



PRESS RELEASE

NEXT EXHIBITION:

Gallery I: Jonathan Owen

Gallery II: John Smith

1 March – 19 April 2014

Jonathan Owen's work, in both two and three dimensions, involves reducing and rethinking existing objects and images. He employs a kind of elegant vandalism to reconstruct and reinvent his 'material', transforming something found into something new.

His sculptures begin as relics of another time: 19th Century marble statues of classical or mythical figures that he re-carves into disjointed, re-invigorated versions of their original selves. While delicately examining the essential qualities of what was formerly there, Owen skillfully presents the viewer with a curious and unexpected new form.



Similarly, his "drawings" begin as photographs found in the pages of books. Working very slowly, Owen erases layers of ink, gently removing elements of the original to leave a ghostly trace of what was there before and creating a new narrative within the pre-existing image.

Owen was born in Liverpool in 1973 and graduated from Edinburgh College of Art MFA in 2000. He currently lives and works in Edinburgh.

His work will be presented at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in the summer of 2014 as part of the nationwide exhibition *GENERATION*.

In Gallery II there will be a screening of avant-garde British filmmaker John Smith's seminal film *The Girl Chewing Gum*. Shot in a single take on a street corner in Hackney in 1976, it presents Smith's brilliant and de-stabilising direction of ordinary life, opening up a fascinating conversation with Owen's work on the nature of authorial control, the presence and absence of subject and the structural balance between the real and the constructed.

For images and further information, please contact Ingleby Gallery on 0131 556 4441 or email info@inglebygallery.com

Image credits (from top):

Jonathan Owen, *David (detail)*, 2013, 19th Century marble figure with further carving, 70 x 30 x 30 cm

Jonathan Owen, *Eraser Drawing (portrait of Anita Loos)*, 2013, partially erased book pages, 29.6 x 24 cm (page size)