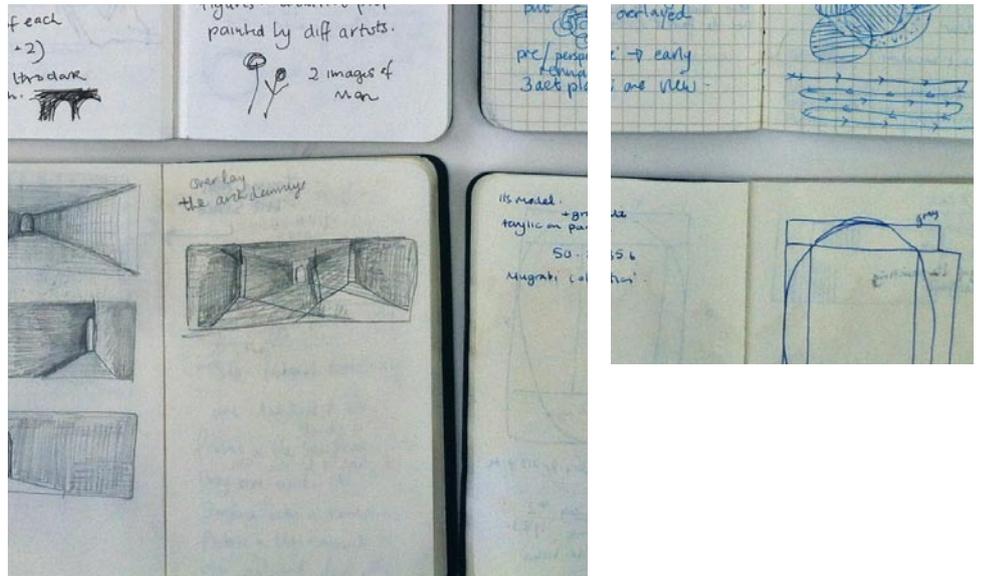


Showcase 2012

August -
September 2012



Eight, week-long exhibitions, presenting work by local students and fine art graduates in MK Gallery Project Space.



About the Exhibition

MK Gallery Project Space presents Showcase 2012, a series of eight, week-long exhibitions presenting work by students and fine art graduates from Milton Keynes College, University of Bedfordshire, The University of Northampton and Bucks New University during August and September 2012.

This year's exhibiting artists are Saliha Elhoussaini, Karolina Lebek, Felipe Moraes, Marion Piper, Sian Rees, Lauren Stanton, Cally Shadbolt and Mimi Tobot. They present work in diverse media, including sculpture, drawing, photography, video, installation and illustration.

The series builds on the success of Showcase 2011, when MK Gallery first presented the work of local fine art students and recent graduates in the Project Space over eight weeks, concurrent with last summer's *New Art MK* exhibition featuring MK-based artists.

The Artists



Saliha Elhoussaini

Evolution, 2 - 8 August 2012

A final year student of Bucks New University, Saliha Elhoussaini investigates the notion of drawing through various media, including painting and sculpture.

The work reflects the precarious nature of our universe by referencing geological disasters, unpredictable and erratic weather patterns, alongside the instability and uncertainty of many aspects of life, including conflict, relationships, economy, and science.

Despite the work being created using a fixed set of rules, it visually demonstrates how small variations can accumulate and grow into complex, unpredictable patterns. The work is controlled yet unpredictable, exuding tension and ease.



Cally Shadbolt

Watershed, 9 - 15 August 2012

Cally Shadbolt, a Fine Art student at Bucks New University uses sculpture and drawing to explore the possibilities of materials within abstract design, often combining two contrasting elements to create new objects.

In this exhibition there is an inter-play between sculpture and drawing which explores materials and structures that dispel and collect water, including roofs, watermarks and waterproofing. Cones feature as a recurring motif as they can act both as a shield and a vessel for water. The use of material focuses on contrasting textures and methods of fixing that evoke man-made structures in the environment. Objects that appear to be designed for use are in reality playful experiments in material and abstract invention.

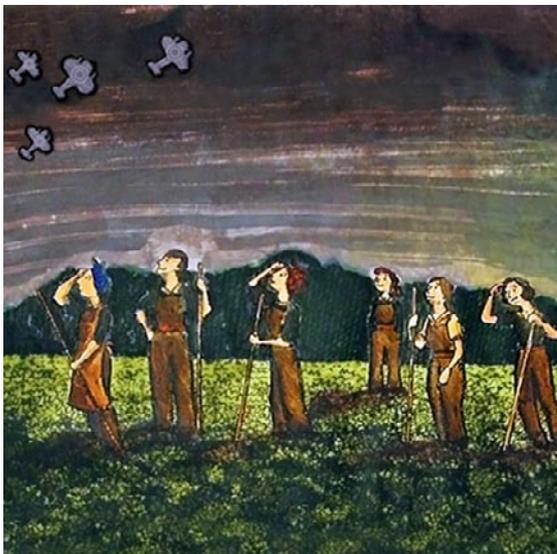


Felippe Moraes

Matter, 16 - 22 August 2012

This exhibition by The University of Northampton MA student Felippe Moraes discusses the material world in which we live. Through photography, sculpture and installation, Moraes brings to the forefront ideas of phenomenology (the experience of building materials and their sensory properties) in order to attempt an understanding of the tangibility of existence.

By measuring, tensing, cutting and bending, materiality is put to the test as a way to understand our own place in the world. The works relate to each other in order to investigate and test the limits of whatever is tangible.



Sian Schiaparelli Rees

Cows, Codes and Kids, 23 - 29 August 2012

A series of prints, drawings and printed textiles by Sian Rees, which explore life on the Home Front and the work of the Women's Land Army during World War II.

Rees recently completed her Foundation Diploma in Fine Art at Milton Keynes College, and has successfully secured a place at Anglia Ruskin University to study for an MA in Children's Book Illustration.

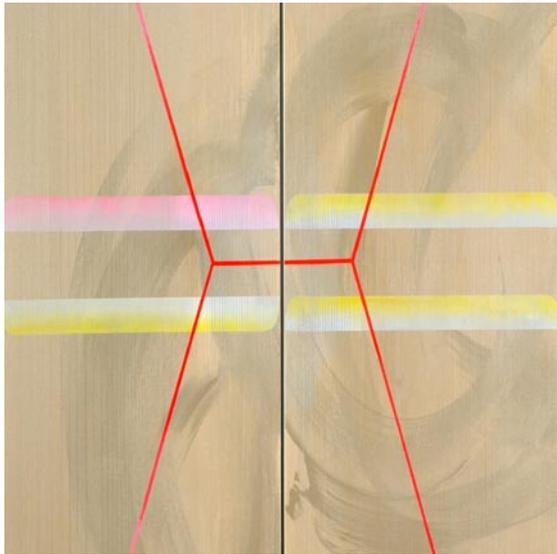


Lauren Stanton

Journeys, 30 August - 5 September 2012

Lauren Stanton, a Final Year student at The University of Northampton, is inspired by the spontaneity within drawing. Through repetitive movement and obsessive mark making, Stanton believes she is able to represent the emotional, physical and psychological states of the body and mind.

To create her work, Stanton begins in the middle of the paper and lets the mark react, using hypnotic states that isolate the surrounding environment, creating a mass of tangled lines, as physical energy is taken from the body and applied onto the paper. Stanton has created a series of 'drill' drawings. With each drilling, she has collected the cotton fibres that were teased from the paper, creating a living record of the transitional process that the work has gone through.



Marion Piper

In Deed, 6 - 12 September 2012

A final year Fine Art student at Bucks New University, Marion Piper's practice is concerned with her sensory responses to the experience of walking through city spaces in London and New York. The exhibition *In Deed* responds to walking through the centre of Milton Keynes. The performative activity of pacing through geometry physically connects her to the grid of the city.

Back in the studio she re-enacts the perceptual pleasure of the movement and observation within the structure of the city avenue, playfully interlayering clues from fiction, music, art history and theory. Marion will draw and paint with oil glazes during the run of her exhibition, as it becomes her studio for one week.



Karolina Lebek

Landscapes of Poland, 13 - 19 September 2012

A recent graduate of University of Bedfordshire, Karolina Lebek presents a mixture of photography, video and sound works which explore ideas of memory, distance and emotional loss.

Since moving from Poland to the UK, Lebek's emotional relationship with her native country has grown stronger, and has become the subject of this exhibition, *Landscapes of Poland*.

In search of her own identity, Lebek kept revisiting places in Poland of great emotional charge. By confronting the utopian image of the past with the raw reality of the present surroundings, the artist has created a personal, emotional dialogue between the past and present.



Mimi Tobot

Beyond the Pane, 20 - 26 September 2012

Beyond the Pane presents a series of photographs and etchings by second year student at The University of Northampton, Mimi Tobot. The exhibition explores how we see and what lies beyond window panes.

In one series of photographs, smears and grime on the pane emphasise the perception of space, another series has been printed over, in order to question the viewer's spatial awareness, whilst the works *Henley* and *Mimi* have been printed behind netting, a material commonly used to screen a window pane.