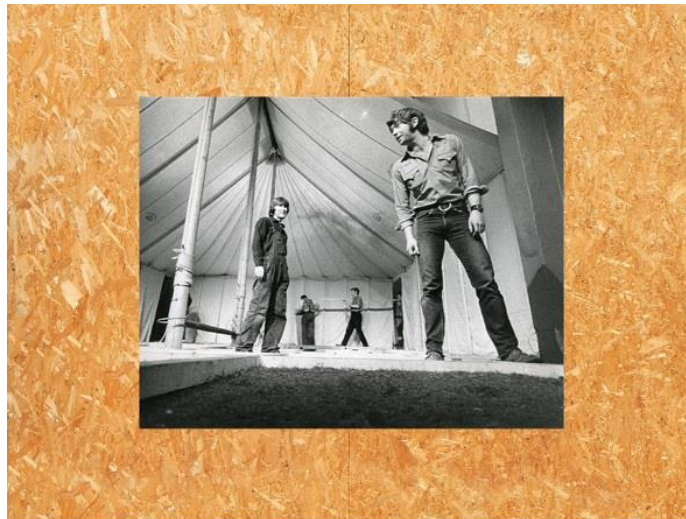


Press release: 21 June 2016

AWARD-WINNING VIDEO ARTIST, STEPHEN SUTCLIFFE
PRESENTS NEW COMMISSION AT THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD
INSPIRED BY THE WORK OF CELEBRATED PLAYWRIGHT, DAVID STOREY



Stephen Sutcliffe, *Twixt Cup and Lip*, 2016
Incorporating still from *The Contractor* (1969) by David Storey. Photo: Tom Murray, The Sunday Times
Image courtesy: the artist and The Hepworth Wakefield

STEPHEN SUTCLIFFE: TWIXT CUP AND LIP
25 JUNE – 2 OCTOBER

A new exhibition by the award-winning British video artist Stephen Sutcliffe will open this summer at The Hepworth Wakefield, Yorkshire's major art gallery.

From 25 June until 2 October, The Hepworth Wakefield will present the artist's first solo show in Yorkshire and will feature a new video installation, to be housed in The Calder, a contemporary art and events space housed in a Victorian mill in the gallery gardens.

In Sutcliffe's signature style, *Twixt Cup and Lip* combines archive footage of the workings of a TV studio floor and interviews with artists and writers about their creative process with photographs from the original, Royal Court production of *The Contractor* (1969), by the Wakefield-born author David Storey.

The former professional rugby league player turned playwright, novelist and artist has long been an inspiration for Sutcliffe, who first encountered his work at comprehensive school in North Ossett during the 1980s.

Stephen Sutcliffe said: "I've been an admirer of David Storey's work and attitude for many years and I remember an enlightened teacher at my comprehensive school introducing us to *This Sporting Life*, something which has had a profound effect on me."

Andrew Bonacina, Chief Curator at The Hepworth Wakefield said: "Sutcliffe's film draws the viewer into the era and ideas of David Storey at the peak time of his creativity. It's an abstract piece, a collage from his growing archive of broadcast material, which leaves it to the viewer to piece together the narrative."

"For Stephen it's also about a return to Wakefield, delving into the physical places and cultural history that shaped him. Because of the tension between his background and the circles he later moved in, David Storey often said he didn't feel accepted in either the north or the south."

"Stephen Sutcliffe has expressed similar views and so his film looks at the contradictions between the world – and, importantly, the Wakefield – that made both of them and where they subsequently fitted in, or not, as artists."

Stephen Sutcliffe is a British video artist who was born in Harrogate and raised in Gawthorpe, a small village in the Wakefield District. His work includes a strong research element and is characteristically collaged from existing footage and archive material. Recordings made from the television or radio, clippings from newspapers or books, are run together to either contradict each other or find an unlikely common ground. His short films often employ several sources simultaneously, obscuring part of the footage or layering soundtracks to undermine the integrity of the original and instill a notion of doubt.

The new video will be presented in an arena constructed out of theatre 'flats' – simple wooden boards that are typically used in theatre productions and television studios. Their use suggest a space of production and emphasises a transition between 'on-stage' and 'backstage' that resonates throughout *Twixt Cup and Lip*.

Stephen Sutcliffe: Twixt Cup and Lip will be on display concurrently with a new exhibition of art work by David Storey. From 11 June until 5 October *A Tender Tumult: The Art of David Storey* will showcase for the very first time more than 400 small-scale works by the Wakefield-born writer.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For further details, interview requests or to arrange a preview please contact:

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EDITOR'S NOTES:

STEPHEN SUTCLIFFE

Stephen Sutcliffe was born in Harrogate in 1968 and studied at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee and Glasgow School of Art. Now based in Glasgow, the award-winning contemporary artist creates abstract films from his extensive archive of cinema and TV clips, sound and spoken word broadcasts.

Forthcoming exhibitions and projects include: Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh (2017) and new commission for Pavilion, Leeds (2017).

Previous exhibitions include: Tramway (2013); Stills, Edinburgh (2011); Whitechapel Gallery (Art in the Auditorium), London (2010); Cubitt, London (2009) and Nought to Sixty, ICA, London (2008).

In 2012 he was awarded the Margaret Tait Prize and he shortlisted for the Derek Jarman award in 2009 and 2014. In 2015 he won the Contemporary Art Society Annual Award.

DAVID STOREY

From 11 June until 5 October, *A Tender Tumult: The Art of David Storey* will showcase for the very first time more than 400 small-scale works by the Wakefield-born writer.

Born and brought up in 1930's Wakefield and unique among his generation of writers, David Storey's achievements are divided equally between his work as a novelist and as a playwright. The son of a mineworker, he went to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, then Wakefield School of Art before relocating to London to study at the Slade School of Fine Art and there met British painter Stanley Spencer, sculptor Henry Moore and was taught life drawing by Lucien Freud. Before turning to writing, Storey had various jobs, ranging from farm labourer and showground tent-erector to professional rugby league player for Leeds. These experiences all fed into his creative work, notably the novel which made his name *This Sporting Life* (1960).

Much acclaimed for both his plays and his novels; *This Sporting Life* won the Macmillan Fiction Prize in 1960, *Flight and Camden* won the John Llewellyn Rhys Memorial Prize in 1961 and the Somerset Maugham Award 1963. *Pasmore* won the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize in 1973 and *Saville* won the Booker Prize for Fiction in 1976.

Storey's plays, mostly written in two or three days, include *The Restoration of Arnold Middleton* (1967), which won the Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright; *The Contractor* (1969), *Home* (1970) and *The Changing Room* (1972), all of which won the New York Critics Best Play of the Year Award; *In Celebration* (1969), which was adapted as a film in 1974 starring Alan Bates; *Life Class* (1975); and *The Farm*. In 2007 Hollywood actor Orlando Bloom made his stage debut in a new production of Storey's northern family drama, *In Celebration*. *Home* had a very-well received revival in Paris in 2015 at le Theatre L'Oeuvre, Paris.

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

The gallery is at the heart of Wakefield's regeneration. Designed by the internationally acclaimed practice, David Chipperfield Architects, it is funded by Wakefield Council and Arts Council England and an increasing number of charitable trusts, private individuals, Patrons and Members. The gallery celebrated its 5th anniversary on 21 May 2016 and to date has welcomed 1.5 million visitors and contributed approximately £20 million to the local economy.

Address: The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, Wakefield, West Yorks, WF1 5AW

Telephone: +44 (0)1924 247360

Admission: Free

Website: www.hepworthwakefield.org

Email: hello@hepworthwakefield.org

Opening Hours: 10am - 5pm Tuesday – Sunday

10am - 9pm Third Thursday of the month

Closed Mondays (except local school holidays and bank holidays)

Travel: By Train: the nearest stations are Wakefield Westgate and Kirkgate

By Car: the gallery is situated off the A61, with nearby links to the M1 motorway. A pay & display visitor car park is located on Thornes Lane, WF1 5QJ, with free blue badge car parking on site

By Bus: the gallery is situated on main bus routes and the FreeCityBus route (Mon-Sat, 9.30am-3pm)

By Bicycle: bicycle racks are located by our main entrance

By Air: the nearest airport is LeedsBradford

Polite Request: The gallery should be cited in full, as The Hepworth Wakefield

Twitter: @HepworthGallery
Facebook: TheHepworthWakefield
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