

DYLAN SHIPTON

Punishment Park

LIMBO, Substation Project Space, 2 Bilton Square, Margate CT9 1EE
24 May - 15 June, Fri-Sun 12-5pm | Preview 23 June 6-9pm

Residency: UCA Canterbury, New Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3AN
Open to the public 30 May 2014 5-8pm, 31 May -13 June 2014 10am-6pm, closed Sunday

LIMBO is pleased to present a new commission and residency by Dylan Shipton. Shipton works with large-scale three-dimensional structures, responding to the modernist idea of abstract painting as a hermetic practice, and questioning the gap between the artwork and the space in which it resides.

Punishment Park takes its title from Peter Watkins' 1971 faux-documentary, in which student protesters are imprisoned by the government (which declares a 'state of emergency') and encouraged to take part in a death-race for their freedom, pursued, as part of a military training exercise, by the National Guard. By alluding to this film, Shipton seems to suggest that his 'deconstruction' of the physical elements of painting – paint, stretcher, and support – has less to do with expanding the medium formally than exploring the possibilities of abstraction as political metaphor. Through subtle yet deliberate use of colour and simple materials, Shipton's works suggest a redeployment of institutional demarcation - prison uniforms, police tape, dazzle camouflage - within the vernacular architectural context of the commune or squat.

Over May and June Shipton will be working simultaneously on the exhibition at LIMBO and a test site at UCA Canterbury as part of a month-long residency, where he will be collaborating with staff and students from across the art college's courses. His changing installation at UCA will be accessible to the public from 30 May, with a gallery talk with Terry Perk, Gabor Stark and Ian Bottle at 2.30pm on 6 June and a collaboration in the space with Jost Munster all day 9 June.

For the commission Shipton will respond intuitively to LIMBO's project space, a former electricity substation. He will use rudimentary joinery to construct a large-scale sculptural drawing to actively engage the room. The intervention will take the form of a fluorescent timber structure that ricochets and reverberates around the gallery. This super-charged drawing will sit in its very own state of limbo, somewhere between renewal and decay. The structure will serve as a physical manifestation of the energy that was once created in the building, as well as pointing out the architectural idiosyncrasies of the space.

In Shipton's work there is an interplay between planned construction and improvisation, where the environment and chance events produced by the making process determine the works' eventual forms. *Punishment Park* aims to produce a rupture between the space, the artwork and the viewer where each cannot exist without reference to the other.

Dylan Shipton was born in Wales in 1976. He studied Fine Art at Bristol UWE and did his Masters at Chelsea School of Art 2001. Shipton has exhibited widely in the UK and internationally, with both individual and collaborative projects. Exhibitions last year included *Monument to the Excluded Middle* in collaboration with artist Ben Fitton, for House 2013 in Brighton and *Palomar* at Bloc Projects in Sheffield. He currently lives and works in London.

dylanshipton.com

LIMBO

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