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A is for Abstract

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A – is for Abstract

(notes: Do not read the blue text. Gary to read Black text, Dale to read Red text.)

Slide 1

The presentation we are delivering today is in the form of an A,B,C,D which we will read and that is accompanied by 26 slides that are representative of the MMS and What's App mediated visual conversation that has taken place...

Painting as dialogue. Painting as a message. Painting as a text message that becomes a bridge, a form of communication and correspondence.

Abstract painting- is a visual mode of thinking, a means of making and doing - a means of visual research. It's a language we have been exploring and experimenting with in our individual practices and one that we wanted to explore as dialogue due to geographical and commitment constraints the traditional idea of studio visits was replaced by and enabled through the digital networked communication, via the handset of our mobile phone.

Using the shared language of abstract painting, Dale Holmes and Gary Simmonds have set out to relay images of paintings made in their studios as a form of dialogue, through the digital and analogue. The work was made visible through the small screen of a smart phone. This visibility is constrained and mediated through technology. The interaction was framed by the language and understanding of texting technology.

The project set out to investigate how an exchange of images via smart phone, and the occasional encounter of each other's practice in the studio could affect work made in response to this relay. This dialogue sets out as a tool of connection, and negotiation around each other's practice and the act of making. Shared concerns emerging from this relay so far include: indexical mark making; gesture as a calligraphic mark/ signature, colour - mediated through technology.

Slide 2

Angular, axis, allowed, abstraction, aleatory, application, arm-movement, asymmetric, addition, absence, abandoned, ability, action, adapt, amateurish, appealing, architecture, argument, agreement, artificial, atomized, abomination, adjacent, aftermath

Slide 3

Broken, bendy, blowy, beautiful, bad, barley-there, bruising, back-hand, balanced, becoming, bicycle, bright, brilliant, barriers, boundaries, barricades, brush-stroke, brush-width, bristles – sable, badger, hog, squirrel,

Slide 4

Cut, cracked, curious, calligraphic, collapsing, colour (a list: Naples Yellow, Pale Terracotta, Pale Olive, Yellow Ochre, Turquoise, Cerulean Blue, Permanent Green Middle, Lemon Yellow, Magenta), cack-handed, corny, copious, creaminess, clean-lines, cluttered, clarity, clumsy, conscious – ‘No matter how hard you try, you won’t be able to stop your brain registering the distorted image. It’s part of the initial image processing that happens before the real details get anywhere near your conscious mind’ conceptual (?), caked-on, capital, careful, careless, chaotic, combed, crumbly, construction, composed, confidence, conflicted, crisp, cluttered, collided, controlled, contradictory,

Slide 5

Dull, depth, dishy(?), digital, drips, dots, dazzle, domestic, damp, drag, dragged, drizzle, drop, dracaena marginata. Deduction – ‘your brain is excellent at making deductions even when given only small amounts of information to work from’ disrupted, destroyed, decongestant, debatable, decorative, division, divided, defined, disagreeable, delicate, delicious, demanding, difficulty, dirty, disappointing, dabbed, diagonal,

Slide 6

Empty, elliptical, effervescent, excessive, encounter, entertaining, enticing, eye - ‘what an eyeful!’, eye-candy, easy - peasy, edges, editing, embarrassing, eroded, emphasized, errors, evidence,

Slide 7

Full, fractured, failing, flung, fling (extra relational), fucking hell! or *fucking hell...* fabric, failure, familiar, field, figure/ground, folky, flatness, fluidity, flexitime, fulltime, frustrating, formal, feeling, finger-painting,

Slide 8

Gracious, gorgeous, geometric, gesture, gloopy, gooey, glamorous, grammatical, glimpsed, glossy, glossed, grind,

Slide 9

Heavy, hot, hand, ham-fisted, habitat, handwritten, harsh, hazy, housework, haunted, ‘How many more abstract paintings does the world really need?’

Slide 10

Impossible, inventive, imperfect, indulgent, interior, iterative, instantaneous, intentional, interruption, influence - ‘surrounding tints and shades have a great INFLUENCE on our perception of colour’, imaginary, imitation, immediate, impact, incidental, informal, intense, instantaneous,

Slide 11

Jolly, Joke, jealousy, joyful, juicy, judgemental,

Slide 12

Kranky, krusty, Krispy-kreme, knowledge, know-how, kinky, keep going,

Slide 13

Linear, liquid, licked (with a cat's tongue), layered, laid-down, language, lovely, languid, luscious, libidinous, lazy, learning to take pleasure in what is at hand, lexicon (of painting), liabilities,

Slide 14

Manky, moving, muted, mashed-up, mathematical, music, material, materiality, matter, monsterring, monstra Giganta, marks, maximalist, messy, mechanical, modelled, mouldy, molten, Malevich, mesh, mixed,

Slide 15

Nefarious, nebulous, negative, nothing, new, nose, night, noisy, nonsense, nihilist, nausea, no-filter, non-linear, non-relational, not painting for any other reason than painting itself, Narcissism – 'Discussion is just an exercise in NARCISSISM where everyone takes turns showing off'

Slide 16

Optical, object, objection, obvious, organic, over-egged, over-blown, over-played, over-easy, opaque, old-tech, observe, obsess, oily, objectionable, order, organized,

Slide 17

Popova and Stepanova, pictorial, push, provisional, piped, painting, Perception - 'it's the varying strength of the surrounding colours that influences our PERCEPTION', paleness, palm-trees, para-phrase, performance, piled-up, persisting, popping, poured, pattern, planes, passages,

Slide 18

Quizzical, queering, quadrilateral, qualities, qualitative, quantaties, quantative, quotation, quandaries, quaint,

Slide 19

