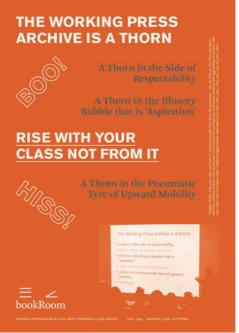
BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

Art / Activism / working (with) archive



Artists Liberation, manifesto (A4) Stefan Szczelkun (WP, 1986))



RISE WITH YOUR CLASS NOT FROM IT (bookroom press, 2016)

22nd September to 6th November 2016 Elaine Thomas Library UCA Farnham

Katharina Becker, Elodie Duncan-Duplain & Annie Haggarty, Catinca Malaimare, Susan Merrick, Iana Mizguina, Oriyomi Oladunjoye, Tom Ridgway, Mason Terrill

An exhibition of photographs, collages, videos and performances produced by a group of students (Photography, Graphic Design, Illustration, Fine Art) during **Stefan Szczelkun**'s creative residency with bookRoom in May 2016. They responded to the **Working Press books by and about Working Class Artists, 1986-1996** archive under the guidance of the creator of the archive (Stefan Szczelkun), the archivist (**Rebekah Taylor**) and publisher/curator of the project (Emmanuelle **Waeckerlé**). They explored identity politics (class, gender, diversity, disability) from personal, historical and current perspective.

The exhibition also contains elements from the Working Press archive that students responded to, as well as a new bookRoom press publication *RISE FROM YOUR CLASS NOT FROM IT*.

The **Working Press** archive housed in UCA library focuses on a collective publishing imprint that includes the early works of artists such as Graham Harwood and Illustrator Clifford Harper. This imprint includes the first computer generated comic (If Comix, Harwood), the first book by Micheline Mason (Nothing Special) and one of the few books about Greenham Common (Greenham Common women's peace camp: a history of non-violent resistance, 1984-1995) by Beth Junor with illustrations by Katrina Howse.



Where will you find my gaze? Catinca Malaimare

List of works

Democracy In The Kitchen

Annie Haggarty and Elodie Duncan-Duplain (Photograhy year 3) Single screen video, 25 mins – 4 photographs

We found that often we fell between the apparently rigid boundaries that separate social classes. We don't recognise ourselves as working class or as middle class instead we feel that aspects of both apply to our lives as they change.

Response to: Lucey, Helen 'Democracy in the Kitchen' From Class, Identity and Culture Conference File, Working Press Archive Ref: WPA SS/10/2,

Where will you find my gaze?

Catinca Malaimare (Fine Art year 2)d

Single screen video, 5'36 – 3 digital collage prints

Glamour is a form of visual persuasion, it is cultural and thus, deceptive. Glamour, as visual activity, forces the eye into a compliant gaze constructed by repetition and the absence of it leaves the eye without purpose, forced into chaotic repetition.

Response to: 52 Glamour Cards (Class, Myths and Culture), Working Press.

Random Access

Iana Mizguina (Photograhy year 2)

2 digital collages prints

Random screenshots made on my phone mixed with quotes from a Working Press pamphlet. I find most of the messages still relevant nowadays and represent an on going search for truth.

Response to: Random Access Memory Raids WP pamphlet, an agitational left wing

booklet made by Conscious Collective in early 90s.

Postcards form Palestine

Katharina Becker (Photograhy year 2)

7 postcards, one collage

combining extract from *Postcards from Poland* with documents of the current occupation of Palestine, highlighting shared struggles, desire for freedom and struggle for identity. (I took the images of Palestine as a German Jew during a volunteer year in Palestine.)

Response to: Postcards from Poland by MARIA JASTRZEBSKA and JOLA SCINCINSKA, Working Press

5 Blog Posts

Susan Merrick (MA Fine Art)

Video installation with single screen video, 8.52

I am interested in the power of language in my work and by connecting images of my second hand clothes and the thought process of displaying these I want to consider the relevance of class identity today.

Response to:Szczelkun, S. Class Myths and Culture (1990) Working Press Szczelkun, S. The Consiracy of Good Taste (1993) (Working Press)

Everybody holds a story

Tom Ridgway (Photograhy year 2)

small publication on a shelf - 42 6x4 framed photographs with text

This collection of photographs and stories were gathered in response to a request and a questionnaire I sent by post and by email to many people, as a take on 21st century mail art and to explore how we choose to represent ourselves through childhood memories and family snaps.

Response to: From Class, Identity and Culture Conference File, Working Press Archive Ref: WPA SS/10/2,

Story

Oriyomi Oladunjoye (illustration year 2)

Screen printed T-shirts and a collage

The solitary word "story" invites the viewer to decide what the image actually means. The work is about the personal choices we make in terms of career path as well as the self-sacrifices we make in order to survive or succeed.

Response to; Fuller, Matthew (1992) Flyposter Frenzy and Random Access Memory Raids WP pamphlet

Rise with your class

Mason Terrill (Graphic Design graduate)

A3 poster

based on a recent publication entitled *Rise With Your Class Not From It*, featuring a catalogue of Working Press pamphlets, zines, publications by and about working-class artists.