

RACE FOR THE PRIZE

PAUL LEWTHWAITE, GEOFF DIEGO LITHERLAND & JONATHAN GILLIE



EXHIBITION DATES 14th – 24th October 2010

OPEN: THURS – SUN, 12 – 5pm

PRIVATE VIEW: Thursday 14th SEPTEMBER 7 – 9pm

THE WASP ROOM, 17a Huntingdon St, Nottingham, NG1 3JH

The Wasp Room & Max Warburg Space present the group exhibition Race For The Prize. This collaborative endeavour seeks to expose confluences that have arisen in the artists' recent work and future direction, which will result in a series of explorative exhibitions.

The artists' practices are rooted in an ongoing investigation with the processes and formal elements inherent to the media of sculpture, painting and moving image. This understanding of history and technique is not the only overlap in the artists' work. Recently they have been drawn to the imagery and narratives found within the genres of science fiction. By appropriating these ideologies, which often have pseudo-religious undertones and apocalyptic prophecies, they seek to create an interchange between fantasy and stark reality.

The works aim to exploit the way sculpture and painting can manifest the abstract and intangible into something bordering on reality. Lewthwaite's sculptures are assembled from laboriously crafted components and ready-made objects. Their stage set qualities and odd forms play with illusions of interpretation, highlighted by the choice of materials and peculiar surface treatments. Litherland's paintings emerge from dark, geometric backgrounds where painterly abstractions jostle with 3D forms to generate awkward compositions that aspire to enlighten yet offer little resolution.

Together the artworks create an 'out of the ordinary' and slightly uncanny atmosphere in the gallery space. Vivid primary and fluorescent colours combine with muted ochres. The detritus of semi-recognisable forms and shapes are laid out ready to be reassembled by the audience.

The exhibition at The Wasp Room is complimented by the digital animations of Jonathan Gillie, whose work references current aesthetics in the visual, as well as the musical avant-garde. His animations are heavily layered compositions in which process and precision play an equal role to instinct and experiment. Attempting to visualize current thinking in science, electronic music and moving image he produces an imagined, exotic environment, as familiar as it is alien and as mechanical as it is organic.

BIOGRAPHIES

Paul Lewthwaite has exhibited extensively in an international context. He has produced commissioned large-scale permanently sited sculptures throughout Britain. As well as winning several awards, Paul is an Elected Associate of the Royal British Society of Sculptors and Associate Lecturer in Fine Art at the University of Nottingham. More information at www.paullewthwaite.com

Geoff Diego Litherland has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. Recognition to date has included being selected for the John Moores 25 Painting prize at the Walker Gallery in Liverpool and winning the 2008 Nottingham Castle Open. Geoff is currently an Associate Lecturer in Fine Art at Nottingham Trent University and is undertaking a part-time MFA in Fine Art at Goldsmiths University of London. More information at www.geoffdiegolitherland.com

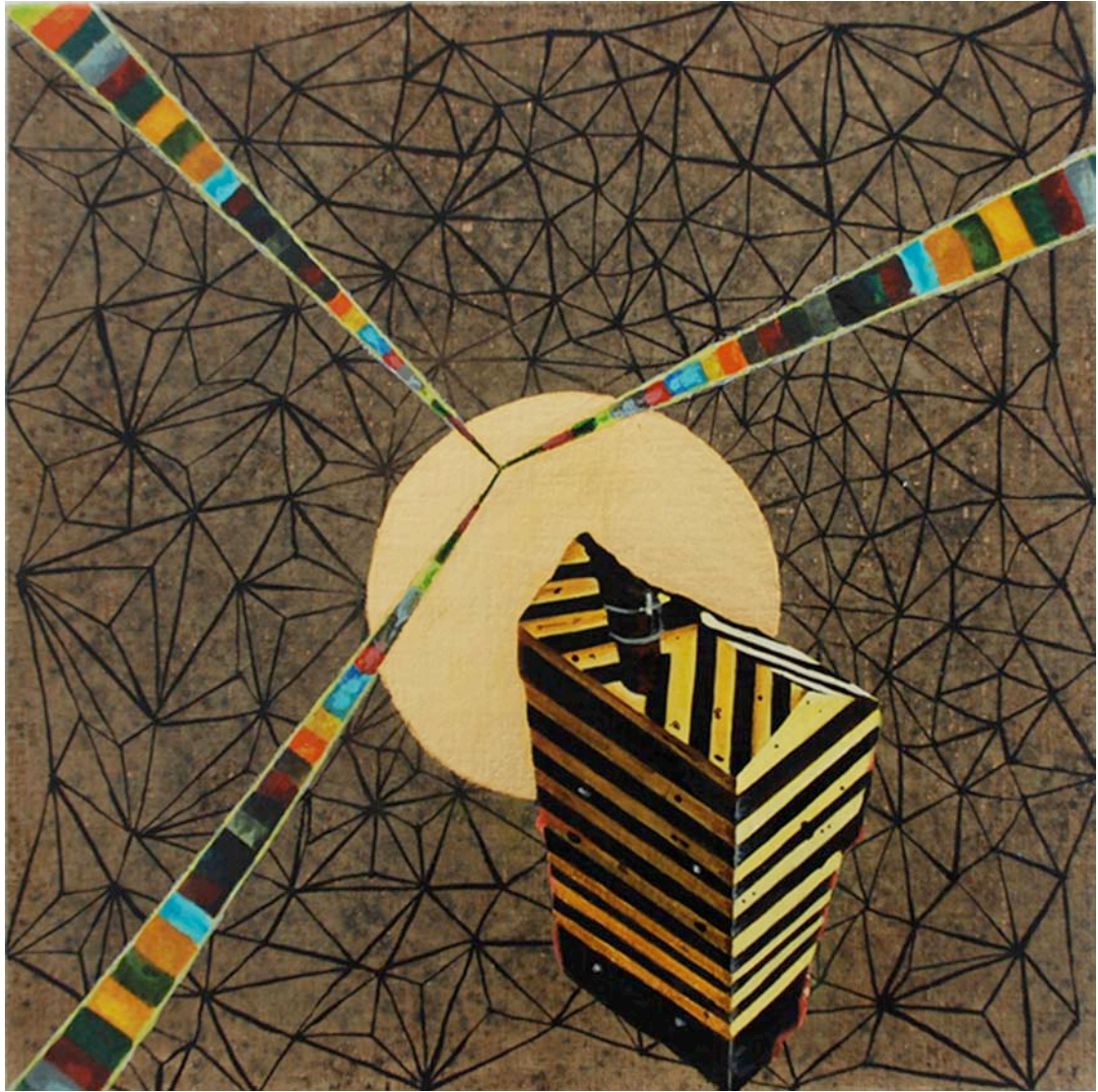
Jonathan Gillie graduated from Nottingham Trent University in 1997, after which he formed av_dv with Jim Boxall, exhibiting their live visual work in Italy, Austria, Greece and Finland as well as the UK. His current practice is centred on digital animation and sound production with a particular interest in symbolic depictions of scientific and cultural phenomena. Race for the Prize marks the first exhibition of his animated work. More information at www.vimeo.com/jonathangillie

The Wasp Room aims to introduce new artists to Nottingham by exhibiting local, national and international contemporary artwork. The gallery is open Thursday to Sunday, 12-5pm, or by appointment. The Wasp Room is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

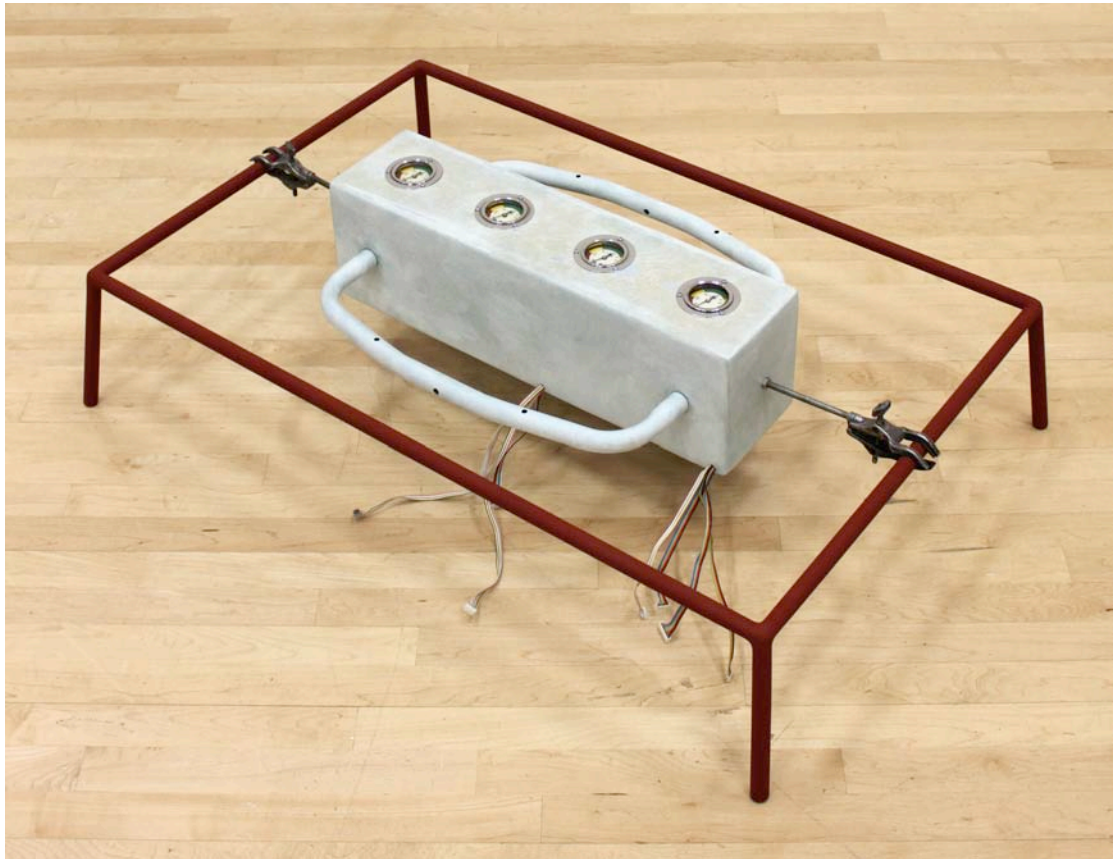
The Wasp Room, 17a Huntingdon St, Nottingham, NG1 3JH

For further information please contact Tether on 07729 124 336. For press enquiries email enquiries@tether.org.uk or visit the website www.thewasproom.co.uk

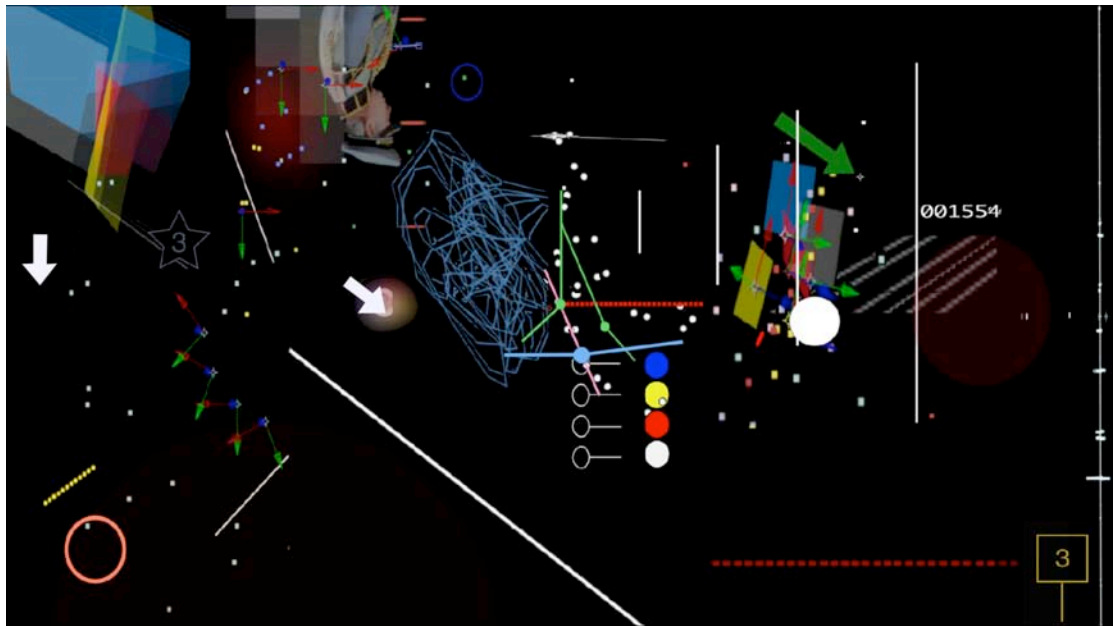




Geoff Diego Litherland – Transmission Impossible, 2010



Paul Lewthwaite – The Seemingly Magical Power of Science, 2010



Jonathan Gillie – Multiples, 2010