

Press Release
01 September 2009

**David Blandy's *Fortress of Solitude*
on long term exhibition at 176 / Zabłudowicz Collection**

17 September 2009 – Summer 2010

176 / Zabłudowicz Collection are pleased to announce that following the success of his inclusion in *A Tradition I Do Not Mean to Break* from July – August 2009 David Blandy's *Fortress of Solitude – Soul Archive* (2007) will stay on long term display at 176 / Zabłudowicz Collection until summer 2010.

Blandy's work reveals a personal quest for truth and authentic experience via the cultures that have shaped him. The music and legends of blues, soul, funk and hip-hop, haunt and guide his endeavours. *Fortress of Solitude – Soul Archive* (2007) is at once a library of Blandy's references and a playroom pastiche of a gallery education space or waiting room. Blandy's *Fortress of Solitude* – like Jonathan Lethem's 2003 semi-autobiographical novel – takes its name from Superman's headquarters, and the only place where the superhero can really be himself. In Lethem's novel, the fortress is Brooklyn's Dean Street, home to two teenagers, Dylan Ebdus and Mingus Rude, one white and one black, who inherit a ring that invests them with superpowers.

In Blandy's *Fortress*, colourful mass-produced furniture and neatly ordered shelves appear like a one-stop self-help shop; there is even a supportive invigilator to guide you through a Guitar Hero session or the selection of a cult novel, album, DVD or CD to 'get in to'. The room also contains cut-outs and editions of all of Blandy's video works made between 2001 and 2007. Everything you need to unpack the various meanings of Blandy's work is offered to you to read, play, listen and experience. This seminal work was acquired by the Zabłudowicz Collection in 2007

Blandy has produced a special limited edition t-shirt which is exclusively on sale at 176.

Notes to editors

The Zabłudowicz Collection is comprised of works by some of the world's most innovative and exciting emerging artists, and contains almost 2,000 artworks produced between 1947 and 2009 by over 600 artists from 49 countries. The Zabłudowicz Collection opened 176 on 20 September 2007. The gallery initiates an experimental programme of exhibitions by artists and curators working with the Zabłudowicz Collection.



176 Prince of Wales Road
London
NW5 3PT
Tel +44 (0)20 7428 8940
Fax +44 (0)20 7428 8949
info@projectspace176.com

Zabłudowicz Art Projects is a company
limited by guarantee
(company registered number 626959).
Registered charity number 1120067
Registered office 41 Dover Street
London W1S 4NS

176 / Zabłudowicz Collection visitor information

Address: 176, Prince of Wales Road, London, NW5 3PT

Opening hours: Thursday & Friday 11am-3pm,
Saturday & Sunday 11am-6pm

Admission: Free Entrance

Shop: 176 produces and sells limited edition artworks and publications and sells an expanding range of design objects. Proceeds from editions are split between the artists and 176's education programme.

Café: The Café at 176 serves tea, coffee and cakes during gallery opening hours.

Library and Resource Room: There is a bookable library and resource room available for visitors to research artists from the collection and beyond

Transport links: Chalk Farm Underground & Kentish Town West Overground Stations, 3 minutes.

Contact telephone: +44 (0)20 7428 8940

Contact email: info@projectspace176.com

Website: www.projectspace176.com

For further information and press images please contact

Philip Abraham at Sutton PR

Tel +44 (0) 20 7183 3577 or Email info@suttonpr.com



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