

BENEDICT DREW

THIS IS FEEDBACK

OUTPOST

2 July to 21 July 2012

12 noon to 6pm daily

Opening View: Sunday 1 July, 3 - 7.45pm

Open to public - admission free

OUTPOST is proud to present Benedict Drew *THIS IS FEEDBACK*.

A multitude of guitar amps, Primark bags, paintings and monitors coupled with objects form this complex and multifaceted exhibition. Drew's practice crosses sound, video, performance and installation, immersing the viewer in an intense succession of information, to the point where it is not always clear what we are experiencing. Drew takes us into an all-encompassing world that, although fantastical and unexpected, possesses a constant sense of underlying logic. The effect is overwhelming and disorientating, verging on the hypnotic and subliminal. Frequently we are given just enough time to receive the information, but not quite enough to digest it.

Drew's work is seductive and illusionary whilst retaining a physicality and realism, there is always a materialism underpinning the most seemingly immaterial. Despite the use of the digital, Drew retains a sense of the human, with humour and rough edges. In previous videos such as *Screen Discontents*, a projector screen is moved and scraped across a studio floor, while reflecting on its own limited existence asking "*CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW IT FEELS TO BE LOOKED UPON CONSTANTLY*".

Inside the gallery ink drawings of entoptic patterns illustrate the internal mechanics of the eye and body. This biological loop resonates with the idea of feedback, one that is central to Drew's practice: "*There's a kind of skewed fuzzy logic to it, which enables the work to look at itself, which is in one way like a safety net. But if you approach that, you can enter into its own logic or system*". Across different works this self-animation gives the impression of the computerised and mechanical being alive, with a self-perpetuating existence, in much the same way there is a belief in the autonomy of the objects and characters. From entering into the work it feels that there are a great number of forces at play. In much of the work there are statements, commands and the over bearing faces of compassionless beings. It is clear there is logic at work somewhere, making it harder to grasp onto our own reasoning in the situation we are presented with.

Benedict Drew graduated from Slade School of Fine Art in 2011. Previous solo exhibitions include *GLISS*, Cell Project Space, 2012, *The Glass Envelope*, Zabudowicz Collection, 2012, *The Persuaders*, Circa Site / AV Festival, Stephenson Works, Newcastle, 2012. Current group exhibitions include *THERE IS NOT AND NEVER HAS BEEN ANYTHING TO UNDERSTAND!*, ACS Gallery, 8 June – 3 August, *Things That Have Interested Me*, Waterside Contemporary, to 14 July and *SOUNDWORKS*, ICA, 19 June – 16 September.

For more information please contact questions@norwichoutpost.org

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