



# Das Schloss (The Castle)

Curated by William Clarke

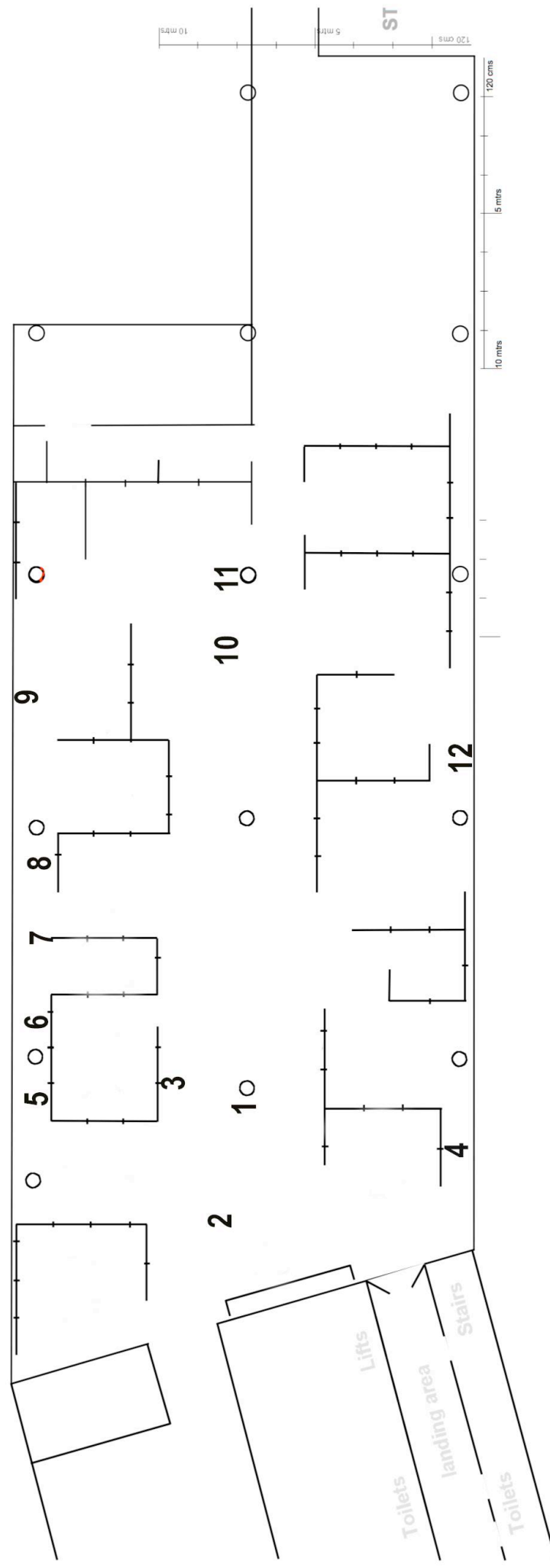


‘The Castle is the story of K., the unwanted land surveyor who is never to be admitted to the castle nor accepted in the village, and yet cannot go home. As he experiences certainty and doubt, hope and fear, and reason and nonsense, K. finds himself in an absurd, labyrinth world trying to conduct business with non-transparent, seemingly arbitrary controlling systems.’

*Das Schloss (The Castle)* is a group exhibition of works and objects referencing Franz Kafka’s last novel *The Castle* (1926).

Borrowing from the novel’s themes, *Das Schloss (The Castle)* addresses ‘art-world’ structures and challenges what we may understand as ‘artistic success.’ It does so by creating interventions throughout this BA Fine Art Degree Show using works produced by a wide spectrum of people at dramatically different points of their creative development.

The curated works include pieces by children, what we term ‘outsider art’ and through to artists represented by galleries. The installation of these works, developed with the co-operation of other exhibiting students, asks what it means to make the transition from working within an institutional framework to becoming a graduate and beyond. Using ‘The Castle’ as an allegorical trope for the ‘art-world’ the show engages in complex layers of storytelling from the artists on show, by being present the artists partake in the ritual of the degree show and therefore become homogenous to the students; creating a heterotopia in which the hegemony is absent works are shown in harmony. Thus do we see objects such as a shell man riding a shell tortoise presented as art, sharing creativity with its neighbouring objects and prints from 1902-1905 alongside contemporary works, inviting us to consider comparable qualities and the manners in which we judge (and assess) artworks.



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Robert Crumb,  
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1. Franz Kafka *Das Schloss (The Castle)*, book, original published 1926, version on show published 2015  
Franz Kafka's *Das Schloss (The Castle)*, dramatization, David Fishelson, Aaron Leichter, Max Brod, Franz Kafka, book, 2003  
*R. Crumb's Kafka*, Robert Crumb, David Zane Marowitz, book, 2004  
\*Robert Crumb, illustration enlargement from *R. Crumb's Kafka* and postcard  
\*\*Prints from the play '*Franz Kafkas The Castle*', Manhattan Ensemble Theatre, 2002
  2. Hannah Whitlow, *A Collection of Things*, wood, resin, acrylic paint, 2015
  3. Craig Proud, *Halftone Wallpaper*, print on paper, 2016  
Samuel Levack and Jennifer Lewandowski, *Pilgrim Shells*, Jesmonite and pigment, dimensions variable, 2013  
Stuart Whipps, *Speeches, Interviews and Other Statements M. Thatcher, May 1979-November 2979*, Silk Screen on Newsprint, 2009
  4. Hilary Jack, *...Singing Through The Fog*, found gauntlet glove, wood and miniature model tree, 2011  
Pat Flynn, *Smoke 3*, unframed C-type Print, 2012  
Pat Flynn, *High life of a Miracle*, Manchester Art Gallery Publication, 2015  
Melissa Burn, *Pair Of Heads For Your Heads*, wood and gloss paint, 2015
  5. Bartosz Beda, *Silent Interior III*, Oil on panel, 2015
  6. Gerry Clarke, pastel on paper, c1980  
Gerry Clarke, pastel on paper, c1980  
Daniel Bühler, *Ohne Titel* (Installation Shot), framed photo, 2011/12
  7. Found Object, Shells, Unknown date
  8. Kamisaka Sekka and Furuya Korin, *Shin Bijutsukai* (A new ocean of art), Japanese woodblock print, 1902-1905  
Craig Proud, *Untitled*, Risograph, 2016
  9. Found Object, Oil on canvas, Unknown Date
  10. Amy Stevenson, *Don't worry, it'll all come out in the wash*, scouring sponges and glitter, 2015  
Hannah Whitlow, *A Collection of Things*, wood, resin, acrylic paint, 2015  
Gerry Clarke, ceramics, c1980  
Gerry Clarke, ceramics, c1980  
Found Objects, Hand made Hair Brush  
Hand made 'Worry Dolls'  
Craig Proud, *Dizzy Ink*, sticker, 2016  
The Children of Yan Yao School, Takuapa. Made object, cloth, beads, plastic cherry and card, 2015  
Elliot Gascoigne, *Untitled (windmill)*, wood, acrylic and fabric, 2015  
Priyanka Parma, Skirt and Top, fabric, 2015  
Necklace and earrings, various material, 2015
  11. Ed Young, *Your Mum Ballons* part of *All So Fucking African* installation at The Armoury Show, 2016
  12. Caroline Clarke, embroidery on silk, 1984
- William Clarke, Megan Carrick and Jasmine Paterson, *The Prisoner*, 3 minute performance
  - QR codes - Joe Beedles and Amy Stevenson, *Goldfingers II*, web-based GIF, 2016  
*#SorrNotSorry*, web-based GIF, 2016  
*Tooth*, web-based GIF, 2016  
*LouisVX*, web-based GIF, 2016