

mima

Middlesbrough
Institute of Modern Art

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Richard Forster ***Fast & Slow time*** **29 July – 18 November 2011**

mima is delighted to present *Fast & Slow Time*, Richard Forster's first solo museum exhibition.

The exhibition presents three series of painstakingly executed graphite drawings which circumnavigate the upper Gallery; 52 in total, made over the course of one calendar year.

Opening and closing the exhibition, two sequences of 14 drawings titled *The Incoming Seas Edge* document the incoming tide on the shore of Saltburn-by-the-Sea, North Yorkshire over the course of a few minutes in one morning in January 2010. Photographs taken at set intervals from the pier are the starting point for a process of translation and transformation in which a series of moments are captured and fixed through the process of the drawing; minutely detailed in densely layered pencil strokes. The motif of the sea's edge, always present, yet also completely unique from one drawing to the next, becomes a signifier of the wider narrative across the exhibition.

The third sequence of 24 drawings, titled *Twenty Four Stills from archival video witnessed in Bauhaus, Dessau, Jan 5th, 2010* is drawn from documentary footage of the construction of pioneering social housing in the former Weimar Republic of Germany, the Törten Estate in Dessau. Forster has long been interested in the concept of *Ostalgie*, the curious nostalgia amongst former East German residents for life in the DDR, and these drawings come from a research visit made to the Bauhaus archive in early 2010. These drawings capture not only the radical Modernist spirit of the Bauhaus; its revolutionary building processes and materials, but also seemingly incongruous moments of domestic repose within the film; a woman in her kitchen, a table set for tea.

The selection of the stills from the film is not random, but predetermined by the timing of 24 photographs of the sea's edge in Saltburn captured but never recreated, and therefore "missing" from the sequence of seascapes. As with the sea drawings, Forster's fidelity to the captured image is absolute – he reproduces what the camera has first recorded in precise detail.

Fast and Slow Time presents a series of fleeting, seemingly arbitrary moments which are in fact chosen within a precise set of parameters, and re-

presented through a painstaking process. Taken together, these come to represent a reflection on the very nature and action of time and memory.

The three sequences of drawings are exhibited at mima for the first time.

A book containing a new short story by author Colm Tóibín and reproductions of the 52 drawings in the exhibition accompanies the show. Exhibition price £10.00.

This exhibition is curated in association with Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh.

<Ends>

Notes to Editors

Other exhibitions showing at mima:

Transmitter/Receiver

The persistence of collage

From the Arts Council Collection

22 July – 6 November 2011

Colourful exhibition tracing the use of collage in British art. Featuring Eileen Agar, Steven Claydon, Richard Hamilton, Margaret Harrison and John Stezaker.

Ben Nicholson

The intimate surface of Modernism

22 July – 6 November 2011

Intimate exhibition featuring many unseen works by renowned artist Ben Nicholson. Kindly supported by mimafriends.

Richard Forster

Richard Forster was born in Saltburn-by-the-Sea in the north-east of England in 1970. His work is keenly informed by social, cultural and art historical concerns. Alongside painstakingly realised pencil drawings he has also undertaken a number of site-responsive sculptural installations. Recent solo exhibitions have included the Jerwood Artists' Platform at Cell Project Space, London (2006) and Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh (2008) In spring 2011 he was part of the acclaimed *Drawn from Photography* exhibition at the Drawing Center, New York.

Fast and Slow Time is his first solo museum show.

Ingleby Gallery

Established in 1998, Ingleby Gallery maintains an ambitious program of exhibitions and off-site projects by established and emerging artists. Over the past 12 years, it has secured a reputation as one of the country's leading private galleries. The Gallery represents artists of international standing, whilst also introducing and supporting artists at earlier stages in their career.

mima Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art

mima is one of the UK's leading galleries for modern and contemporary art and craft. The landmark building designed by Erick van Egeraat Architects is situated in the heart of Middlesbrough. mima opened to international critical acclaim in January 2007. Hosting temporary exhibitions of fine art and craft from 1900 to the present, mima showcases work by internationally acclaimed artists. Exhibitions change throughout the year and admission is free. mima is a partner of Tate, and exchanges programmes, ideas and skills with the Plus Tate network of visual arts organisations. www.visitmima.com

Plus Tate

mima is a partner of Tate, and exchanges programmes, ideas and skills with the Plus Tate network of visual arts organisations across the UK. www.tate.org.uk



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Why does mima matter?

In increasingly challenging times ahead for many UK arts organisations, we want to shout about why mima matters. Here are a few of our biggest achievements to date:

mima has...

- welcomed over 19,000 students from schools, colleges and universities
- been gifted with over 100 works for Middlesbrough's collection
- been identified as one of the prime reasons for overnight visitors and day visitors in the Tees Valley and ranks at the top of local visitor attractions
- generated £1.85 for the local economy for every £1 invested in mima in 2009/10
- been awarded £1 million by the Art Fund to buy works for the collection
- been endorsed by many important partners and is one of Tate's 'Plus Tate' partners helping to bring even more great works of art to Middlesbrough
- helped raise Middlesbrough's profile with frequent national media coverage, and reached millions of viewers world-wide in a special *Top Gear* programme in 2009

A copy of the full *Why mima matters* report is available to read online or download from our website at visitmima.com



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