

Press Release

Again, A Time Machine

A Book Works touring exhibition in five parts

Part one, Eastside Projects, Birmingham

Opening Friday 25 February 6 to 9pm

26 February to 16 April 2011,

Open Thursday 12–6.30pm, Friday and Saturday 12–5pm

Eastside Projects

86 Heath Mill Lane

Birmingham B9 4AR

www.eastsideprojects.org

Artists are playing with words again – raiding the archive, bringing the dead to life, making the living look dead. Quicker than the ever-elusive present, they are forging a practice through words, images, books, and ephemera, that begins to anticipate the past, forecast possible histories and re-visit alternative futures.

Again, A Time Machine is a fluid tour, reinventing itself as work moves from venue to venue. Based on new commissions and archival presentations, it will generate ephemera, performance and printed material, in response to a theme that plays with and inverts notions of time, archive, distribution and received pasts and perfect futures.

New commissions for Eastside Projects sees the start of a poster project by Jonathan Monk, the reimagining of a Polish–Iranian solidarity by Slavs and Tatars, readings of Dora Garcia's *All the Stories*, artists' talks, *The Happy Hypocrite-Say What You See*: a cycle of readings hosted by An Endless Supply and Maria Fusco, and a newspaper.

Events

Jonathan Monk, Book Talk: No. 4

Saturday 26 February, 3–4.30 pm

In the spirit of 'Curating the Library' (founded by Moritz Küng at deSingel in 2003) Monk has been invited to select publications to become part of the Eastside Projects Library. Monk will discuss how each title informs his practice and his selections will be on display at Eastside Projects throughout *Again, A Time Machine*.

Payam Sharifi (Slavs and Tatars) artist's talk

Thursday 24 March, 6.30–8 pm

Payam Sharifi presents the work of the collective Slavs and Tatars, in particular the use and influence of books and printed material in their practice, with a particular focus on the archive of Iranian and Polish books used for *Again, A Time Machine*, in their installation *Dear 1979, please meet 1989*

The Happy Hypocrite — Say What You See

Co-hosted by An Endless Supply and Maria Fusco

Thursday 31 March, 6.30–10 pm

Drawing on the methodology of one of the sections from the Happy Hypocrite, An Endless Supply and Maria Fusco present a series of artists' readings and spoken word performances.

Dora Garcia artist's talk

Thursday 14 April, 6.30–8 pm

Dora Garcia and Gavin Wade discuss *All the Stories*, and future collaborations.

Again, A Time Machine reappears at *Motto*, Berlin with a *Book Works'* archive, presentation and one-night of performance with Ben Carter, Maria Fusco, Stewart Home, Katrina Palmer, Archive Books and Sternberg Books. A new commission for Sarah Pierce at the Showroom, London will start in June 2010, and is accompanied by a monthly series of spoken word and performative writing events, to include Paul Buck, Alex Cecchetti, Mark Geffriaud, Melissa Gronlund, The Happy Hypocrite, Pil And Galia Kollektiv, *Plastique Fantastique*, Kit Poulson and others. A new commission with Laure Prouvost at Spike Island, Bristol, accompanies a rethinking of *Book Works* archive and the annual 'zine fair on 8 October 2010. *White Columns*, New York will host the first retrospective of artist and writer Stewart Home. *Again, A Time Machine* makes its final appearance back at the Showroom, London in April 2012, with a final exhibition, and publication of a new anthology.

Book Works is funded by Arts Council England. This project is supported by Arts Council England Grants for the Arts; The Henry Moore Foundation; Iran Heritage Foundation; Polish Cultural Institute, and Sharjah Foundation — Sharjah Biennial 10, 2011.

Selected Biography

Book Works

Established in 1984, *Book Works* is an art commissioning organisation specialising in artists' books and projects. Dedicated to supporting new work by emerging artists, our projects are initiated by invitation, open submission, and through guest-curated projects. *Book Works* consists of a publishing and commissioning department; and a studio specialising in binding,

box-making and multiples. Our activities include publishing, a lecture and seminar programme, exhibitions, the development of an on-line archive, and artists' surgeries and workshops held by both the publishing department and the studio. Book Works is funded by Arts Council England.

Dora García

Uses the exhibition space as platform to investigate the relationship between the visitor, the artwork, and place, often drawing on interactivity and performance. Eastside Projects will host a live reading of *All the Stories*, a project attempting to enumerate all the stories of the world. Exhibiting widely, she lives and works in Barcelona.

Jonathan Monk

Works in a range of media often using methods that recall the procedure typical of Conceptual Art. His playful, tongue in cheek approach, alludes to the systems and processes of the late 60s generation, but is grounded in the commonplace, and aims at demystification of the artistic process. Previously commissioned by Book Works for *Meeting #13* in 2000 and for *Cover Version* in 2003, Monk's new commission is a poster project that accumulates from venue to venue. He lives and works in Berlin.

Slavs and Tatars

A faction of polemics and intimacies devoted to an area east of the former Berlin Wall and west of the Great Wall of China known as Eurasia. The collective's work spans several media, disciplines, and a broad spectrum of cultural registers, focusing on an oft-forgotten sphere of influence between Slavs, Caucasians and Central Asians. First commissioned by Book Works in 2008 for *Kidnapping Mountains*, this new project, which explores the possibilities of solidarity between Poland and Iran takes the form of a billboard poster, newspaper and an archival installation. Slavs and Tatars are scattered throughout Eurasia.

The Happy Hypocrite

The Happy Hypocrite is a bi-monthly journal for and about experimental art writing. First published by Book Works in 2008 and edited by Maria Fusco, who lives and works in London.

An Endless Supply

Birmingham based artists Harry Blackett and Robin Kirkham formed An Endless Supply in 2009, combining processes of self-publishing, collaboration, design and curation. Recent themes have included eyes, symbols, fan-fictions and user-generated content.