

School Play

The Paper Mache Movement

Sara Gillies, Ross Taylor

9th April – 25th April 2010

Preview: 8th April 2010, 6 – 9pm

“The rooster sits between three eggs. He is alone and he feels lonely. He pecks and pecks and pecks even at an egg.

A charming little chick comes out the egg. The rooster is completely in love with the chick. But the chick goes off to look at the world, and the rooster is lonely again. He pecks at the second egg. Another charming little chick comes out. Just as the first chick sees the second chick, it runs immediately to the rooster, and both chicks swarm the rooster with their love. Now the rooster would like to have even more love because he is discontented, and he pecks at the third egg as well, because he hopes that another chick will come out. Instead, however, a little rooster comes out, and he is much more handsome than the old one, and the two chicks follow him. The old rooster remains alone.”

Fairy Tale by Kurt Schwitters

Kingsgate Gallery presents ‘School Play’ an installation and performance created by The Paper Mache Movement. ‘School Play’ seeks to evoke the act of fearless, unfiltered, innocence, a shared experience most people as children, have taken part in. Actor’s lines must be learnt and all must work together as there is a great deal relying on the success of this play. The intensity of conviction bonds the little actors, tapping into a place where we don’t always need to have reason. The play will make no sense and complete sense. It acts as a vessel. Pouring out whatever awkward and chaotic stories we want to tell.

Excitement, itchy costumes and hysteria, each character has its role with an invitation to summon interpretation. They present clunky heavy battles on an improvised stage. The strange props force the viewer to open their imaginations to believe this makeshift world, a curtain, a wardrobe, an exit, a strange lump clumsily disappearing off stage followed by the audience’ stare and anticipation.

The Paper Mache Movement is a collaboration consisting of Sara Gillies and Ross Taylor. They met while studying at Winchester School of Art and on leaving the Royal College of Art began working on projects together concerning the relationship between fantasy and their own lived experiences. Each piece is conceived as an experiment. Two minds on a ‘rant’ allowing a free flow dialogue of approaches and ideas. Time spent observing what lies beneath the facade of contemporary Western culture, has allowed them to create a cast of characters and objects that reference a society obsessed with consumption. Through humour, silliness and spontaneous expression, their assemblages become what could be described as an over-indulged, puked out soap opera gone wrong. Taking on a deliberate crude aesthetic, their works consist mainly of second hand materials, using what they can find to create craft inspired work.

On Friday 23rd April at 7.30pm the Paper Mache Movement will present a night of ‘show and tell’ of their influences, alongside other guest speakers. Objects, literature, and performances chosen by contributors will act as central subjects to invited discussions. Open to all with free refreshments.

For further information and images please call Adam Holmes-Davies, Manager (Gallery Manager) at the KWT office (tel: 020 7328 7878), Email: adam@kingsgateworkshops.org.uk or visit our website: www.kingsgateworkshops.org.uk

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