

DUNCAN WESTON

I WAS HERE

5th SEPTEMBER - 20th OCTOBER, 2024

For the 3rd Anniversary of the gallery we are very pleased to present *I WAS HERE*, an exhibition of new work by UK based artist Duncan Weston. Weston is a renowned underground artist who has exhibited worldwide both inside galleries as well as the outdoors. Most recently he constructed a large scale installation at the Saatchi gallery in London for the exhibition *Beyond The Streets*.

I WAS HERE draws us into Weston's world growing up in the 80's and 90's in the UK: through a prolific series of paintings and objects Weston documents his situations, influences and desires - the result is a landscape of almost 100 art objects that give us a polyvalent look at Weston's life. To accompany the exhibition Professor Richard Brook has written an essay that expands on Weston's life and work, here he writes:

"DUNCAN's work draws expressly on his life as a writer of graffiti but is complicated by its internal contradiction – it is accessible and unintelligible, crude and sophisticated, humorous and serious, retrospective and contemporary. To grapple with these opposites necessitates an understanding of DUNCAN's multiple identities, their genesis in graffiti culture, and his manifold divergent paths leading from a discipline, unencumbered by art history, but bound by its own traditions and idiosyncrasies."

I WAS HERE is consistent with Weston's reflection on his own life and environment as the source for his practice. The largest of the paintings in the show are renderings of the front and back cover of the seminal book *Subway Art*: in the graffiti community this book is referred to as The Bible and as Weston says it literally changed the way the world looks in the proliferation of graffiti culture worldwide.

On the opposing walls of the gallery there are grids of paintings, these groups build up a picture of stories, places and objects from Weston's formative era. The paintings occupy the wall in the same way memory occupies the brain: with a lack of linear chronology. We see seat patterns from public transport, text pieces that are segments of slang or particular situations as well as the tools for life, obsolete technology: cameras, maps, mobile phones. Both the technology and situations represent that era uniquely in that most of their functions have been surpassed by the mobile phone.

To accompany the paintings Weston has made a series of discreet clay works, their raw form signals these as archaeological objects: Fossils. There is a distortion from the original effected in his handling of the material, the nature of raw clay obscures a literal conveyance of what these objects are and like the paintings operate in the same manner as memory, they are fuzzy, partially accurate and evoke the object.

The video work in *I WAS HERE* is a time capsule of advertising, news and the media representation of sub-culture's of the era. Their format is based around the VHS taping of live broadcast television culture of the time, a visceral window into the past. The work has been made in collaboration with Nathan Clear.

I WAS HERE is open until October 20th.

Founded in 2021 The Horse is an artist run contemporary art gallery in Dublin 1 that seeks to provide a platform for emerging, experimental and underrepresented art practitioners. For sales, viewings and programming in general, please email Matthew Wilkinson – mw@thehosedublin.xyz

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51

All paintings are acrylic on canvas
50 x 70cm
2024

1	Bunts	18	Knives	35	LGC
2	1 Hour Developing	19	Public Transport #3	36	Everywhere
3	Tapes	20	Electros	37	Tins
4	Trippin	21	Cords	38	P.K. Rippers
5	Public Transport #1	22	Bank	39	Aciiiiiiid
6	Skate or Die	23	Our Price	40	Public Transport #5
7	RAD Times	24	Cameras	41	Break Dance
8	Watch	25	Ruined	42	Kagool Uniform
9	Groove	26	Rakin #2	43	Stack
10	Rackin #1	27	Trips	44	Rakin #3
11	Times Up	28	Film	45	Bunk
12	Alright for E's	29	Smoking Family Tree	46	Lost
13	Trainers	30	Public Transport #4	47	Comic
14	Arcade Kid	31	Fruitys	48	Bastards
15	Public transport #2	32	Walk Man	49	Sweet
16	Nikes	33	Connection	50	B-Boy Blueprint
17	Ribena Tokens	34	Spark Plug	51	Ware House

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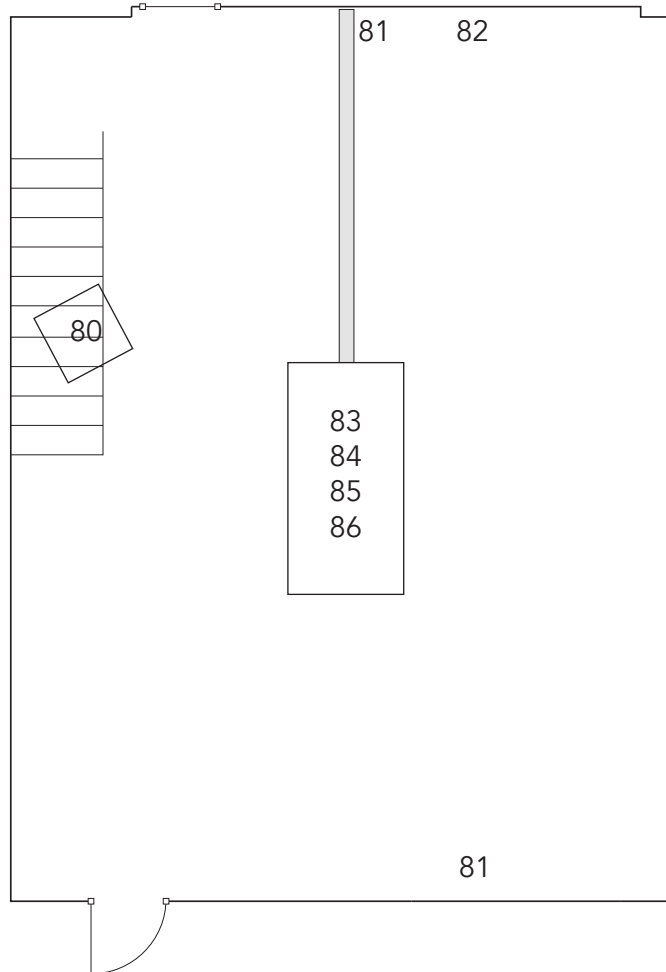
52	53	54	55	56	57		
58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70			

	71	72	
73	74	75	76
77	78	79	

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52	Break Street	66	Nike (part 1)
53	B Boy	67	Nike (part 2)
54	Train	68	Nike (part 3)
55	Fresh FX CJ	69	Nike (part 4)
56	BMX	70	Spit
57	Ceefax	71	Piece Book
58	Walls	72	1200
59	Meet Me	73	Clobber
60	Public transport #6	74	Ruin
61	Pen	75	Paint
62	Channel BR	76	Dole
63	Bongo	77	Atari
64	Phone	78	Lino
65	Puff	79	Box

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| <p>80 Video Loops
2024
Dur 4:32</p> <p>81 The Bible (back cover)
2024
Acrylic on canvas
100 x 140cm</p> <p>82 The Bible (front Cover)
2024
Acrylic on canvas
100 x 140cm</p> <p>83 Fossils
2024
Clay
Dimensions variable</p> | <p>84 Graffiti Ruined Someone's Day
2024
Silk screen Print
Edition of 40</p> <p>85 Exhibition Catalogue
A4 40 Pages</p> <p>86 Double Belt Buckle
2024</p> <p>87 Ultramagnetic
2024
Found fridge magnets
Dimensions Variable</p> |
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