

MODERN ART OXFORD

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SIMON & TOM BLOOR: HIT AND MISS

1 October – 21 November 2010

For the second in a series of new commissions for The Yard, Simon & Tom Bloor will draw on influences from across art, design and architecture to transform the space at Modern Art Oxford.

The Bloors' artworks encompass a range of approaches and are developed from research into moments of Utopian potential, from political or social events to periods of art or design history. Rather than simply celebrating such moments, the Bloors attempt to playfully address the all too human flaws and failings that underpin them. Ideas and information from seemingly diverse sources are combined as starting points for something new, creating shifts in context that encourage new relationships and alternative readings.

For Modern Art Oxford the artists will create an installation from painted wooden fencing that will act in a variety of ways – as a maze-like screening structure, as a means to create intimate resting spaces within The Yard and as a support for other new works. Using a form of 'hit and miss' fencing the installation will further develop themes explored in the Bloors' previous projects that look to municipal urban and suburban architecture and landscape design, drawing on hazily familiar structural forms to explore nostalgic notions of Britain's much maligned postwar developments.

Sitting somewhere between a garden park and interior lobby the Bloors' project will be a space for visitors to explore and discover a further element of the installation in the form of a series of works on paper based on a selection of posters from Modern Art Oxford's archive. Re-imagining posters for group and solo exhibitions that included artworld luminaries such as Donald Judd, Sol Lewitt, Carl Andre and Dan Graham, the Bloors' posters will playfully engage their interest in appropriation, printed media and nostalgia, while offering up new interpretations for their fencing structures.

Showing concurrently with *Simon and Tom Bloor*, will be *Manfred Pernice*, 1 October – 21 November 2010.

ENDS

For further information and images please contact: Kayleigh Hellin, Press and Marketing Assistant, Tel. 01865 813804, Email. kayleigh.hellin@modernartoxford.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Artists:

Simon & Tom Bloor (both born 1973 Birmingham) live and work in Birmingham & London. Recent solo exhibitions include *My Native Vale*, Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle Upon Tyne; *Hey for Lubberland!* Ikon, Birmingham (2009); *As long as it lasts*, Eastside Projects, Birmingham, (2009); *Kiosk7:OudWestKiosk*, Smart Project Space, Amsterdam (with Gavin Wade), 2007; *The Ballad of Gunpowder Joe*, MOT International, London, 2007. Group exhibitions include *Oneiriography*, Green on Red Gallery, Dublin (2010) *The Lobby*, Cell Project Space, London, 2009 and Folkestone Triennial (with Nils Norman & Gavin Wade), 2008.

The Yard:

The Yard at Modern Art Oxford opened in May 2010. Working with acclaimed architects dRMM The Yard has created a new level entrance for the Gallery on St Ebbe's Street, a contemporary take on the idea of a 19th-century arcade, which brings the street into the Gallery and the Gallery into the street. The Yard will change with newly commissioned works across the year and seasonally houses the Gallery's café and bar.

dRMM:

Alex de Rijke, Philip Marsh and Sadie Morgan started dRMM, a London based studio of international architects and designers, in 1995. The practice takes pride in carrying out work that is innovative, high quality and socially useful. All of dRMM's completed projects have received critical acclaim and professional recognition. Their first project, No. one Centaur Street, won eight awards including 'RIBA London Building of the Year' and the 'AJ First Building Award'. Projects include the transformation of Kingsdale School, which set new standards in the world of education architecture, and has positioned dRMM as design leaders in the field of innovation and sustainability. dRMM recently completed a new teaching wing at Clapham Manor Primary School, offering classrooms, performance space, staff facilities, reception and improved access while maximising play space. The practice is currently designing apartment housing in London and Norway.

Exhibition Details:

Simon & Tom Bloor: Hit and Miss

Dates: 1 October – 21 November 2010

Modern Art Oxford
30 Pembroke Street

Oxford OX1 1BP

Tel: 01865 722 733

www.modernartoxford.org.uk

Gallery opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday 10am – 5pm; Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am – 10pm; Sunday 12pm – 5pm; Closed Monday

Free Admission



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