

Supralimen Presents: How to Carve Totem Poles

Arcadia Missa Gallery is presenting a show by collaborative group Supralimen and architect Alex Sprogis; How to Carve Totem Poles from 26th of March – 14th April 2011 (private view 25th March, coinciding with South London Art Map's 'Last Fridays' event).

This project will draw on, amongst other things, the work of the Supralimen curatorial blog and Arcadia Missa's current exhibition programme, which examines the object-centric experience of the virtual form. Supralimen and Alex Sprogis will be constructing a totem like structure from a series of modules stacked on top of one another that will act as a back bone for the curated works and as a specific reference to the vertical narrative of totemism and blogging; allowing us to understand and re-address these continued symbolic relations to objects and production in our contemporary situation.

The show aims to explore the physicality and prosthetic manipulation that occurs within the standardised forms available in online space. The project will link this method of communication to creative processes, the historical importance of linear narrative, in this case a vertical, and the ever present totemism, animism and symbolism that frames our interaction with the physical world.

This project will exist in part as an extension of the Supralimen Blog and curatorial programme (www.supralimen.wordpress.com, www.supralimen.com,) but will allow everyone participating to make sense of contemporary relations to art forms in terms of what at first seems to consist of abstract historical meanings, practices, and systems, for example the archaic American Indian practice of totem carving. The full list of artists showing in Supralimen's modular structure will be announced on the week beginning 21st of March.

Contributing artists- Dash May, Niamh O'Doherty, Katrina Sluis, Luke Hart, Jess Blackstone, AAR Materials, Ben Woodeson, Rapheal Julliard.

Totem structure will be re-shuffled on the 31st March and 7th April.

Totem Pole Template is available to download from:

<http://www.alexsprogis.com>

Also:

Supralimen and Alex Sprogis present a panel discussion around the project "How to Carve Totem Poles" at Arcadia Missa

What is the relevance of the totem pole to blogging? How does artist collaboration affect the symbolic narrative? Is this project merely appropriation for the sake of an easy answer?

As part of the "How to Carve Totem Poles" project, Supralimen and Alex Sprogis will host a discussion that explains, explores and extrapolates on the ideas surrounding the project.

Supralimen will discuss the genesis and development of the project and will chair the round table talk, with the architect Alex Sprogis talking about modular architecture and design as a contemporary form of articulation and Jon Crook (Time-Image, BFI) will talk on collective identity and cultural memory in relation to the inanimate objects we encounter and use in everyday life.

The talk will also include a screening of the 1951 documentary by William Heick "Dances of the Kwakiutl" a film about the practices of the People of the North Pacific.

Given that this project has arisen out of an exploration of micro authorship, blogging and collaboration, the familiar artist panel discussion would not make sense, this discussion is therefore intended to be inclusive not lead by the didactic concerns of the project's originators: participation and cross table discussion is welcome and sought after.