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Kye Wilson

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Selected Exhibitions and Screenings

2009 Trimester preview and event (part of Portsmouth Film Festival), SPACE Gallery, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, UK – Trimester.

Transfera TV, Spain – The Kiss.

The Coalition, Spitbank Fort, Portsmouth, UK – Anomaly.

Stellar Mondays, The Hyde Tavern, Winchester, UK - Vanishing Twin - Single-channel Video Installation, Anomaly.

The Big Screen (BBC), Portsmouth, UK – Faces of a Steelpan Festival – Solo Faces (edit), Faces of a Steelpan Festival – Triptych, Anomaly.

The Gloaming 'Sneak Preview' Screening and Event, John Pounds Centre, Portsmouth, UK – The Gloaming.

2008

Tràfic d'imatges, CaixaForum, Barcelona, Spain - The Kiss.

Southampton Film Week, Millais Gallery, Southampton, UK – Faces of a Steelpan Festival – Solo Faces (edit), Faces of a Steelpan Festival – Triptych, The Kiss, Scopophilia.

Love Albert Road Day, Portsmouth, UK - Anomaly, Parallel Perception, Scopophilia.

Funked on the Fort, Spitbank Fort, Portsmouth, UK – Air, Anomaly, Parallel Perception, Scopophilia, The Kiss.

The Cool Banana Junkyard Show, The Milton Arms, Portsmouth, UK – Anomaly, Parallel Perception, Scopophilia.

Fringe, Hebden Bridge Arts Festival, Yorkshire, UK - The Kiss.

Trash art, Havana Bar, Portsmouth, UK - Air, Parallel Perception.

Pandemonium, Langstone Gate, Havant, UK - Vanishing Twin - Triptych Multi-channel Video Installation.

Tramuntana Festival, Cadaqués, Spain - The Kiss.

Voyage East, Aspex Gallery, Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth, UK - Faces of a Steelpan Festival.

2007

Festival of VideoArt "KinoLevchyk" (Cinematic Lion Club), Museum of Ideas, Lviv, Ukraine -The Kiss, Air.

Repetition Exhibition (as part of Portsmouth Screen - The City Festival of Film and Screen Based Media), Havana Bar, Portsmouth, UK - Vanishing Twin- Live Art Video Installation.

Durty Block Party Screenings at Club night, Havana Bar, Portsmouth, UK - The Kiss, Anomaly.

Engage Exhibition, Nineveh, Havant, UK – Anomaly.

April & George Wine and Martini Gallery, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA - The Kiss.

Final Cut Screening, The Hanbury Arms, Brighton, UK - The Kiss.

Uovo Di Napoli Film Festival, Napoli, Italy – Parallel Perception.

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2006

Screen South Open Day, Chichester University, Chichester, UK - The Kiss, Air.

Little House on the Cliff Edge Exhibition, Nineveh, Havant, UK - The Kiss.

Film and New Media Festival, Third Floor Arts Centre, the New Theatre Royal, John Pounds Centre and The India Arms, Portsmouth, UK - The Kiss, Air.

Digital Creatives Screening, The Wine Vaults, Portsmouth, UK - The Kiss, Air.

We Assemble Exhibition, The Grey Area Gallery, Brighton, UK - The Kiss.

Propeller TV (Sky 195) and Information TV (Sky 181) - The Kiss, Air.

The Cool Banana Junkyard Show (Screening), The Milton Arms, Portsmouth, UK - The Kiss, Air.

The Wormhole Saloon IV Exhibition, The Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK - The Kiss.

Final Cut Screening, The Hanbury Arms, Brighton, UK – Air.

The Couch Trip International Video Art Festival, Cardiff, UK – Air.

Projektor, Cafe Gallery Projects, London, UK – Air.

City Eye Hampshire in Motion, Ashcroft Arts Centre, Fareham, UK – Air.

2005

Independent Exposure, Microcinema International, San Francisco, California, USA – Parallel Perception.

Down the Pan, YAM Parlour Restaurant and Gallery, Cornwall, UK - Parallel Perception.

MAX5 Artist's Video Festival, Cafe Gallery Projects, London, UK - Parallel Perception.

Final Cut Screening, The Hanbury Arms, Brighton, UK – Parallel Perception.

Portsmouth Film and New Media Festival, UK - Parallel Perception.

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Grants, Awards and Commissions

2009

Awards For All (Lottery grant via Kino Foundation), Trimester.
Mishorts - paid-for download distribution service - Air, Parallel Perception, The Kiss.

2008

Gunwharf Quays and the Historic Dockyard, Voyage East commission - Faces of a Steelpan Festival.

Decoration from the jury (International Festival of Independent Cinematography "KinoLev") - Festival of VideoArt "KinoLevchyk", Lviv, Ukraine -The Kiss.

2007

Arts Council England (South East) – Grants for the arts - The Gloaming, Vanishing Twin- Live Art Video Installation.

National Film and Television School – Directing Actors course - The Gloaming, Vanishing Twin- Live Art Video Installation.

Screen South and the RIFE Lottery Fund via City Eye's Open Lens Awards - The Gloaming, Vanishing Twin- Live Art Video Installation.

2006

Undercover Surrealism Competition ('Best film of the week'), Hayward Gallery, London, UK – The Kiss.

Glare Media Art Resources – 1 year exclusive worldwide rental / distribution – The Kiss.

Propeller TV (Sky channel 195) - 3 year non-exclusive licence – The Kiss (collaborative), Air.

Raindance / Cacophony Music competition - Free music licensing of atmospheric drum & base track 'My Confession' by Christoph De Babalon (Digital Hardcore Recordings) – Air.

2005

'CobraVision' prize short listed for ITV terrestrial broadcast – Air.

Short listed for BBCi terrestrial broadcast - Parallel Perception.

Publications

2009

Trimester Underwater Live Performance and Video Installation, (Blurb Creative Publishing Services, September 2009)

Talks

2009

I Edition of Open Mostra of Contemporary Audiovisual Art (MADATAC), Madrid, Spain, December 2009, Guest Speaker

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Filmmaker and video artist Kye Wilson uses the moving image to blur the realms of filmmaking and video art. He uses the technical expertise of conventional narrative filmmaking combined with the experimental and unconventional approach of video art.

Kye has exhibited work in both cinematic and art gallery environments, nationally and internationally (UK, Spain, USA, and Italy).

He has acquired a variety of awards, commissions, exclusive/non-exclusive distribution deals; and his works been selected for broadcast on a variety of cable and television channels worldwide.

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Artwork Statements / Synopsis:

Trimester – 2009

Directed by Helena Eflerova and Kye Wilson

The 'Trimester' Sculptural installation by Czech artist Helena Eflerova & Kye Wilson combines video with a tactile immersive space; engaging the audience to experience Helena's exploration of an underwater weightless habitat. The live performance symbolises a narrative journey of a foetus and its interaction with the surrounding environment.

They have created this work in response to contemporary issues concerned with multi-faith views on foetus development and its capacity of memory. Proposing happy and traumatic experiences that have an affect on postnatal life.

The 'Trimester' project has advocated collaborations and synergies with other artists, scientists and organisations. The National Oceanography Centre supplied the underwater filming equipment. Help in kind and funding support was attained from Portsmouth Film Festival, lottery funding and installation equipment hire has been supplied by the Kino Foundation (via Awards for All).

There are also potential aspirations for 'Trimester' to be part of a national and international touring program to allow the artwork(s) to engage with new, vibrant and diverse audiences.

The Gloaming – 2009

Directed by Kye Wilson

As dusk falls, reality and dreams collide...

Sadie finds herself unable to leave the house, trapped inside by her own fears and anxieties. Her life begins to disintegrate as she struggles to understand what is happening to her. As day turns to night, she experiences visions that reveal a shocking truth. She is not alone.

'The Gloaming' is a 15-minute supernatural thriller, which has been devised, written and produced with an experimental aesthetic.

'The Gloaming' has been part funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and received support from Screen South and the RIFE Lottery Fund via City Eye's Open Lens Awards.

Scopophilia – 2009

Directed by Kye Wilson and Neil Hunt

As we watch images play out on a screen we become infants once again, deriving pleasure from the act of looking itself. We create self-image from seeing ourselves in relation to the body images around us and there is pleasure not only in looking - but in being 'looked at'. But what happens when the choice of the individual is removed? In an age of tabloid intrusion and reality TV excess we are reminded that the images committed to film are guided by the conscious choices of others, they are not accidental. A woman sleeps unaware of the lens which watches her every move. Are we appreciating form and beauty or are we obsessive voyeurs whose only satisfaction can come from watching a sexualised and objectified other?

Scream -2009

Directed by Kye Wilson

Echoing Edvard Munch's 'The Scream' mixed with a dreamlike idea of metamorphosis is the inspiration for this piece. The vibrating sound in this piece reminds us of an insect struggling to emerge from a cocoon or chrysalis. Tension builds as the person wriggles to bursting point as though restrained by a straight jacket. Contemporary Western lifestyle creates pressures for all of us and levels of stress and psychiatric disorders are increasing. Recovery from depression can feel like ejection from the pupa after a long period of frustration and anger.

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Vanishing Twin – 2007

Directed by Denise Callender, Neil Hunt and Kye Wilson

The modern 'cultural body' is an idealisation of physical identity and sexuality, which has inspired the creation of this site-specific video installation. The piece references classical painting and sculpture, producing female nudes to be looked at and admired. The twins or clones in this womb create a tension during their nude and organic dance opening a dialogue "What is artificial?", "Is this fantasy?", and "are these perfect woman?" Girls follow rules created by media advertising to be beautiful and successful, airbrushed portraits and bodies, perfectly reproduced and constructed, competing with each other using one false image after another. The birth of woman in this womb and portrait removes individuality and consequently their identities vanish to become a single representation of woman. Are they both gone or has one subsumed the other?

'Vanishing Twin' has been part funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and received support from Screen South and the RIFE Lottery Fund via City Eye's Open Lens Awards.

Vanishing Twin (Live Art Video Installation Documentary) – 2007

Directed by Denise Callender, Neil Hunt and Kye Wilson

The modern 'cultural body' is an idealisation of physical identity and sexuality which has inspired the creation of this site-specific video installation. The piece references classical painting and sculpture, influencing the artists in their choice of models. The girls passively follow a set of instructions delivered by the artists and become a tableau vivant staged for the audience. They are twins or clones who create a tension between their performance, and the projection of their nude and organic dance in the womb. The dialogue created asks "What is artificial?" and "Is this fantasy?" The girls follow the rules just as we unconsciously succumb to media advertising, to be beautiful and successful, perfectly reproduced, but at the risk of losing our individuality and identity. However the notion of one standardised identity is challenged as the performance progresses.

'Vanishing Twin' has been part funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and received support from Screen South and the RIFE Lottery Fund via City Eye's Open Lens Awards.

Faces of a Steelpan Festival (Faces & Triptych) – 2007

Directed by Denise Callender, Neil Hunt and Kye Wilson

The Steelpan Festival event at Gunwharf Quays in May 2007 inspired artists Denise Callender, Neil Hunt and Kye Wilson to collaborate in creating a video piece that expressed their emotional experience of the day. The intensity of the steelpanners expressions and concentration mixed with the audience's surprising seriousness, respectfulness and stillness were not expected. One aspect that was very clear was the diversity in pannists and selected tunes. The steelpan band cannot be put into a single category of sound and experience. The anticipated festival revelry replaced by intense structured dedication of the steel orchestras asks questions about the development and identity of Steelpan.

Steelpan is a widely accepted art-form and international phenomenon. Steelbands have sprung up in a number of countries ranging from Japan to Sweden. Major institutions have commenced the study of the instruments and national organizations encourage the music and provide teaching facilities. The importance of the steel drum in the emergence of world music means that it is now being enjoyed internationally. In summary, it is clear that steelpan is alive, spreading rapidly as a culture.

'Faces of a Steelpan Festival' was Commissioned by Gunwharf Quays in association with Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

Anomaly – 2007

Directed by Kye Wilson

Anomaly is a triptych of visuals exploring the pleasure of watching the organic changing light shapes that occasionally interrupted by TV static, as though life's; switched on and off. The piece engages the viewer to consider 'when is the beginning and the end?' This single-channel video installation uses (re-edited) video footage that Kye filmed with a Hi8 camcorder in 1995.

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The Kiss – 2006

Directed by Denise Callender, Neil Hunt and Kye Wilson

Inspired by dreams, nightmares and surrealist philosophy; exploring themes such as love, pain, death and rebirth. Reason and moral narrative, are ignored to allow the work to develop in both the imagination of its creators and of its audience, permitting an absence of conscious moral or aesthetic self-censorship.

Air – 2005/06

Directed by Kye Wilson

Standing at the edge of the world, a young woman contemplates suicide...

Artists Neil Hunt and Kye Wilson were inspired to collaborate on a piece of work for the Portsmouth based Sixty Second Film and Video Festival; the theme of the festival was 'Air', thus giving the work a title. The artists wanted to portray the act of suicide, in a realistic and sympathetic way. Helping raise awareness as to why people may decide to take their own life.

The artists have created a narrative driven short film with an experimental aesthetic that combines a striking montage of haunting and beautiful visuals; filmed on location at Beachy Head, near Eastbourne (since the 1600s Beachy Head has been a popular location for suicide attempts) with a poetic suicide note, based on extracts of actual suicide notes.

Parallel Perception – 2004

Directed by Kye Wilson

A woman is knocked over by a car and killed soon after escaping from an isolated psychiatric unit. Trapped in a state of purgatory, her spirit haunts the deserted country lane where her life ended, patiently waiting for an opportunity for revenge...

The artist was partly inspired to make 'Parallel Perception' as a reaction to the trauma experienced from being involved in a car accident in his early twenties. 'Parallel Perception' is an abstract experimental short film that relies heavily on visual imagery, including both text and still images, and minimal use of sound and dialogue.

'Parallel Perception' consists of three inter weaving narrative / parallel realities; continually inter linking with each other expelling the idea of a 'conventional' film narrative.