosity while the hypnotic voice-over provides something between a historical narrative and a series of subjective reflections.

Upstairs:

Zbyněk Baladrán

Working Process, 2004

DVD on monitor, 10 mins

Courtesy of the artist.

Zbynek Baladrán acts as an archaeologist of knowledge, unearthing images, fragments and narratives from his country's past. This video is made from a collection of archive film footage from 1957-88 edited into a work that tells a partial history of Czechoslovakia alongside the story of the film's own making. The apparently random selection of footage and partially obscured subtitles provide fragments of a narrative, whilst suggesting a purposeful censorship or arbitrary filtration of history and time.

Nick Relph

Three Strypis Qubite Upon ane Blak Field, 2010

Triple DVD projection, 45 mins

Courtesy of the artist, Herald St, London and Gavin Brown's Enterprise, New York

Nick Relph's work often deals with the representational problems of different media. This video is a composite of blue, green and red projections, with superimposed documentaries on Ellsworth Kelly, Comme des Garçons' founder Rei Kawakubo and the history of tartan. Seeing all three films simultaneously, the viewer seeks to find the relationship or shared meaning between them.

Exhibition Talks and Events

Roundtable Conversation

Thursday 22 March, 6pm

Roundtable Conversations offer an opportunity to develop various lines of enquiry prompted by exhibitions at The Common Guild. This event will focus on 'How to Look at Everything' and includes contributions from Kate Gray, Director of Collective, Edinburgh, writer and journalist Moira Jeffrey and artist Corin Sworn.

Mike Sperlinger - Exhibition Talk

Saturday 24 March, 3pm

Mike Sperlinger, Assistant Director of LUX, offers his thoughts on the exhibition 'How to Look at Everything'.

All talks are free but spaces are limited. To book please call: +44 (0)141 428 3022 or email: info@thecommonguild.org.uk

THE COMMON GUILD

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