

DEAN WHATMUFF: NEVER SAW THAT COMING

Artist Dean Whatmuff has lived in East London for 25 years; originally using a Blackberry Smartphone on his bus journeys to work, he began photographing how sunlight caught the tops of buildings. Over the last five years Whatmuff has sought to uniquely record this often un-regarded pictorial skyline.

'Never Saw That Coming' is the result of Dean Whatmuff's epic London wide quest to find sky-bound abstraction, Whatmuff uniquely takes the congestion of the brick and glass, the chimneys and church spires of London's roofline and directly seeks to make the impossible possible: The resulting pictures are, if you like, blueprints, imaginings of three-dimensional sculptures that can never be made. They are in every sense epic fantasy sculptures that are beyond physical realisation.

'Never Saw That Coming' is an extraordinary series of 'photo-sculptural constructions,' which are an irreverent challenge- via photography- of the established three-dimensional sculptural realisation of light, shape, texture. These puzzling rooftop observations that seemingly float freely in the sky can be seen as anthropomorphic playful abstractions, however Whatmuff's prime concern is, what he terms, the generation of 'impossible sculptural forms'. This series of 20 truly astonishing images will be on exhibition from July 31st- September 10th. *Private view, 18.30- 21.00pm, Thursday 31st July, 2014.*

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ABOUT DEAN WHATMUFF

Dean Whatmuff graduated from Newcastle with a B.A in Fine Art; followed by a Sculpture M.A at the Slade Art School (1986). Whatmuff, known for his 'post-modern viewpoint, has previously been collected by Charles Saatchi & Stevie Wonder; has exhibited internationally and he has shown with Mario Fletercha Gallery London.

Whatmuff's art is to collect observations: sampling differing social anthropologies, such as pop lyrics, and re-rendering them into new pictorial forms. 'Never Saw That Coming' sees Whatmuff explore the formal sculptural landscape of London's built skyline. His 'found sculptural images' are part of an anthropomorphic process whereby the viewer sees a range of references, some of their own making. This process- the generation of 'impossible sculptural forms'- is part of Whatmuff's ongoing dialogue between reality and the possibilities of hyper-modern image making.

ABOUT OFF-SITE GALLERY:

Art exhibits are considered *off-site* if they are presented outside the traditional art venues or other cultural institutions. This does not necessarily mean the work is uncured. More specifically the term implies a project that is considered too perhaps too unconventional to be shown in a gallery situation. According to the critic Frank Kermode, off-site projects are "... by their very nature artistic gestures that have continuity with non-art environments, art that circumvents gallery space - usually detached and abstract - and goes straight to a public that often has little or no direct experience of art, thus democratizing *aesthetic opportunities*." Hence the working Barber's shop situation, where everyday faces are likewise being considered and observed.

'Off-Site Gallery seeks to collaborate with artists who work outside of the studio context.

NOTES TO EDITORS: *Please can you list as follows.*

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OFFSITE-GALLERY @ VIC THE BARBER'S

185 GRAYS INN ROAD, LONDON, WC1X 8UE.

Tube: Kings Cross

July 31st- September 10th.2014. Monday to Friday 11am-18.00pm.

Tel: 07949381819.

Web: www.offsite-gallery.com.

CONTACTS

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Vic The Barber: Vic Johnson 07967035183

Limited signed edition prints will be on sale,

Interviews with Dean Whatmuff by arrangement.