

Unrealised Potential

17 July – 12 Sept 2010

Cornerhouse, Manchester, Galleries 1, 2 & 3



Images: Brian Reed & Len Horsey, *PLANTA DE ANODIZADO*, 2010, photo by Daniel Walmsley

Featuring:

**Mike Chavez-Dawson, Unrealised Projects (Sam Ely & Lynn Harris),
Len Horsey & Brian Reed and Gavin Wade with RELAX (chiarenza & hauser & co)**

Contributing Artists:

**Franko B, Neil Cummings, Tim Etchells, Doug Fishbone, Liam Gillick, Mark Kennard,
Tom Morton, Neil Mulholland, Graham Parker, Simon Patterson,
David Shrigley, Cecilia Wee, Richard Wilson and many more...**

Cornerhouse is proud to present *Unrealised Potential*, an ambitious, collaborative group exhibition instigated by artist-curator **Mike Chavez-Dawson** featuring contributions from over 70 international artists. The show aims to explore the creative potential of artists' unrealised projects, blurring the lines between artist, curator, visitor and producer.

Gallery 1

Potential Hits + Unrealised Projects = Unrealised Potential

Mike Chavez-Dawson with artists **Sam Ely and Lynn Harris**, co-founders of *Unrealised Projects* (2003-2010), re-visit Chavez-Dawson's original project *Potential Hits* (2003), to present an amassed collection of artists unfulfilled proposals in Gallery 1, offering visitors the opportunity to purchase the right to interpret and realise an artists idea.

Entering into a binding contract and exchange of reproduction rights, visitors will be challenged with the task of investigating the production necessary to represent the potential of their chosen idea as a final artwork, within 2 years.

Proposal highlights include: **David Shrigley's** *The Paper Sculpture*, for which Shrigley outlines step-by-step instructions for making a paper sculpture; **Tom Morton's** *On the 'Wain*, which proposes to take four of John Constable's seminal works back into the landscape that inspired them by hiding them in the fields surrounding East Bergholt, for visitors to find in the dark; and **Simon Paterson's** *International Heroes*, which proposes an exchange programme of equestrian statues of various national heroes throughout the world, for example Arpad, chieftain of the Magyars in Budapest, could replace George Washington in Washington DC and vice versa.

Gallery 2

PLANTA DE ANODIZADO

Liam Gillick's unrealised proposal *PLANTA DE ANODIZADO* becomes the first realised project from *Unrealised Potential*. Liam Gillick originally proposed that all the products and services made by Mexican company LGD LUCK SA be exhibited and displayed in a gallery context. In Gallery 2, artists **Brian Reed and Len Horsey** have realised and reconceptualised Liam Gillick's original idea by transforming the space into a mock business fair pavilion, advertising the products of the Mexican company LGD LUCK SA.

Expect to be lead on an abstracted journey through this fictionalised company fair, where large-scale geometric wall paintings, derived from Mexican culture and history, corporate blue and fictionalised promotional videos, reflect the current social and commercial climate of Mexico.

"The visual language used in Liam Gillick's 'discussion platforms' seem a natural fit to use as departure for this installation, with their modular nature, formalist aesthetic and his interest in social systems."

Brian Reed

Gallery 3

Strategic Questions 2002-2010 and What is wealth?

Gallery 3 presents the first UK display of *Strategic Questions 2002-2010* curated by **Gavin Wade**, with a new commission from Zurich-based artist group **RELAX (chiarenza & hauser & co)**. This new commission features a publication and installation containing a purpose built caged depository of strategic answers, and invites visitors to participate in a process of exchange, all in response to the question *What is wealth?*

Strategic Questions 2002-2010 is Gavin Wade's ongoing curatorial project, which aims to create 40 works in response to 40 questions formulated in 1966 by renowned 20th century inventor and visionary Buckminster Fuller. Since 2002, Gavin Wade has invited artists to confront these questions, each work, resulting from the response to one question, is placed in a new publication or is developed as a site-specific work.

What is wealth? Is the 29th question to be taken from the strategic questions and considers waste as wealth. A large-scale purpose built *exchange-cage*, will house publications, videos, and pictures, which visitors can temporarily exchange a personal/valuable item (wallet, credit cards, shoes, jewellery) for. These valuable items will then be taken as a kind of deposit and displayed in place of the exchanged object inside the locked cage. Elsewhere, some possibilities of wasting time are provided in the form of a *waste-room*, for visitors to sit, read and literally lose time.

The conceptual leaping-off point for this new exhibition challenges the mainstream of contemporary art by shifting notions of value and creative production.

Exhibition Related Events

Sat 17 Jul, 15:00 – 17:00

Talk/Unrealised Potential

FREE, Booking required

The first of two discussions organised around our new exhibition *Unrealised Potential*. Artist and director of Castlefield Gallery **Kwong Lee** will chair this roundtable, bringing together **Gavin Wade** (curator), **Mike Chavez-Dawson** (artist/curator), **RELAX (chiarenza & hauser & co)**, and participating artists **Len Horsey & Brian Reed**, **Sam Ely & Lynn Harris** and **Cecilia Wee**, to explore how artists develop ideas, their relationship with audiences, methods of participation and the background behind *Unrealised Potential*.

Every Wed, 18:45

Weekly Guided Tours

FREE, Booking required, Duration 45 mins

Every week during the exhibition there will be a special choreographed tour led by **actress Amy Rudolph**. This exhilarating tour, scripted by artist **Len Horsey**, will thread together key aspects of each of the projects on show, concluding in Gallery 2, where Amy Rudolph will take on the persona of a hostess for the Mexican company LGD LUCK SA.

The tour on Wed 28 Jul will be BSL interpreted by Siobhan Rocks.

Fri 23 – Sun 25 July, 11:00-16:00

Workshop/Unrealised Potential

FREE, Booking required

A three-day practical workshop, directly exploring the transformation of an artist's unrealised idea into a fully realised artwork. This workshop, led by artist Kai-Oi Jay Yung, will provide participants with the opportunity to select an artist's unrealised proposal, investigate the production necessary to represent their chosen idea's potential and to produce a final artwork that will be exhibited at Cornerhouse in 2011.

Sat 11 Sep, 13:00-15:00

Talk/A Conversation in Many Parts:

Lisa Le Feuvre & Edgar Schmitz, with Sam Ely & Lynn Harris

FREE, Booking required

As part of the series *A Conversation in Many Parts*, initiated and curated by **Lisa Le Feuvre** (curator and writer) and **Edgar Schmitz** (artist), set-up as a mode for thinking through how intellectual work at the intersection of art and politics can be tested in public. Lisa Le Feuvre and Edgar Schmitz invite artists Sam Ely and Lynn Harris to join them for this talk, which takes the form of a nomadic seminar that seeks to think through the productive potential of conceptual work, the role of miscommunication and the question of realisation.

Support

Media partner: FLUX magazine (Manchester).

Tour

Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland (Autumn 2010)

VOID, Derry, Ireland (Spring 2011)

Press Information

For further information, images or to discuss interviews please contact:

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Notes to Editors

- For full details on the related events programme see: www.cornerhouse.org/unrealisedpotential
- A trailer for **PLANTA DE ANODIZADO** is available online at <http://www.cornerhouse.org/resources/item.aspx?ID=160>
- **Unrealised Projects** by Sam Ely & Lynn Harris is available to view online at: www.unrealisedprojects.org
- In copy please refer to **Cornerhouse** and not 'The Cornerhouse.'
- **About:** Cornerhouse is Manchester's International Centre for Contemporary Visual Arts and Film. Registered charity no. 514719. Registered company no.1681278
- **Gallery opening times:** Mon: Closed, Tue – Sat: 12.00 – 20.00, Sun: 12.00 – 18.00

CORNERHOUSE

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www.cornerhouse.org