

Phil Root

Phantom Limb

26 July to 13 September 2014

Exhibition Opening Event

Saturday 26 July, 3–5pm

Join us for the opening of *Phantom Limb*. Phil Root will be in conversation from 4pm.

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Phil Root presents a full gallery installation entitled *Phantom Limb*. Root references history and memory throughout the exhibition, producing works by a process of intuitive layering and erasure of both physical and historical attributes.

Upon entering the galleries, the viewer is confronted with a number of large plywood boards that act as display structures on which the artist composes arrangements of images, drawings and objects. Defaced coins, foggy landscapes, and other inclusions of absence and obscurity are layered and tied on with sail rope, offering an allusion to sea crossing and trade, and also to the use and exchange values of art itself.

The installation is hinged around a film which incorporates imagery from the gallery space, revealing the subtleties and intricacies of Root's artistic process. Within the film Root draws upon the ephemeral nature of currency. Focussing on coins, he explores the paradox between the visceral corruptibility of the coin, and the virtual existence of the monetary system. Here, unbeknown to the viewer, they have the opportunity to locate works that are partially hidden from view.

#PhilRoot

ENDS

**For further information please contact Spacex marketing manager Rowan Green
tel: 01392 431 786, email: rowan@spacex.org.uk**

Notes to editors

Phil Root was born in 1984 in Kettering, England. He graduated from Goldsmiths College in 2006. He since lived and worked in central France, London, Liverpool and Cambridge. Recent solo exhibitions include *Wood Painting*, Permanent, Brighton (2011), *Into the Night, Vous Etes Ici*, Amsterdam (2010) and *A Still life with Lemons*, Hidde Van Seggelen, London (2010). Group exhibitions include *Slipped*, Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge (2012), *The Institute of Mental Health is Burning*, Newport Museum, Wales (2011) and *Mountain*, Belmacz Gallery (2012). Phil Root co-founded The Grantchester Pottery in 2011, a decorative arts company he set up together with Giles Round.

Spacex is a leading contemporary art gallery located in the centre of Exeter. Its diverse programme encourages public engagement with the latest developments in contemporary art through a changing exhibitions programme, which includes new commissions, projects and activities. A significant part of the programme, including artist-led projects, events and research, takes place outside of the gallery. Spacex has an international reputation for presenting ideas from some of the most daring and exciting artists working today.

<http://spacex.org.uk> / @spacexgallery

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Phil Root, *Egg within a ball*, 2010. Oil on canvas with painted wooden frame 26 x 20.5cm



Phil Root, *Only after they'd left did we realise what it meant*, 2010. Plywood platforms, blanket, branches, potted plants, mirror, crystals, lemons, wool, nails, dimensions variable



Phil Root, *Installation view, Phil Filby Rob Root*, Wysing Arts Centre, 2011

