

Milton Keynes Gallery

Press Release

THE THE THINGS IS (FOR 3)

9 July – 12 September 2010

Preview: Thursday 8 July, 6pm – 10pm, featuring a new performance
Admission free

Milton Keynes Gallery presents a major solo exhibition of work by a London-based artist who emerged in the early 1990s, exhibiting with Gavin Brown at City Racing in London and collaborating with artists including Liam Gillick, Elizabeth Wright and Paul Noble. Working with sound, performance, sculpture, collage and photography, the artist creates narratives or systems which are played out in the form of installations, interventions and live events.

The artist's practice often precipitates unexpected contradictions and humorous outcomes, playfully experimenting with language, image, form and identity. In an early piece *Be Me* presented at Interim Art, London (1996), thirty-one friends and acquaintances were invited to assume the artist's persona for the day and to exhibit the results. For *Went to America didn't say a word* (1999), the artist travelled to New York, stayed overnight and returned home, without uttering a word. The sounds that surrounded the journey were recorded by mini-disc and presented as a sound work at Space in London. Interests in displacement and exploiting surprising situations are channelled into an ongoing sound performance *Violin Siren* (2004-present) where street noises, such as police sirens, are transcribed onto classical musical instruments.

The exhibition at Milton Keynes Gallery contains three new installations and a sculptural piece that wraps around the exterior of the building. *ANOTHER ANOTHER RING OF BALLS* (2010), is a row of found magazine pages pasted around the walls of a room, each page containing a circular image, arranged in order of size. *WOMAN MAN MAN WOMAN WOMAN WOMAN MAN MAN 1975 GEORGE M. HESTER*, (2010) presents a series of pages from a book with black and white images of nudes on a light box so that the paper disappears and the back and front of the pages merge to create hermaphrodites. Other work will combine performance, sculpture, objects and installation, inviting visitors literally to leave their mark: a denim carpet wrapped around the building records the footprints of visitors as they walk through the space and a fully functioning rock band's equipment is set up, live, and ready to play.

The exhibition displays a range of the artist's experiments with systems, geometry, chance and the absurd. Each work opens up a space for the imagination, encouraging varying degrees of interaction and response, inviting the viewer into a playful dialogue with the artist.

A catalogue with an interview between the artist and Milton Keynes Gallery Director Anthony Spira and a text by art historian Gilda Williams will be available.

Notes for Editors

Listing

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900 Midsummer Boulevard, MK9 3QA

www.mk-g.org

Opening Times

Tuesday – Friday 12noon – 8pm, Saturday 11am – 8pm, Sunday 11am – 5pm,
closed Mondays.

Press Information

For more information and images, please contact Rosie Jackson, Press & Marketing Coordinator on 01908 558 302 or r.jackson@mk-g.org with any queries.

Ends

Date of issue: 4 June 2010