

EXHIBITION



ANDRÉ STITT SUBSTANCE

4 OCTOBER – 29 NOVEMBER 2008

Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Stitt is considered one of Europe's foremost performance and interdisciplinary artists. He has worked as an experimental artist since 1976 creating hundreds of unique works at major galleries, festivals, alternative venues and specific sites throughout the world.

Substance foregrounds works which provide valuable insight into Stitt's diverse studio practice, including performance scores, drawings, prints, objects and ephemera. The exhibition will provide a unique opportunity to view works produced prior to Stitt's performances - works which inform his public acts, along with the non public side of his practice; works which are normally hidden from view, including a significant number of pieces which have never been displayed before.

This exhibition will be accompanied by a new publication and will be touring to gtGallery, Belfast in 2009.



The exhibition will begin with a wall of posters promoting Stitt's performances from the early years to the current day. These are significant, not only in providing a pictorial snapshot of the artist's performance work but also as the only works in the exhibition where, in photographic form, the artist's physical presence is shown.

The main gallery space will be occupied by artefacts from past performances, objects steeped in meaning from what Stitt refers to as 'akshuns', over the years, that form the main visual reference to an archive in the exhibition. Alongside these lie the residue of performances from the past, objects charged with meaning and history, no more so than the 'dog-tags', a series of engraved military identity tags worn by the artist in performances from 1999–2007.

In recent years there has been a renewed interest in performance coming out of a visual arts context, and Spacex is pleased to have the opportunity to work with Stitt and present his work in a gallery environment.

Cover:

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EVENTS & PROJECTS

GALLERY

Saturday Tours 17, 24, 31 May, 7, 14, 21, 28 June and 12 July, 3pm. Free, no need to book. Informal tour of the exhibition with a member of Spacex staff or invited guest.

Museums at Night Saturday 17 May. The gallery will be open until 10pm as part of the Museum and Galleries Month.

Gallery Breakfast Friday 23 May, 8–10am. Free, no need to book. Join us for breakfast and visit the exhibition at the same time.

Artist's Talk Saturday 5 July, 2pm. Free, booking essential. Artist Axel Antas in conversation with writer and curator Liz Wells.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Contemporary Art Secondary School Tour Thursday 26, Friday 27 June, Thursday 3, Friday 4, Thursday 10 and Friday 11 July. £1/Up to 30 students. A fantastic opportunity for schools to visit *Structures for the unseen*, as well as two other contemporary visual arts venues in the Exeter area. You will be accompanied by a guide who will introduce your group to the three exhibitions in three very different venues: Exeter Phoenix, Spacex and CCANW. For more information and to book contact Johanna on 01392 832277 or email j.korndorfer@ccanw.co.uk

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Artclub Saturdays 17, 24, 31 May and 7, 14, 28 June, 10am–12pm, £3.00 per session. 8–11 yr olds are invited to join Spacex Artclub. This summer we will be working on a special project looking at birds, the resulting artwork will be on show at Exeter's busy Central Station. Please call to register.

Children's Workshop: Build a Brilliant Bird Box Thursday 29 May, 10am–4pm and Saturday 21 June, 11am–4pm, 8–13 yr olds, £10 (£5 conc), booking essential. Can you design and make a sculpture which doubles up as a home for a bird? Architect Robert Brown and designer Toshiko Terazono will lead these exciting workshops taking place at Spacex and CCANW.

Family Activity Day 12 July, 1–4pm. Free, no need to book. Creative activities for toddlers, children and adults, this is a great way to explore the art and ideas within the exhibition.

Art Trolley Free, no need to book. Pick up a free children's activity bag from the trolley in the atrium and get creative in the gallery.

For further details and booking information, please contact Hannah Reeves on 01392 431 786 or email education@spacex.org.uk