

E-mailing gets physical in Bristol. Artist brings everyday on-line communication to life.

04 October – 15 November 2008

Artist Matthew Noel-Tod has brought years of e-mail correspondence to life in a new film, *Blind Carbon Copy*. It will be exhibited in Picture This' contemporary art and film space at Spike Island in Bristol 04 October - 15 November 2008.

Blind Carbon Copy is based on an evocative script collaged from the artist's personal email correspondence. The emails are interpreted via a combination of spoken, physical and musical performances, taking its central focus from the language and emotions of the correspondence. The title of the film refers to the process of sending a blind copy of an email or letter to a hidden third-person recipient. Perhaps the viewer of the film is the blind carbon copy recipient?

Noel-Tod's film rethinks 1970s examples of artists' performance addressing technology and disembodiment. In *Blind Carbon Copy* there is an attempt to reverse the cold, impersonal state of technological communication through the primacy of human speech and performance. Words and phrases become incongruous and weighty as they are lifted from their natural context and reinterpreted both by actors and by the audience. The newly produced work draws parallels between traditional artistic expressions – such as life drawing, dance and music; and technology – such as cars, computers and discos, to comment on the contemporary human condition.

The complex shoot for *Blind Carbon Copy* took place in Bristol in the same space in which it will be exhibited and features a cast of actors, life models, children, and dancer Saju Hari with musicians Corey Orbison and Katapulto. The dramatic imagery in the film uses light from car headlights, lasers and smoke machines.

Matthew Noel-Tod's work combines an interest in technologies with references from conceptual art, cinema, philosophy and literature. Having exhibited internationally since 1999, Noel-Tod has explored and refined his ability to create multi-expressional videos that display a range of aesthetics and explore the interplay between words and the moving image.

Blind Carbon Copy was commissioned as part of the Bristol Mean Time residency, a collaborative project between FLAMIN (Film London Artists' Moving Image Network) and Picture Time. The residency gave Matthew Noel-Tod – a London based artist – the opportunity to undertake a three month moving-image residency in Bristol.

Blind Carbon Copy will also be screened at ICA, London in October as part of Nought to Sixty. A programme of sixty projects by emerging artists based in Britain and Ireland over six months from 05 May to 02 November 2008.

Picture This

Press Release Matthew Noel-Tod Blind carbon Copy

Notes to editors

Press preview:
Friday 03 October 2008 11.30am

Preview:
Friday 03 October 2008 6-9pm

Press Contact Information

For further press information, interviews or images please contact Jane Porter at Picture This on 0117 925 7010 or email jane.porter@picture-this.org.uk

Exhibition Information

Picture This
Sydney Row & Mardyke Ferry Road
Spike Island
Bristol BS1 6UU
Tel: +44 (0) 117 925 7010
office@picture-this.org.uk
www.picture-this.org.uk

Open to the public:
04 October - 15 November 2007
Wednesday - Saturday 12 - 5.30pm
Admission free

Events

Film Screening

Thursday 04 November 7.30pm

Free

Paris nous appartient (Paris Belongs to Us)
Director Jacques Rivette, 1961, 141 mins
Selected by Matthew Noel-Tod
For more information see picture-this.org.uk

About Matthew Noel-Tod

Matthew Noel-Tod studied Fine Art at The Slade School of Fine Art, London, Fachhochschule Aachen, Germany and Norwich School of Art and Design, UK. In 2004 he was credited as being 'one of London's rising moving image stars' (Gareth Evans, *Time Out*, London, 2004). Matthew Noel-Tod is a founding member of the critical film group Free Cinema Seven (London, UK) and is currently a participating artist on the LUX Associate Artist Programme (2007-2008).

Recent UK solo exhibitions and screenings include Whitechapel Project Space, BFI Southbank and Outpost Gallery, Norwich. He has also shown internationally at galleries including, Gallery Loop, Seoul, South Korea; Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw,

Poland; Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Spain and Houston Centre for Photography, Texas, USA. Festival screenings include European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück, Split Film Festival and Cambridge Film Festival.

Nausea (2005) received its world premiere in *The Times* BFI 49th London Film Festival 2005 and was selected for the 35th International Film Festival Rotterdam, Netherlands 2006.
www.matthewnoel-tod.com

About Picture This

Picture This is an organisation with a unique understanding of moving image technology and contemporary art. The agency produces visual art projects engaging a range of collaborators and audiences. Picture This' space based at Spike Island in Bristol, is a flexible space geared towards production, education, exhibition and events. Previous acclaimed productions/ exhibitions include Marcus Coates: *Dawn Chorus*, Rosalind Nashashibi: *Bachelor Machines Part One*, Emily Wardill: *Sick Serena and Dregs and Wreck and Wreck* (Bristol Mean Time residency 2007).
www.picture-this.org.uk

About Film London

Film London is the capital's film and media agency. They sustain, promote and develop London as a major international film-making and film cultural capital. This includes all the screen industries based in London - film, television, video, commercials and new interactive media. Film London supports artist film-makers by providing funding, advice, training and support through FLAMIN (Film London Artists' Moving Image Network).
www.filmlondon.org.uk/flamin

About Bristol Mean Time

The Bristol Mean Time residency is a collaborative project between FLAMIN and Picture This. The residency is designed to give a London based artist the opportunity to undertake a three month moving image residency based in Bristol, and to develop a new moving image work in a unique supportive and creative environment. This is the second year of the Bristol Mean Time residency. The 2007 residency place was awarded to Emily Wardill.

