

## 7pm July 16<sup>th</sup>, Horsforth Modern Art

## John Hyatt - an artist and his alter egos

Those interested in the current series of talks on "Imaginary Painters" at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds, along with other followers of John Hyatt's work, shouldn't miss our next evening event: "John Hyatt – an artist and his alter egos", including his most recent internet video character The Pilot of Bee Patrol. The evening will also include an opportunity to view "Art Wars – Division and Design"; the large unstretched painting that was used for the catalogue cover of the 1984 British Art Show.

John is a man of many parts, and has been so throughout his adult life: Singer and musician – notably with The Three Johns - Henry Moore Fellow, painter, printmaker, film maker and maker of installations, poet and novelist, art college lecturer in Leeds, Rochdale, Sheffield and Manchester and curator educationalist, Head of Fine Art at Manchester Metropolitan University from 1991, becoming Professor in 1994, and Director of MIRIAD from 2001.

He is also a man of many imaginary parts, which he explains:

"As a habit-breaking strategy, I have consistently exhibited and written under pseudonyms – an act that I find liberating from the accumulated constraints of a single over-dominant ego".

Hyatt's emergent alter egos have had careers of their own. These quasi-fictional 'artists within the artist' perform corollaries: like 'plays within a play', in a Shakespearean manner. These artistic alter egos include:

- **Sir Stuart Farquar:** in 1988/89, as Henry Moore Printmaking Fellow, Hyatt, created the printmaker's printmaker: Sir Stuart Farquar. Farquar has had five significant exhibitions to date and is represented by a commercial gallery, HoMA, in Leeds, UK. Sir Stuart's *oeuvre* is outlined in the book, *The Printmaker's Devil*.
- **Doria Hemming:** Doria is a Japanese hermaphrodite artist. He/she was born in Hyatt's 2000 novel, *Navigating the Terror*, into the Hiroshima explosion (along with avatar critic, Jeremy Mumpsey). Hemming exhibited in the text and had two large shows in our world, *Give Battle in Vain* at Manchester's CUBE Gallery and *Maintain Radio Silence*, The Foundry, in the City of London. Radio Hemming is Doria's twin sister. Hemming's work is installation and performance based, avant-garde and techno.
- **Gerry Windrim:** Irish, of undisclosed gender, Gerry creates narrative based installations. These are poetic, mythical, Celtic and use photography, woodcarving and sculptures made from found natural wood to evoke memory and tell stories. Gerry's first show was *Pretext: Heteronyms* at Clink St, London.
- A number of Second Life avatars, exhibited as a series of digital photographs at Rogue, Manchester, last year.

And more recently **The Pilot of Bee Patrol**, cross-platform philosopher of space and time...

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