DAMIAN GASCOIGNE

Sweet Air/Still Fast

2013 | NG Gallery, Chippendale; Beams Arts Festival

*Sweet Air*, a solo exhibition of line drawings (NG pop-up Gallery, Chippendale, Sydney, 22 August–13 September) and *Still Fast* a site-specific animation are situated within the field of contemporary visual communication and design.

There has been a resurgence of interest in drawing in recent years as testified by the activities of research centres such as The Drawing Room, London and The Drawing Centre, New York. Evaluations of hand drawing continue to have relevance in light of developments in digital technology.

*Sweet Air* comprised a collection of 400 black and white line drawings on paper, with key visual motifs and icons developed through multiple iterations. The investigation resulted in the development of a personal, visual lexicon; playful, pictographic symbols to represent both ordinary and life-changing experiences. The work also addressed questions relating to the experience of drawing, both as an activity and as a form of communication. Animation filmmaker Norman McLaren has spoken of the space between frames. A key focus was not only the simplification of form through line but also the use of negative space.

*Still Fast*, a drawn animation, builds on the iconography developed in *Sweet Air*. Gesture and mark making are investigated further through the animation process. Specifically, *Still Fast* explores movement languages for animation beyond conventional story telling forms, the evidence of rough, inaccurate and unpredictable line work becomes amplified across time.

*Still Fast* was selected for inclusion in the multi-disciplinary BEAMS arts festival, 2013.
DAMIAN GASCOIGNE
Sweet Air/Still Fast

Installation view, detail
Installation view, detail
Damian Gascoigne
Sweet Air/Still Fast

Beams Festival installation view and detail
Damian Gascoigne
Sweet Air/Still Fast

Beams Festival installation detail
Video file of a short sequence from the full work.
(Click on screen to activate)
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UTS ACADEMICS EXHIBITION SERIES
NG ART POP-UP GALLERY ON BROADWAY

DAMIAN GASCOIGNE: SWEET AIR
OPENING TONIGHT 6 - 8PM

Just a blink away, there is an amazing story happening! The NG Art Pop-Up Gallery, our second space is showcasing a series of 8 exhibitions presented by UTS: Faculty of Design with works by its top academic practicing artists! Join us for the latest exhibition titled Sweet Air by Damian Gascoigne, to be opened by Head of the UTS: Faculty of Design Professor Lawrence Wallen at NG Art Pop-Up Gallery on Thursday 22nd August 6 - 8pm.

Vivid and eclectic collections of fine drawings and icons repeating and distilled as a new lexicon. The body is featured extensively - skeleton, muscle and tendon, heart and lungs. A reflection on the fragility of human existence, Damian Gascoigne is pulled in by the body's extraordinary complexity, sometimes so robust and at others so delicate.

To enquire about purchasing artwork, please call 9318 2992

Supported by Chairman of Fraser's Property Australia Dr. Stanley Greek, the NG Art Pop-Up Gallery is a fantastic showcase for talent in Sydney and is located front and centre on Sydney's Broadway! Why not catch some art on your daily commute?

Directions to NG Art Pop-Up Gallery - see the map

NICK STATTHOPOULOS
EXHIBITION: TOY PORN 3

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Supporting evidence
Damian Gascoigne’s artwork of an animated abstract material, constantly shifting and crisis crossing will be projected upon the e wall in Chippendale. With hand drawn continually opposing forces, he conveys section of Utopia with a floating bird arising, and from the chaos.

This project follows on from the success of previous years’ work for Beams in 2012 (Let England Rise) and 2013 (Still Fast). Site specific animations were produced in response to the Chippendale streetscape, exploring themes of alienation and wonder. In response to the Utopia bird I intend to choose a simple wall corner site and create a new animation that plays visual games with the corner itself. Animated abstract hand drawn material will crisis cross and become blocked by the planes of the wall, opposing forces at work that will occasionally resolve into a figurative sequence of a single bird in flight. The visual resolution of the hand drawn bird will represent a fleeting Utopia, a corner turned, an agreement reached.

Damian Gascoigne, Turning a corner, 2014