

Fowler, Martin (2016) Brecht and the village of Figgate. In: National Association for Fine Art Education: Research Practice Practice Research symposium, 15 July 2016, University of Cumbria, Lancaster, UK. (Unpublished)

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Abstract for NAFAE Research Practice Research symposium
July 2016.

'Brecht and the Village of Figgate':

A critical contextualization of the origins and uses of a cultural materialist theory and the aesthetic strategies informing a series of consciously satiric, 'counter-hegemonic' paintings.

'Because cultural theory is about the way in which the specifics of works relate to structures which are not the works.'

Raymond Williams, 'Media, Margins and Modernity', Politics of Modernism, p. 185.

In this analysis I will discuss the efficacy of Brechtian theory within the creation of contemporary satiric paintings. The presentation will analyse Brecht's critique of aesthetics, the application of the dialectic and the attempted creation of a 'New Realism' within contemporary art production.

References:

Willett, J. (1987) 'Brecht on Theatre, The Development of an Aesthetic', Hill and Wang, New York.

Biography:

Graduated from Glasgow School of Art in 1994.

Graduated from Winchester School of Art MA European Fine Art in 1995.

Art Lecturer, Scottish Prison System, 2000-2006.

Senior Lecturer in Fine Art, Institute of the Arts, University of Cumbria, 2006 – present.

Currently in Yr. 2 of PhD at Institute of the Arts, University of Cumbria.

Exhibitions:

'The Tension of a Line: A Portrait of Perth Prison', solo exhibition, Perth City Art Gallery & Museum, 2010.

'Scotland the Brave: A Concise History of Scotland from 1514-2014', solo exhibition, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, 2014.

'Still Future II', Group exhibition, The Dick Institute, Kilmarnock, 2016.

Publications:

'The Tension of a Line: A Portrait of Perth Prison', Unipress, 2010.

'Scotland the Brave: A Concise History of Scotland from 1514-2014',
Unipress, 2014.