



Fauna Automata: *British Wild Boar*

Contact:

Daniel Staincliffe
Rogue Artists' Studios & Project
Space
66 - 72 Chapeltown Street
Piccadilly
Manchester
M1 2WH

+44 (0)7906 544253

contact@danielstaincliffe.com

www.danielstaincliffe.com

www.danielstaincliffe.com/WildBoar

Wild boar focus of art project where animals trigger their own photographs

Fauna Automata: British Wild Boar is a new project by British artist Daniel Staincliffe exploring the recent reintroduction of wild boar in the UK.

An artist's residency in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, during July 2011, will see the artist produce a series of works including video work, works on paper and wooden mechanical sculpture, all examining a once-native British species that has been absent from our landscape for over 300 years.

The project aims to raise public awareness of the presence of wild boar in the UK and to re-evaluate the species' cultural relevance, providing a new angle on the debate surrounding the future of the species in Britain.

A blog documenting the project and including the artist's research and progress, can be found at www.danielstaincliffe.com/WildBoar

Fauna Automata

Daniel Staincliffe will be developing his on-going body of work *Fauna Automata*, where wooden mechanical sculptures (Automata) are installed outdoors, enabling wild animals to trigger their own photographs.

The Automata produce unique and intimate portraits of the wildlife with which we share our everyday spaces, and give us brief glimpses into their private lives.

To date the Automata have recorded dozens of photographs of mice, squirrels, pigeons, sparrows, magpies, a Chinese

hedgehog in Beijing and most recently rats around Castlefield Gallery, Manchester.

Artist's Talk

Artist Daniel Staincliffe will talk about his practice and current project at Beechenhurst Lodge in the Forest of Dean on Saturday 9th July 11-12pm. Spaces limited, to book please contact Wendy Arnold on 01594 833057 or at dean@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Families Workshop

At this workshop for families you will get to build a sculpture that will allow you to take some unusual photographs of you and your family. The workshop will take place at Beechenhurst Lodge in the Forest of Dean on Saturday 16th July 1.00-2.30pm. Spaces limited, to book please contact Wendy Arnold on 01594 833057 or at dean@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Exhibition

An outdoor exhibition featuring results from the project will be displayed within the Forest of Dean from August 2011. The exhibition will feature some of the Automata sculptures as well as images and text from the project.

Participation

Do you have an opinion or story about wild boar? To share your own opinions, experiences or photographs with the project you can email contact@danielstaincliffe.com or phone 07906544253. Your comments may feature on the project website and could inform the final exhibition!



Notes to Editors

Support

The project is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and Forestry Commission England.

About Wild Boar

Britain was once home to a million wild boar, however over-hunting and habitat loss led to their extinction here in the 1600s. Since then the British landscape has changed drastically and the recent reintroduction of wild boar, through escapes and deliberately released farm stock, pose risks to agriculture and ecology.

Benefits of their reintroduction include increasing biodiversity by one once-native species, increase in biodiversity caused by boar 'rooting' behaviour, economic benefits from tourism and boar meat for human consumption, and cultural capital.

Artist Bio

Daniel Staincliffe is a Manchester-based artist whose work explores our everyday relationships with details of the natural world.

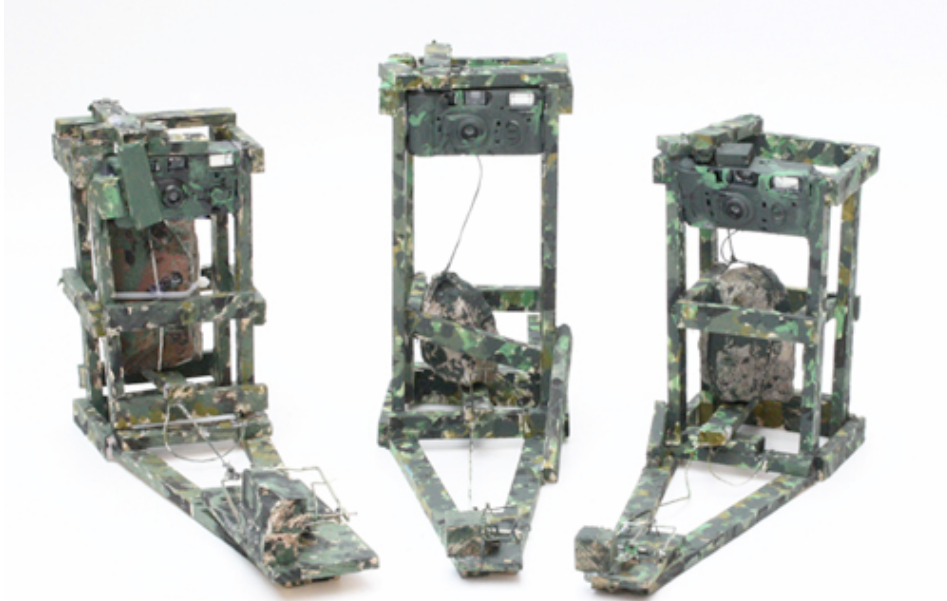
Since graduating with a First Class (Hons) in Interactive Arts from Manchester School of Art in 2008, Staincliffe has exhibited extensively across the North West and further afield, having recently been artist in residence at Red Gate Gallery in Beijing.

Recent notable projects and exhibitions include residency project *an urban ecology of chance*, Beijing, 2009; *Blind Men Feel Elephants* (solo exhibition), Prussian Projekte, Nottingham, 2010; *A Horse walks into a Bar* (group exhibition), Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, 2010; *Purveyors*, a curatorial project at Rogue Project Space, Manchester, 2010 and *Lines of Desire* (group exhibition), Oriel Davies Gallery, Newtown, 2010. Staincliffe received runners up prize at The Northern Futures Awards 2010, which celebrates emergent northern creative talent.

*Fauna Automata: Rat, A Horse
walks into a Bar, Castlefield
Gallery, 2010*



*Automata, A Horse walks
into a Bar, Castlefield
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Contact

For further information or high res press images contact:

Daniel Staincliffe
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Piccadilly
Manchester
M1 2WH

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