

Peter McDonald: Visitor



Disco, 2009 acrylic gouache on canvas H76 x W100cm
 Courtesy the artist and Kate MacGarry, London

Gallery "Disco" open to public from June 18

Exhibition Title	Peter McDonald: Visitor		
Period / Venue	Saturday, April 16 – Tuesday, March 20, 2012 / 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa		
	"Salon"	Venue: Long-Term Project and other locations Period: Saturday, April 16, 2011 – Tuesday, March 20, 2012 Admission: Free	
	"Disco"	Venue: Gallery 13 and other locations Gallery / Saturday, June 18 – Friday, September 16, 2011 Admission: Free Disco / Saturday, September 17, 2011 – Tuesday, March 20, 2012 Admission: Free to holders of same day tickets to the Museum's special exhibitions or the collection exhibition.	
Hours	10:00 – 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays and Saturdays)		
Closed	Mondays (except May 2, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 10, 2011/ January 2, 9, March 19, 2012), July 19, September 20, October 11, December 29, 2011 – January 1 & 10, 2012		
Organized by	21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (Kanazawa Art Promotion and Development Foundation)		
Co-organized by	British Council	In cooperation with	bonnyColArt Co., Ltd
Sponsored by	Japan Foundation for Regional Art-Activities, Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation		
Inquiries	21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (Tel +81-(0)76-220-2800)		

This is a long-term project exhibition sponsored by Japan Foundation for Regional Art-Activities for the "Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme: Museum as mediator".

Media Contact 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

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About the Exhibition

With this edition, the Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme (*1) breaks new ground by setting its sights on an overseas artist.

The Program invites the young, internationally recognized, UK-based artist Peter McDonald to develop an art project for the first time in Japan, marking the first international edition of the Program.

Through the "act of drawing," McDonald, at the core of the project, rubs shoulders with others, lightly traversing the boundary between genres, genders, countries and the everyday and the extraordinary. As young people (*2) participate in the work, they experience the diversity of and possibilities for communication. Beginning with a painting exhibition and the production of a wall installation at the museum, various extemporaneous programs will be held using the exhibition space as a stage. As McDonald interacts with the city and the people of Kanazawa, his painted world will permeate the city, establishing pliable connections between one person and another, and between people and places through the fundamental language of expression we know as painting.

*1. Launched in 2007 adopting the methodology of the Zon Moderna outreach program at the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Sweden, the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa's unique program takes the form of a long-term project-based exhibition involving an artist-in-residence, work-in-progress and workshops. Targeted mainly at young people 18-39 years of age, participants in the Programme work together to rediscover and to grow their view of themselves and of the world. Based on the results of the past four stagings of the Programme, 2011 marks its further development as a case-study compilation of the Museum's key concept of "museum as mediator".

*2. Participants

Wall painting members (active April 20–June 5): 9

Project members (active from June 5): 13

Artist Profile

Peter McDonald

1973 Born in Tokyo. Resides in London.
 1991-1992 Newcastle College BTEC Foundation course
 1992-1995 Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design,
 BA Honors in sculpture
 1997-2000 Royal Academy Schools, Post-graduate diploma

McDonald, who also produced paintings while in the sculpture department at art university, captures the act of painting as performance. In 2002, while painting a series of works based on performers on stage, a character with a large head appeared. Thereafter, with the image of this character at the core of his visual language, he expresses, with abbreviated (or simplified) iconography and rich colors, everyday situations. These have included: concerts, airports, a bakery, hair salons, classrooms, museums and cafés among many others. He has also referenced the creativity of historical painters such as Matisse and Lucio Fontana. The illusion of transparency created by a layering of color upon color and clarity of composition highlight the openness of the work, the surface of which, cloaked in vivid colors, takes on a sense of floating. The figurative and the abstract merge, and the whimsical two-dimensional world that emerges from the logical illustrations evokes various memories or stories. Peter McDonald has a Japanese mother and a British father, and the richly colored world of his artistic practice, with "painting" as a unique means of communication, has the power to make us acknowledge again that for human beings "drawing" is a fundamental language of expression.

McDonald was the winner of the UK's John Moores Painting Prize in 2008.

Solo Exhibitions

2010 "Peter McDonald – Project" GALLERY SIDE2, Tokyo (2008/ 2006)
 2009 "Peter McDonald" Kate MacGarry, London (2007/ 2005)
 "Art for everybody" Art on the Underground,
 2003 "Peter McDonald" Keith Talent Gallery, London

Awards

2008 First Prize, John Moores 25 Contemporary Painting Prize
 2000 Andre Dunoyer de Segonzac Award
 2000 David Murray Scholarship



Images for publicity

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About the Project

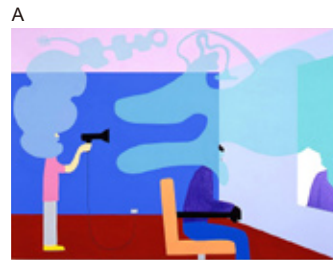
Salon

Venue: Long-Term Project and other locations
 Period: Saturday, April 16, 2011 – Tuesday, March 20, 2012
 Admission: Free
 Exhibition of 13 paintings and 25 drawings

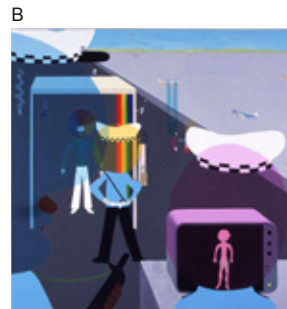
Who are the people with the big heads who have continuously made appearances in the paintings of Peter McDonald? The emphasis in this project is placed on an open dialogue between the artist and the viewer, born through his or her encounter with a body of McDonald's works created since 2002 exhibited at the Museum. The aim of this dialogue is to expand the painted world of the artist to the environment in which the viewer lives.

On April 30, McDonald began asking visitors to "Write me a letter". Letters dropped in the postbox beside the gallery entrance were forwarded to the artist, and in this way too, dialogue further developed. (In the period from April 30 through 12 June, the artist received 873 letters)

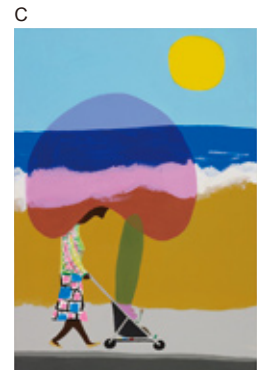
Images:



Purple Salon, 2004
 acrylic gouache on canvas
 H140 x W200 cm
 Courtesy the artist and Kate MacGarry, London



Hidden Weapons, 2006
 acrylic gouache on canvas
 H200 x W200 cm
 private collection
 Courtesy the artist and Kate MacGarry, London



Mother and Child and the Sea, 2010
 acrylic gouache on paper
 H29.5 x W21 cm
 Courtesy the artist and Kate MacGarry, London



Peter McDonald: Visitor - Salon
 Installation View
 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa



Peter McDonald: Visitor - Salon
 Installation View
 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Disco

Venue: Gallery 13 and other locations

Wall painting production: Wednesday, April 20 - Wednesday, June 15, 2011 (not open to the public)



Gallery / Saturday, June 18, 2011 – Friday, September 16, 2011

Admission: Free



Disco / Saturday, September 17, 2011 – Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Admission: required

Peter McDonald's painted image will dynamically unfurl in three dimension. The wall painting McDonald and the wall painting team began working on in late April is now complete, and the space will open to the public as a 'gallery' on Saturday, June 18. What kind of personal music and movement will well up in the minds and bodies of visitors as they enter the physical space of McDonald's painting?

This project will also continue to evolve. Living up to its title, "Disco", the space will occasionally set the stage for disco, DJ, performance, workshop and other events starting Saturday, September 17.

The wall painting project allows participants (*) in the workshop not only to engage in the production of the wall painting, but also, after the painting is completed, the venue, as a stage for self-expression, can be expanded into a place for planning and implementing the programs. In this place, every single viewer and the various events become the principal characters in Peter McDonald's painting space.

* Participants

Wall painting members (active April 20–June 5): 9

Project members (active from June 5): 13

F



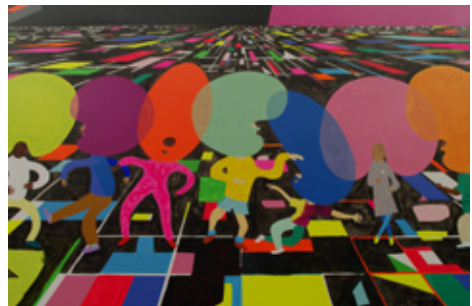
Peter McDonald: Visitor - Disco
Installation View
21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

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Peter McDonald: Visitor - Disco
Installation View
21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

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Peter McDonald: Visitor - Disco
Installation View
21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

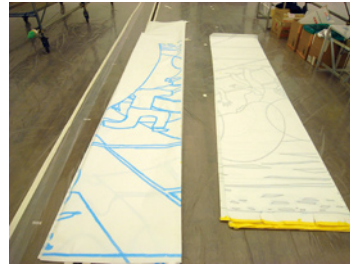
The wall painting in progress

01



Peter McDonald's original drawing was enlarged full scale onto tracing paper, which was fixed to the wall, and the lines then traced.

02



Crayon applied to the reverse side of the tracing paper is transferred to the wall as the lines on the front are traced.

03



McDonald's drawing and color samples.

04



Wall paints are mixed to match the color samples.

05



Mixing the huge number and volume of colors.

06



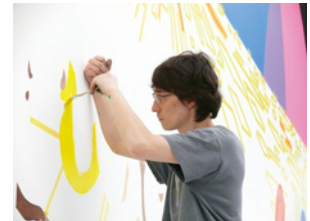
Segments of the wall are masked with tape and the area inside painted.

07



Applying color.

08



09



Team members stand on scaffolds to paint the upper walls.

10



11



In the final stage of painting the black background is applied.

12



The very detailed mixing table took several days to paint.

Production Support: Yusuke ISHIKAWA

See more → http://web.me.com/walleryusukeishikawa/Peter_Mcdonald_Disco/title.html