

EOI for digital creative works for POPCAANZ 2015 Exhibition: *Virtually Pop*

Elliot Howard + Bruce Mowson

Arc d'Brunswick/Upfield Conduit Video (video, 4 ½ minutes) – an exegesis

Video

The commonly available means of visually recording sound and motion. Video is now ubiquitous, easily made, edited, stored and disseminated. Formats regularly change. Art galleries now require 4:3 ratio monitors that will last as long as oil paintings from the Italian Baroque. Or YouTube.

Time/Movement

As a child the wait for the airport delay seemed to take forever. Now I spend hours online putting off what I really should be doing. It's not advised for two bodies to move towards an opaque screen from opposite sides and at speed. Moving through a golden spangled archway is. It's easy to speed that motion up and slow it down. That bit is fun.

Space/Mylar Blankets

The material was supposedly developed by NASA to protect astronauts in space housed in faulty crafts from the heat of the sun. They also regulate the heat of runners in the period immediately after finishing marathons. They used to be advertising free, now they are not. Today these blankets are used as a conduit through which brands flow from runners to consumers. Christmas trees love this material in a different form, tinsel.

Brace/OSB Exterior/Stirling Board

Loved by architects in the late 1980s, this is a very flexible material. From ensuring spec housing remains true and plumb to covering the interiors of cool cafés, forming shelving in high street clothing shops and lining the inside of a *House for Two Friends*, this material is a wonder. Like chipboard on steroids, we use it because it is cheap, light, easy to cut and provides endless pleasure for the eyes.

Bike Path

The Upfield Bike Path is an arterial route through a city in transformation. Brunswick is home to some of Melbourne's newer immigrant populations as well as hipster and artist communities. The bike path goes through its heart. It follows train commuters to and from work, from the city to the suburb. It is uneven in the extreme. It borders housing, shops, light industry, cafés, pubs, tram depots and car lots. It runs under new models of social housing and enormous, popularly supported gentrification and social change. We seem to know how fast house prices in Brunswick rise, like we know the price fluctuations of the All Ords.

Amoeba

We've only seen images of them, they're too small for our naked eyes to see, we know their shapes.

Bodies in motion

I seem to put up with clothes that don't fit me. Most chairs make my back ache. I'm photographed unsmiling for identification purposes. In the winter I get up to go to work, and return home again at night, in the dark. In the morning I get my children to school in a rush of frayed nerves for the 9am audible tone. I lie in bed at night watching another crime drama on my portable device. I know there are enormous inequalities here and across the globe. I'm one of the lucky ones. I can live here or in Europe. I swim in the ocean for two short weeks of the year. Sometimes I take a risk on my bike to get to my destination when I know that it's not worth it, I really shouldn't. I don't know what the bank invests my money in but I know the ethics of those investments are iffy.

Affect/Desire

Is this why we participate in the above? Can producing a small haecceity in a journey home from work on a warm spring evening, recorded on video and distributed online and in a gallery, insert a new critical texture to the background noise versions of these things that constantly follow us, affect and desire?

Technical information:

Artists - Elliot Howard + Bruce Mowson

Date - 2015

Title - *Arc d'Brunswick/Upfield Conduit Video*

Digital video with sound of 4 ½ minutes duration

Designed to be seen on a video monitor in a gallery context (16:9), and/or online (youtube or similar).

The work is documentation and reappropriation of a quasi-participatory and site based work, sited in Melbourne, October 2014.

File format - .mov

The work can be seen here:

<https://vimeo.com/119619006>



C.V.

Contact details: Email – eabhoward@gmail.com Tel no. +61 (0)423 908 330

Address – 18 Traill Street, Northcote, VIC, 3070, Australia

Bio - Bruce Mowson is an artist working in and beyond visual arts in audio-visual, performance and sculptural/installation practices. He has presented performances at the inaugural Festival of Live Art (Melbourne), the Brisbane Powerhouse and the, and installations at Arts Centre Victoria, Brisbane Powerhouse, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Esplanade Theatres, Singapore, K9 (Netherlands). He was a founding director of the Liquid Architecture Sound Festival, and has lectured in art and design at RMIT, Monash University and the Victorian College of the Arts and been an assessment panel member for the Australia Council.

2005-2008 PhD School of Art, RMIT University, Melbourne

2003-2005 MA School of Art, RMIT University, Melbourne

Bio - Elliot Howard is an artist and lecturer. He is interested in the relationships between art, philosophy and urban space and the possibility they have to interfere with capitalism in its twilight. Howard has shown artwork and curated exhibitions in the UK, Europe and Australia and has lectured in art history and theory at Kingston University, London, La Trobe University, Bendigo, and RMIT and the Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne.

MA Contemporary Art Theory, Goldsmiths College, University of London, 2005 – 2007

BA(Hons) Fine Art, Sheffield Hallam University, 1991-1994,

Howard + Mowson, Collaborative Projects

- 2015 Mobile Fringed Viewer – Wellington (The Arcade Project)
- 2014 Arc d'Brunswick/The Upfield Conduit – Melbourne (Trainspotters INC/MoreArt)
- 2013 The Listening vs Striles of Ming, La Trobe University VAC, Bendigo

Selected Exhibitions – BM

- 2014 Adventures in Sightlessness, FOLA, Arts House, Melbourne
- 2012 Highlights, K09 Kunstriumte 09, Groningen, The Netherlands.
- 2012 A Transcendental Fissure in the Immanent Fabric of Things, Melbourne.
- 2011 Intermezzo, Gesellschaft für Kunst und Gestaltung, Bonn Germany, Geometric Form Seen in Recent Sound, K09 Kunstriumte 09, Groningen, The Netherlands.
- 2010 Art Povera (extended program), Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne.
- 2007 Barney, Sound Polaroids Festival, Brisbane Powerhouse, Brisbane
- 2009 Birdland, Design Research Institute Gallery, RMIT University, Melbourne
- 2008 The Swing, Gossard Project Space, School of Art, RMIT University Melbourne
- 2007 Melting Moments, Kerb Inc, Perth.
- 2006 Absorption, School of Art Gallery, RMIT University, Melbourne.
- 2004 Pink Balls, Surround sound/Video projection, West Space Inc, Melbourne

Selected Exhibitions – EH

- 2013 Drawing Space – Phyllis Palmer Gallery, Bendigo
- 2011 A Transcendental Fissure in the Imminent Fabric of Things - Melbourne
- 2011 Palimpsest, Mildura, Kar-Rama Motel project, curated by Kristian Haggblom
- 2009 Creative Imperatives, Phyllis Palmer Gallery, La Trobe University, Bendigo
- 2009 Journey to the Surface of the Earth, Domain House, Melbourne
- 2005 Portobello Film Festival, showing *Hostage* (13min video)
- 2004 60Second Show, 291 Gallery/twotentwo Gallery, London