

Collective Gallery

Laura White

Anxious Glory

22 December 2010 - 6 January 2011

Collective have invited artist Laura White to Edinburgh to create a new commission which will be exhibited in our main street front window and be seen by passers-by on Cockburn Street over Christmas and New Year. The window will be lit day and night and the public will be able to view it while the gallery is closed for the holidays. This is the second year Collective have given an artist the brief to create an alternative Christmas display to be seen from the street using the gallery's window space.

Laura works primarily in sculpture and has been gathering an assortment of objects from local charity shops in Edinburgh and from the public, who were invited to immortalise their ornaments by bringing them in to Collective to be cast for the window. These objects will be cast then used to build large sculptural structures throughout the window space. Laura uses everyday materials in her practice and will be casting the ornaments and objects from heavy-duty tin foil before building the large sculptural installation directly into the window on Monday 20th December at which time people can see their objects recycled as a new but anxious spectacle.

Laura has titled the work ***Anxious Glory*** taking influence from Harold Rosenberg's notion of anxious objects and using glory to convey the meaning of spectacle, value and our relationship to them and Christmas.

Artist's Statement

'Exploring the language of sculpture Laura White uses a range of materials from everyday objects to constructed matter. She is interested in our relationship with and negotiation of the 'stuff' of the world, from the readymade to the handmade, image to objects, the representational to the abstract, playing with value, profile, association and meaning of individual and collections of objects. These objects/arrangements occupy a fluid space, on one hand demanding critical discourse, and on the other its own ambiguous, intuitive logic.

White gathers, places, arranges, manipulates, distorts and re-presents objects and stuff. Sometimes things are left untouched while other stuff is highly manipulated or crafted from scratch. The visible process of construction challenges the neutrality of the gallery, encouraging the viewer to negotiate the collision of objects and materials, making links and narratives between them.

Objects may suggest a meaning in one location/position, and then something very different in another within a single work or installation. Contradiction and confusion is key in White's work making deflections and complications within a unitary meaning to challenge and questioning our relationship and associations with the stuff of the world, whether that be those displayed in shops, homes, museums or left stranded on the pavement.'

Selected Biography

MA Fine Art, Goldsmiths, University of London. 2004.

MA Fine Art, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham.

BA (Hons) Fine Art: Sculpture. Loughborough University School of Art and Design.

Since 2006 Laura has been a lecturer in Fine Art at Goldsmiths College, University of London on the Undergraduate programme.

Collective is funded by:

