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TOMMY GRACE

Tommy Grace's work is a play of opposites, balancing extraordinary draftsmanship with messy gesture. His paintings of imagined ruins are meticulously drawn from Classical architecture but swim beneath the random stains of Rorschach inkblots. In other works on paper, exquisite geometric patterns are skillfully corralled from a testing combination of red wine and blotting paper. Grace's interest in unorthodox materials – red wine, fizzy drinks, E numbers and such – also marks a point of intersection between his individual practice, and the collaborative works he makes with partner Kate Owens. Taking the disposable detritus of our everyday, consumer-driven lives and playfully combining it with historical reference they both explore the legacy and lifespan of things, considering current visual culture through that of the past.

Grace was born in Edinburgh in 1979 and graduated from Edinburgh College of Art in 2002. He currently lives and works in London. Owens & Grace were co-founders and curators of influential artist run gallery The Embassy in Edinburgh from 2003-2006. Grace has already exhibited widely, both individually and collaboratively, including: *Young Athenians* at Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh (2006); *Destroy Athens* 1st Athens Biennale (2007); *I can't live without...* The Showroom, London (2007) and a solo show, *Dummy* at Ingleby Gallery in 2009. In 2010 Grace exhibited at the Jerwood Space, London; S1 Artspace, Sheffield and at the Mackintosh Museum, Glasgow School of Art. Grace & Owens made a site-specific work at Ingleby Gallery for *Gravity's Rainbow*, a group show in Spring 2011.

Biography

1979	Born in Edinburgh, UK
1997-1998	Portfolio Course, Leith School of Art, Edinburgh, UK
1998-2002	BA (Hons) Painting, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, UK
2003-2006	Co-founder/director of artist-run space, The Embassy, Edinburgh, UK
2006	Nominated for Becks Futures
2007	Nominated for Open Frequency

Lives and works in London

Solo Exhibitions

2009	<i>Dummy</i> , Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
2004	<i>The Rose Tattoo</i> , Collective Gallery, Edinburgh, UK <i>Ambush at Lovers' Rock</i> , Aurora, Edinburgh, UK

Group Exhibitions

2014	<i>This is our Music - This is our Art.</i> , David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
2013	<i>RIFF/T : RIFF 12</i> , BALTIC 39, Newcastle upon-Tyne, UK (-2014) <i>Works on Paper</i> , i8 Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland <i>Zero Gravity</i> , Less Is More Projects, Paris, France
2012	<i>Young British Art II</i> , curated by Ryan Gander and Christina von Rotenhan at Dienstgebäude, Zurich, Switzerland

- 2011 *Gravity's Rainbow*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2010 *Fifteen: 15 years of SI Artspace*, SI Artspace, Sheffield, UK
Restore Us And Regain, Mackintosh Museum, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, UK
Ersatz Objects, SI Artspace, Sheffield, UK
Jerwood Contemporary Painters 2010, Jerwood Space, London, UK (touring)
- 2008 *A Colour Box*, Arcade, London, UK
The Boethian Slip, Generator Projects, Dundee, UK
- 2007 *Tommy Grace & Kate Owens*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
Young Athenians (re-staged as part of 1st Athens Biennale *Destroy Athens*), Greece
BMCA @ Year 07, County Hall, London, UK
I can't live without... Showroom Gallery, London, UK
- 2006 *Young Athenians*, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, UK
Four, Collins Gallery, Glasgow, UK
In-Residence, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, UK
- 2005 *Function Form Follows*, Cooper Gallery, Dundee, UK
The Garden, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK
Conquests and Techniques: A Synthesis, The Ship Gallery, London, UK
- 2004 *Expo '04*, The Lowry, Manchester, UK
Amaryllis Sillyrama, Glasgow Sculpture Studios Gallery, Glasgow, UK
Thunder in Paradise, Glasgow Project Rooms, Glasgow, UK
- 2003 *Win Together Lose Together Play Together Stay Together*, temporary gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2002 *Jessie Phillips You're Mine to Kill*, K.Jacksons, Edinburgh, UK

Selected Publications

Young Athenians, Susannah Thompson, Art Review, Dec 2006
Young Athenians, Gary Flockart, The Scotsman, Oct 2006
Beck's Futures Catalogue 2006, Nominated Artists, Mar 2006
The Garden, Robert Clark, The Guardian, Aug 2005
Your Colours are All the Wrong Shape, Neil Mulholland, Product, Dec 2004
Best in Show, Neil Mulholland, The Scotsman, May 2003

Curation

Young Athenians, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, UK, Oct-Nov 2006
The Shadow Cabinet, Video and Performance Event, ECA Sculpture Court, Edinburgh, UK, Mar 2005
This Years Models, The Embassy, Edinburgh, UK, Feb 2005