

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Charles Atlas: Glacier

Off-site exhibition at Bloomberg SPACE
Until 30 Mar 2013

Pae White: Too much night, again

Main gallery
Until 12 May 2013

EOGHAN RYAN: OH WICKED FLESH!

5 MAR – 12 MAY 2013

**FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES, ADMISSION FREE
EXHIBITION GUIDE**

SLG

South London Gallery 65–67 Peckham Road, London SE5 8UH
020 7703 6120 mail@southlondongallery.org www.southlondongallery.org
Twitter: @SLG_artupdates



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



outset.

EOGHAN RYAN: OH WICKED FLESH! 5 MAR – 12 MAY 2013

Following six months as the Nina Stewart Artist-in-Residence in the South London Gallery's Outset Artists' Flat, Eoghan Ryan presents a multi-faceted installation of new work in the first floor galleries. Drawing on his everyday encounters with people, places and animals in the course of his stay, Ryan translates his experiences of them into an assemblage of disparate and often obscure references. Interwoven through film, selected objects, collaged posters and wallpapered imagery, what at first seems a baffling collage of random observations begins to reveal visual links and recurring lines of thought. Blotches, stains and blemishes act as motifs for external manifestations of the inner workings of the mind and body, whilst snippets of staged scenarios and selected texts signal the significance of autobiographical content. Peppered with hints of religious influence and moments loaded with ecstatic potential, the overarching theme of the work is culture in its broadest sense, and the role and impact of the creative act within it.

The entrance to Ryan's installation is through a notional stone arch, a reproduction of Henry Moore's newly restored sculpture from Kensington Gardens wallpapered around the door. From this first encounter with the work, viewers are presented with a mildly comic blend of high and low culture, while the act of transition from exterior to interior

is heightened by the dark and mottled environment into which they proceed. A Henry Moore sculpture is again the opening, as well as closing, gambit in a film projected into the corner of the gallery space. One of many references to circularity evident throughout the installation, more importantly here, the Moore symbolizes the potential of culture to divide as well as unite. Located on the Brandon Housing Estate, not far from the South London Gallery, this highly prized sculpture, having originally been sited on an urban council estate for the residents' enjoyment, was until recently barricaded into a rusting corrugated iron structure for protection against theft, barely visible except through gaps in the unsightly metal shed in which it came to reside.

What follows in the film is difficult to fathom as layers of imagery, text and sound seemingly jump from one subject to the next, yet manage to imply a degree of internal logic, however ungraspable, analogous perhaps, to the creative process itself, to the struggle to communicate the inner workings of the mind. In the midst of this perplexing concoction, the words 'Barking Mad' on an owner's sweatshirt at a dog show come as welcome relief, as if giving permission to laugh out loud and relax a little over the impossibility of following the plot. When enthusiastic owners swoon at the rarity of what many would find an

exceptionally ugly breed, the authority of culture is again brought into ironic question. And when footage of the artist shows him sporting a furry dalmation print jerkin at one moment, then painted half black, half white and urinating on a virgin sheet of paper the next, some might think of art historical precedents, while others might think he is taking the piss. Cut to a black and white dog peeing in the street, and the theme of circularity reassuringly returns.

www.southlondongallery.org/eoghanryan

Biography

Eoghan Ryan completed his BA at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin in 2010 and he finished his Masters in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College, University of London, in 2012. He became the second recipient of the Nina Stewart Artist Residency in October 2012.

The Nina Stewart Artist Residency with the South London Gallery and SPACE is funded by The Nina and Roger Stewart Charitable Trust, with additional support from Bloomberg.

The Nina Stewart Artist Residency 2012–13

This open submission 6-month residency opportunity was available to artists

graduating in 2012 with a postgraduate MA, MFA or MRes from a UK institution. The residency enables the production of a new body of work and is a rare opportunity for a recent graduate to exhibit within an internationally renowned institution.

Accompanying Events:

Eoghan Ryan in Conversation

Wed 24 Apr, 7pm, £5/£3 conc

Artist Eoghan Ryan discusses his residency and current exhibition.

Oh wicked flesh!

Publication Launch and Readings

Wed 8 May, 7pm, £5/£3 conc

An evening of readings and discussion celebrating the launch of *Oh wicked flesh!*, a publication which explores conditions of the contemporary human body. *Oh wicked flesh!* features contributions from Hannah Black, Susan Conte, Sam Keogh, Laura Morrison, Joseph Noonan-Ganley, Eoghan Ryan, Linda Stupart and Nina Wakeford.

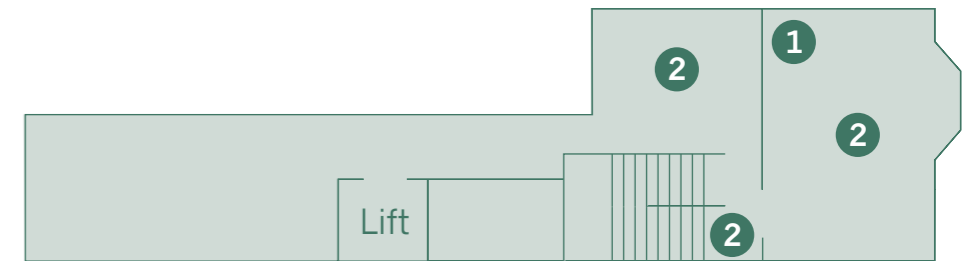
Booking is essential. Book online or call 020 7703 6120.

Please note: the goldfish in the installation is being cared for in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and RSPCA guidelines.

LIST OF WORKS

1. *Oh wicked flesh!*, 2013, video (16:9), 19'

2. *Oh wicked flesh!*, 2013, mixed media installation, dimensions variable



FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES