



## I'm with Stupid

Jimmy Kuehnle and Mark McGowan

Curated by Amy Marjoram

1 -23 June 2012

Exhibition Opening Thursday 31 May, 6-8pm

For this exhibition on the Small Screen curator Amy Marjoram will present a selection of work by performance/video artists Jimmy Kuehnle (USA) and Mark McGowan (UK). Both artists act the idiot in an intelligent way. Kuehnle can be seen in his artwork riding invisible bicycles, slithering around a high-end shopping district dressed as a mythical lizard or wearing an oversized inflatable sculpture that wiggles and wags and bumps into everything it encounters. Similarly in a seemingly absurd way, McGowan has captured himself dressed up as a ballerina pig dancing outside Scotland yard, eating chunks of a cooked corgi dog, and walking the streets of Manhattan with a George W Bush mask on and a sign on his back 'Kick My Ass'. Through video, both artists highlight the rigidity of interactions in social space, by smashing through conventional behaviour with their odd activities. By utilising humour and idiocy, they manage to playfully point out issues and ideas that are often kept restrained by the lack of expressiveness found in 'normal' social interactions. The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalogue essay.



Mark McGowan, *Pegging*, 2008. Video Still



Jimmy Kuehnle, *Kiss the Sky*, 2007. Video Still

**Jimmy Keuhnle** is an American performance artist. He completed an MFA (Sculpture/Video/Performance), at the University of Texas, San Antonio in 2006 and has exhibited internationally. Recent Solo exhibition include *Things Bigger Than People*, Pittsburg State University (2010), *I Don't Like Cold Weather*, Bobbitt Visual Arts Center, Albion, Michigan (2009) and *Inflatable Sculptures*, galerie weissraum, Kyoto, Japan (2008).

**Mark McGowan** is a London-based performance artist. He graduated with a BA Fine Art (Painting from the Camberwell College of the Arts (UK) in 2003 and currently is an Associate Lecturer at Chelsea College of Art and Design, London. His work has been exhibited at galleries throughout Europe. Recent solo performances/exhibitions include *24 Hour Olympic State*, Hackney Wick Gallery, London (2011), *Dignity of Man*, Focke Museum, Bremen, Germany (2010), and *Tutti Gli Sono Italaini Razzisti*, Roma Contemporanea, Rome (2009).

Screen Space

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