

MORE WORK FOR THE UNDERTAKER

SAM DARGAN



EXHIBITION DATES 12TH NOVEMBER – 6TH DECEMBER

OPEN: THURS – SUN, 1 – 6pm

PRIVATE VIEW: TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 6 – 8pm

THE WASP ROOM

Tether Studios, 17a Huntingdon St, Nottingham, NG1 3JH

Tether are delighted to present Sam Dargan's first solo exhibition in Nottingham, 'More Work For The Undertaker' at The Wasp Room.

Often responding to cinematic imagery and 20th Century literature as well as popular culture (referencing the music of the Fall and Half Man Half Biscuit amongst others) and more recently the melancholy and underlying savagery of photographic reportage, Dargan's paintings are infused with contemporary commentary. Reminiscent of imagery seen in daily newspapers and depicting scenes and props from unrealised revolutions, these fragmented narratives are packed with hostility; commenting in part on the imbalance of power systems and the inherent paranoia that imbues conspiracy theories.

Disillusioned and listless revolutionaries linger in numb resignation, whilst abused figures in the aftermath of physical harm fathom their lot. Often bound, gagged, bruised or scarred, they exist in a world in which meaning has been lost and ideals have failed. Though their plight is tragic, it is not without a sense of humour. Like Mel Brooks once said "Tragedy is when I cut my finger. Comedy is when you fall down an open manhole cover and die".

For the exhibition, Dargan will be presenting a mixture of new and old works and a specially produced limited edition publication, which will be available from the gallery during the private view, or upon request.

The Wasp Room is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

Sam Dargan graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2002 and is represented by Rokeby, London. He was nominated for the John Moores Painting Prize in 2008 and in 2006 won The 16th Mostyn Prize. His work has been exhibited regularly throughout the UK and beyond and is in several international collections. Recent exhibitions include 'Burth of a Nayshun' at Rokeby, London; 'The Golden Record' at Collective Gallery, Edinburgh; 'John Moores 25' at Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool.



Sam Dargan – 20's 30's Powderkeg Europe; 2009

The Wasp Room Gallery aims to introduce new artists to Nottingham by exhibiting local, national and international contemporary artwork. The gallery is open Thursday to Sunday, 1-6pm, or by appointment.

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

For further information please contact Tether on 07729124336. For press enquiries email enquiries@tether.org.uk or visit the website www.tether.org.uk



Sam Dargan – Britain's Mr Evil; 2006



Sam Dargan – One Man Mexican Wave, 2008