

PRESS RELEASE

Material Conjectures**Asymmetrical Cinema** with **Amanda Beech** and **Alan Clarke**

15 May – 8 June 2013

Wednesday-Saturday 11am–5pm

Asymmetrical Cinema: Interval – Friday 31 May, 6-8pm: a special event as part of SLAM LAST Fridays

...From beneath his overcoat the man produces a sawn off shotgun. BANG! Nearby forceful words in upper case and images of brutal architectures replace each other on a screen. Over this is a conversation between two protagonists through which the asymmetry of culture and nature is exposed. Later the frames are solarised...Indifferent to the auditory force of its neighbour; silently a series of 111 bullet points are presented...This is 'Asymmetrical Cinema'. Material Conjectures¹.

Material Conjectures is the co-authored project of artist **Dale Holmes** and curator **Kirsten Cooke** and **Asymmetrical Cinema** the title of their new exhibition. Conceived for Beaconsfield's Arch Gallery, discrete sculptural structures augment the existing architecture of the space, as well as providing surfaces that act as projection screens for a programme of films. **Asymmetrical Cinema** draws from the debates surrounding the real in art and presents a material philosophy to challenge the systemic nature of image consumption.

Asymmetrical Cinema: Act 1 – 15 –31 May – will screen Alan Clarke's film *Elephant* (1989) on a continuous loop, whilst Amanda Beech's video work *Sanity Assassin* (2010) is shown at timed intervals.

Asymmetrical Cinema: Interval – 31 May – celebrates and launches Material Conjectures' publication *Asymmetrical Cinema*. The *Interval* is an intervention between the exhibition's two Acts. The event marks the closing of *Asymmetrical Cinema: Act 1* and the opening of *Act 2*.

Asymmetrical Cinema: Act 2 – 31 May to 9 June – will feature two new projections by Material Conjectures, *Solar Elephant* (2013) and *Black Plastic* (2013) presented in response to Act 1. Amanda Beech's *Sanity Assassin* and Alan Clarke's *Elephant* will continue to be available on the Canteen Gallery's FlatScreens.

Though we generally assume that impact is mutual, and that every action has an equal and opposite reaction, these suppositions arise from a narrowly physical concept of causation. As I see it there is no such thing as reciprocity; influence is never mutual, but always leads in one direction...²

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¹ Material Conjectures was formed in response to a collection of agreements and disagreements located in art, politics and philosophical realisms. Previous collaborations include *Act 3: In which the Standardizer and the Adhocist first encounter the Absolutist* (2013) a performance paper delivered at the conference, *Performance Philosophy* at the University of Surrey in April 2013 and *The Matter of Contradiction: War against the Sun* at Limehouse Townhall March 2013 and *Turbulent Surfaces 2 part II: One Dimensional Disco* (2012) at Kynastonmcshine, Deptford, as part of the series of events *Turbulent Surfaces*.

² Graham Harman, *Asymmetrical Causation: Influence without Recompense*, Parallax, 2010, vol.16, no. 1