

# WORKS|PROJECTS

## PRESS RELEASE

### MAGNUS QUAIFE

#### Like a Child Running a Stick Along a Fence

24 May ~12 July 2014

*'Only in these paintings, as in the landscape of Mount Ste. Victoire have I found the life of our light realised and represented,'*

Joachim Gasquet 1896

For his second exhibition with WORKS|PROJECTS Magnus Quaife invites you on to the set of a new production.

In a seminal scene from Steven Spielberg's 1977 film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* Roy Neary, played by Richard Dreyfus, uses objects that surround him in his home and garden to make a scale model of Devil's Mount. His sculpture begins as humble mashed potato mound but grows to dominate the living room of his house. Neary, like so many great artists from fiction, is driven mad by his vision, but eventually realises he is being called to the site of an alien landing.

Cezanne's fascination with Montaigne St Victoire that dominates the skyline of his hometown of Aix en Provence was similarly obsessive. After returning to Aix from Paris he spent over 20 years repeatedly painting the mountain, making more than 80 representations in oil and watercolour. The monumental nature of this undertaking becomes even more apparent when we understand that Cezanne's would take 100 sessions to paint a still life or 150 sittings for a portrait.

Through the mediums of painting and sculpture Quaife re-imagines *Close Encounters*. Now set in 1877 the lead character is Paul Cezanne, who uses his studio not his family home, to build an obsessive sculpture in.

WORKS|PROJECTS becomes Cezanne's studio. Quaife plays Cezanne. And rather than modelling Devil's Mount Cezanne realises a monumental vision of his beloved Mont Sainte Victoire.

**WORKS|PROJECTS.** INFO@WORKSPROJECTS.CO.UK  
**POST.** % SPIKE ISLAND, N0 133 CUMBERLAND ROAD  
BRISTOL, BS1 6UX, UK. **TELEPHONE.** 07714 480 849

**GALLERY.** SYDNEY ROW, BRISTOL, BS1 6UU, UK  
**WWW.WORKSPROJECTS.CO.UK**

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For more information, images or to arrange interviews or photo opportunities email [info@worksprojects.co.uk](mailto:info@worksprojects.co.uk)

## Notes to editors

Exhibition open 12-5pm, 24 May ~12 July 2014 or by appointment. Admission free.

Preview Friday 23 May 2014, 6~9pm

## About Magnus Quaife

Magnus Quaife was born in 1975 and gained a BA Fine Art Painting from Chelsea School of Art and Design in 1997 & MFA from Manchester Metropolitan University in 2001 and completed his PhD through MIRIAD at the Manchester School of Art in 2012.

Recent exhibitions include: *Schools of Art*, Oktagon Gallery HfBK, Dresden, *5 Places*, Langford 120, Melbourne, *The Cooperative*, Liverpool Biennial; *As long as the pain lasted*, The International Three, Manchester; *A Theater to Address*, Arnolfini, Bristol; *Unrealised Potential*, Cornerhouse, Manchester; *Abstract Cabinet* and *This is the Gallery and the Gallery is Many Things*, Eastside Projects, Birmingham; *Rotate*, Contemporary Art Society, London; *openended*, Rhys and Hannah Presents, Bristol; *Let me tell you a story*, Porta 33, Funchal, Portugal. Forthcoming exhibitions include *The Summer Show* and *Present Tense*, both at Swindon Museum and Art Gallery

The artist has work in a number of significant private and corporate collections and in the UK and Europe. Works from his 1968 & Other Myths Series were recently purchased for Swindon Museum and Art Gallery by The Contemporary Art Society and will be on view as part of Present Tense in 2015.

## About WORKS|PROJECTS

WORKS|PROJECTS was established by the curator Simon Morrissey in November 2008 and represents some of the UK's leading contemporary artists. With offices in Bristol and Frome, Somerset, WORKS|PROJECTS produces a distinctive programme of exhibitions, public projects and commissions across Bath, Bristol and Somerset as well as producing projects nationally and internationally. [www.worksprojects.co.uk](http://www.worksprojects.co.uk)

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