

EPISODE - SFAC, Miami

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SFAC, South Beach

Miami, Florida

September 16 to October 15, 2006

EPISODE: Pleasure & Persuasion in Lens-based Media

New lens-based work by:

Amanda Beech - Julie Henry - Mark Ingham - Alison Jones - Jaspur Joseph-Lester - Nayan Kulkarni - Mike Marshall -
Jasone Miranda Bilbao - Giles Perry

Curated by:

Amanda Beech - Jaspur Joseph-Lester - Matthew Poole

The selected artworks included video projections, monitor-based works, lens-assisted painting, and photographs, all of which subject the audience to the pleasures of disorientation of sensory, immersive and rhetorical devices. They produce iconographic and dramatic visual and aural experiences, through entangling documentary with drama, realism with the sensory, and austerity with conviction. They openly expose themselves as fabricated constructs. They carry you away, shift you around, or demand your collusion.

EPISODE was supported by Sheffield Hallam University, Leeds Met Gallery, NK Projects, Portsmouth University, and The Spanish Embassy in London.

{tab=Theme & Artworks}

"Episodes" are displaced moments - slices of narrative - sequences and instances that are isolated from, stand apart from, and are de-contextualized from a coherent whole. But "episodes" reach out to the universal - something outside. They call upon a totalized narrative without evidencing its existence - a piece of the real. And knowing that "episodes" are singular, self-contained and fabricated inventions does not prevent us from being enthralled, immersed and moved by the power of such fictions.

Through the exhibition we explored the pleasure, power and sensory extravagance of the delivery of images that propose themselves as fictions or facts. Rather than identify truth as being behind or beyond images, we analyse the politics of belief in images.

Amanda Beech

"The Cold Six Thousand", 2005, DVD video, dubbed, 1 min

Amanda's practice incorporates artworks, writing and collaborative curatorial projects. Through these various strands, she explores the relationship between notions of freedom that are central to democracy and an aesthetics of violence. Central to her artworks and writing are the narratives of crime and justice in Western contemporary film and literature. She has exhibited widely both within the UK and abroad, including The Economist, London, Gewalt at Loushy Art & Editions, Tel Aviv, Israel and Little Private Governments at the University Gallery, University of Essex. Amanda is a lecturer in Postgraduate Critical Studies at Wimbledon School of Art and Goldsmiths College.

Julie Henry

"X", 2000, DVD video, dubbed, 10 mins

Julie's work embodies her fascination with sport, escapism, popular subcultures and their rituals. Through her socially engaged practice she highlights familiar scenes played out across towns and cities all the time, celebrating the lives of people she calls 'local heroes'. Julie has exhibited widely in both group and solo exhibitions in the UK and internationally. Most recently she has shown at The International Centre for Contemporary Art, New York, the Tirana Biennale, Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin and South London Gallery. She is represented by The Wilkinson Gallery, London.

Mark Ingham

"Doppelgänger: USSR Pool", 2004/2005, digital ink-jet print on paper.

Mark explores the experience of remembering and forgetting through photographic images and projections. His work attempts to evoke a form of 'paramnesia', where fantasy and reality collapse to create a feeling of déjà vu. He has exhibited widely both in the UK and abroad including The Greatest Show on Earth at Metropole Galleries, Folkstone and PALAVER in Lille, France. He has recently completed a practice-led PhD at Goldsmiths College and is currently a lecturer in Architecture at The University of Greenwich, and Fine Art at Wimbledon School of Art.

Alison Jones

"Woman with Pushchair", 2006, acrylic on wall

Alison works predominantly with installed trompe l'oeil and anamorphic paintings, creating the illusion of three-

dimensional space. The imagery in her work focuses upon the mundane, the prosaic and the commonplace. Alison has exhibited widely throughout the UK in both group and solo shows, exhibitions include *The Problems of Everyday Life* at Bluecoat Gallery Liverpool, *Chainstore* at Trinity Buoy Wharf and *It* at Sali Ghia Gallery, London. She has written for art journals including *Everything* magazine and *Make* and is currently Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at The University of Portsmouth.

Jaspar Joseph-Lester

"Grand Canal", (2005), DVD video, dubbed, 5 mins

Jaspar's research focuses on the status of illusion within contemporary space. The social, economic and political determinations of retail and leisure space have been an important part of his research, formulated through a longstanding engagement with video installation. Since completing his MA at the Slade School of Art, Jaspar has exhibited widely throughout the UK and abroad including solo exhibitions at Asprey Jacques Gallery and Perry's Motors in London and The British School at Rome. Recent group shows include *13+* at Domo Baal Contemporary Art in London and *All for Show: an international retrospective of UK Video* (currently touring in Europe and America). Jaspar is currently Leader of Postgraduate Studies in Art and Design at Sheffield Hallam University.

Nayan Kulkarni

"Outer Marker", 2006, digital print on mountboard

Nayan's practice encompasses photography, installation, video and architectural collaboration. Using computer generated animation, he creates images that are indistinguishable as fabricated representations. He completed his MA in Fine Art at the Slade School of Art and has since exhibited widely throughout the UK and abroad. Recent architectural interventions include *Chambers* in Dymchurch, Kent and at a glance in the West Midlands. Amongst other projects, he is currently working on *Nocturne*, a new interactive light work for the QEII Metro Bridge in Newcastle/Gateshead and is also collaborating with Jaspar Joseph-Lester on a design for *Panopticans* in Lancashire.

Mike Marshall

"Nightcrawlers", 2004, photographic print, framed/glazed

Mike's work explores the potential of video, photography and sound to drive sustained, intense and vital levels of engagement with the immediate world around us. Exhibiting regularly in the UK and internationally, notable shows include *The Intimacy of Distance* at Ikon, Birmingham, *Here is Fine* at Tate St. Ives and *Days Like These* at Tate Britain. He has also shown in the Sydney and Gwanju, Korea Biennales and at Union and VTO Galleries in London.

Jasone Miranda-Bilbao

"View from the Beach – View from the Cliff," 2000-2005, x2 photographic prints, framed/glazed

Working mainly in sculpture and photography, Jasone's work examines one world or perspective in relation to another and questions the relationship between fixed image and fluid experience. Exhibiting in the UK and internationally, recent shows include Pilot 2 London, Family Business at Pitzhanger Manor and Claire Joy and Miranda Jasone-Bilbao at the Whitechapel Project Space, London. She has also exhibited at The Staatesbank in Berlin and the Museum of Art of Sharja in the United Arab Emirates.

Giles Perry

"Eight Legged Freak", 2004, DVD video, silent, 1 min

Giles' practice investigates the play between truth and fiction, instability around the appearance of things and the problems around ideas and belief in certainty. Since completing his MA in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College, Giles has shown his work in Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2005, the 2004 Yugoslav Biennial of Young Artists, Video London at LOOP 05 in Barcelona and 13+ at Doma Baal Contemporary Art, London.

{tab=Press Release}

ARTCENTER FOCUSES THE LENS ON U.K. ARTISTS

Episode Exhibition Opens September 16, 2006

MIAMI BEACH - (August 20th, 2006) -- The ArtCenter/South Florida ("ACSF") presents Episode, an exhibition opening on September 16 and running through October 15, 2006. Episode is on view at the ACSF gallery, 800 Lincoln Road (at Meridian Avenue), Miami Beach, where an opening reception and artist chat will take place on Saturday, September 16 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Episode, which was selected during the ACSF's Juried Exhibitions program in the fall of 2005, presents new lens-based work by nine internationally emerging artists who are currently based in the United Kingdom. The exhibition explores, via the media of video and photography, how images that are interpreted as natural and factual are constructed and perceived.

"ArtCenter's exhibition program generally emphasizes the work of South Florida's emerging artists and with the exhibition Episode, we have the unique opportunity to engage visitors in a 'dialogue' on contemporary art created locally and internationally," says Jeremy Chestler, Executive Director, ACSF.

Curated by Amanda Beech, Jaspar Joseph-Lester and Matthew Poole, Episode features the work of Amanda Beech, Julie Henry, Mark Ingham, Alison Jones, Jaspar Joseph-Lester, Nayan Kulkarni, Mike Marshall, Jasone Miranda Bilbao and Giles Perry. This exhibition was selected as part of the Juried Exhibitions program in Fall 2005.

"Episode began as a research initiative to generate critical reflection surrounding lens-based artworks and the role these works play in confirming and exploring the experiences of belief in Western Contemporary Culture," says Amanda Beech.

Established in 1984, ArtCenter/South Florida (located at 800, 810 and 924 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach) is a non-profit 501(C)(3) organization that provides subsidized studio and exhibition space as well as teaching opportunities for emerging and career artists in their facilities at 800, 810 and 924 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach. The mission of the ArtCenter is to advance the knowledge and practice of contemporary visual arts and culture in South Florida while providing affordable programming and work-space for professional artists. The ArtCenter/South Florida is open Monday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 11:00 a.m. until

11:00 p.m. For further information please call (305) 674- 8278 or visit the website at www.artcentersf.org

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Exhibitions and programs at ArtCenter/South Florida are made possible through grants from the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; Tropiculture, Greater Miami; the City of Miami Beach Cultural Arts Council; the City of Miami Beach Community Development Block Grant ; the Miami Beach Mayor and City Commissioners and the State of Florida, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Arts Council; the Dade Community Foundation and the Walgreen's Company.

{tab=Artists}

Amanda Beech is an artist, writer and freelance curator based in East London. She gained the MA in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College London in 1997 and went on to complete a PhD in Fine Art there in 2003. She has exhibited widely in the UK and internationally, and has a solo exhibition at MoT Gallery, London in December 2006. She is Senior Lecturer in Fine Art Critical Studies at Wimbledon School College of Art and Goldsmiths College London.

Julie Henry is an artist based in South London. Her work has been exhibited in major solo and group exhibitions both in the UK and abroad, and her work is held in many major public and private collections in the UK and Europe. Her practice encompasses video, photography and digital art works. She is represented by Wilkinson Gallery, London.

Mark Ingham is an artist and lecturer based in South London. He studied at Chelsea School of Art in the early 1980s and has continued to exhibit widely in the UK and abroad. He continues to produce work and write about photography, memory and archiving and teaches in the Fine Art Department at Greenwich College, London.

Alison Jones is an artist, writer and lecturer based in East London. She is Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at Portsmouth University. She completed the MA in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College in 1999 and her work has been exhibited widely across the UK, including selection for the UK Celeste Art Prize in 2006. Her practice comprises primarily of anamorphic paintings painted or installed into architectural spaces. Her recent writing has explored the work of Gustav Metzger, and Jemima Stehli.

Jaspar Joseph-Lester lives and works in London and Sheffield. He is an artist, writer and freelance curator. He is Senior Lecturer in Fine Art Theory at Sheffield Hallam University and is also currently completing a PhD in Fine Art at

Goldsmiths College. His work has been exhibited widely in the UK and abroad and he is the author of 'Spectacle and Disorientation in Retail Architecture' (London/Sheffield: Artwords/SFU 2004).

Nayan Kulkarni's practice as an artist involves both studio practice and large scale public art commissions in which he collaborates with architects and community organisations. He completed the MFA at the Slade School of Fine Art, London in 1997 and has exhibited in the UK and internationally since. He is Senior Lecturer in Fine Art Photography at Sheffield Hallam University, and is currently involved in the largest public art commission in the UK to date, a light installation spanning the railway bridge across the River Tyne in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

Mike Marshall is represented by Union Gallery, London. He lives and works in Notting Hill and his work has been shown in major international exhibitions including the Tate Triennial: Days Like These, in 2003, and the Istanbul Biennale, 2005. He undertook a first major solo exhibition at the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham in 2005. He studied Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art and Reading University.

Jasone Miranda-Bilbao, originally from Bilbao in Northern Spain, lives and works in West London. She completed a BA in Fine Art at Winchester College in 1994 and a Masters at Chelsea School of Art in 1998. She has completed a PhD in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College London and frequently teaches there. Her work has been exhibited in the UK and across Europe.

Giles Perry's work has been exhibited widely in the UK and across Europe and was recently selected for the Bloomberg New Contemporaries touring exhibition 2005/6. He lives and works in North London, and studied Fine Art at Central St. Martins School of Art from 1996-98, and completed the MA Fine Art Programme at Goldsmiths College in 2004.

Matthew Poole is a lecturer and freelance curator. He is currently Course Director of the MA in Gallery Studies at The University of Essex. Matthew has curated and project-managed independent group exhibitions at venues both in the UK and abroad. Posts have included Curator at The Economist Plaza, and Programme Organiser at Gasworks Gallery, London. He is also a founding Director of PILOT - Artists' & Curators' Forum [www.pilotlondon.org]. He studied Fine Art at Oxford University and postgraduate studies at the University of Northumbria. He lives in East London.

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