

FUGAZI

Jasleen Kaur and Andrew Lacon
PV – Thursday 6th April 7-9pm

Division of Labour
13-19 Herald Street
Bethnal Green
London E2 6JT

Exhibition runs : 6 - 29th April Thurs – Sat 12-5pm
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Fugazi, for the first time, brings together the artists Jasleen Kaur and Andrew Lacon who both explore personal biographical responses to objects both natural / 'real' and not...

Kaur's work is an ongoing exploration into the malleability of culture and the layering of social histories within materials and objects. Refashioned objects are often based on instinct and resourcefulness, reflecting a hybridity of national custom and reconsidering the realities of materiality, usage and everyday routine. For this exhibition Kaur presents; 'Cairns 2016.' a series of three sculptures influenced by the actions of her father, who for 30 days ritualistically prepared a joth (ghee candle) and placed it on a derelict plot of land by their house within a shelter of bricks and tiles. Jasleen's family were advised by a Sikh saint to light the joth at sundown for thirty days to ward off negative energies. This project is explicitly personal to Kaur, and explores the disparity between Indian and Western rationale through an object that expresses a confluence between two cultural ideas, values and aesthetics.

Lacon's work also addresses materiality drawing on its historical and socio-political uses. Lacon embraces his earliest experiences of art from his formative years living in Dudley in the West Midlands. Here he visited municipal museums, local galleries and churches, contemporary art was experienced almost explicitly through images. This second-hand, delayed encounter with new art or art outside of the locale lead to an idea, what he describes as a failure to address the distinction between display and experience. How we take for granted photographic representation of sculptural objects and how we value materials and their attributes both functionally and conceptually. Lacon, by reclaiming and readdressing objects in relation to their display, asks us to consider how historical importance and social class has shaped our experience. Lacon will be exhibiting a series of new works influenced by a residency undertaken in Mexico, supported by the British Council and Grand Union in Birmingham.

Bios

Jasleen Kaur (b.1986) is a Scottish Indian artist based in London. Brought up in a traditional Sikh household in Glasgow works across the UK and internationally with recent commissions including the Victoria & Albert Museum, Baltic 39 Figure Three and Art on the Underground. Her work is part of the permanent collection of the Royal College of Art and Crafts Council. Recent commissions and projects include 'Production Show, Eastside Projects, Birmingham (2017); 'Collecting Europe' Victoria and Albert Museum, London (2017); 'Objects of Transcendence' Watermans, London, (2017); 'The Tending of Something' Solo Show with FCA&C, St Andrews (2016); 'Crafting the Line' Art on the Underground, London (2016); 'The Thing With Maltasingh' Gallery SO, London (2016); 'Floor, Wall, Garage, Magazine Rack' Solo Show, Hantverk & Found, Margate (2016); '100 for 100' Ben Uri: Past, Present & Future, Christie's, London (2016); 'Jasleen Kaur at my mum's house' Sunridge Avenue Projects, Luton, London (2016); 'Unexpected' Ben Uri Gallery, London (2016); 'Baltic39 Figure Three' Baltic 39, Newcastle (2016); 'Jerwood Makers Open 2015', Jerwood Space, London (2015); 'Migrations' KANEKO Centre, Nebraska, NCAD Gallery, Dublin, ADspace, Sydney (2015). She is a graduate of the Glasgow School of Art (2008) and Royal College of Art (2010).

Andrew Lacon (b.1985) is an artist based in Birmingham (UK) and graduated from the Royal College of Art, London in 2011. Through working materially, Andrew embraces his experiences of art in his formative years, where municipal museums and galleries and churches were his encounters, and contemporary art was experienced almost explicitly through images. Currently working with marble and its historic and social meaning, Andrew uses the 'lost' sculptural concerns such as weight, material and surface as a starting point for his work. The use of colour within a contemporary and historical context informs his practice and palette for which his sculptures are formed. The failure to address the distinction between display and experience, and the photographic representation of sculptural objects, lead Andrew's desire for working with archives and traditional ideas of dissemination and display. Recent exhibitions and projects include: Image Music Text, IMT, London, 2016; After, Division of Labour, London, 2016; Radical Sabbatical, Eastside Projects and University of Birmingham, 2016; Research Residency, Soma, Mexico (British Council & Grand Union), 2015; Display Show, Temple bar Gallery, Dublin, 2015; Andrew Lacon (Solo show), Edel Assanti, London, 2015. Andrew is represented by Division of Labour. Alongside his practice, Andrew runs the artist led project Recent Activity with artist Andrew Gillespie. Recent Activity is currently opening a new project space in Birmingham following a year of nomadic projects.

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@_jasleenkaur_ @andrewlacon @laconandrew



Jasleen Kaur, *Cairns* (2016)

Touch lamp, found rubble, brick, chrome plated component, sand, artificial rock

Above: Baltic59, Newcastle.



Andrew Lacon, *Marble Stack* (2016)
Marble, steel cable-tie, Mexico



Andrew Lacon, Solo show with *Division of Labour* at Edel Assanti, London (2015)
Marbled (2014)