

NATHANIEL MELLORS

THE TIME SURGEON

6 October - 25 November 2007

Preview and Reception for the Artist: Saturday 6 October 2007, 2pm - 5pm

ArtSway is delighted to announce *The Time Surgeon*, a new film-based installation from Nathaniel Mellors, co-commissioned with the Biennale d'Art Contemporain de Lyon 2007. This new work was created while Nathaniel Mellors was artist in residence at ArtSway this year, and much of the film was shot on location in the New Forest. Nathaniel Mellors' ArtSway residency is a partnership with the Arts Institute at Bournemouth.

The Time Surgeon is an absurdist film, partly inspired by Samuel Beckett's *Krapp's Last Tape* (1958) and Chris Marker's *La Jetée* (1962), in which the central character's verbal descriptions of torture, in combination with the fast-forward and rewind buttons on his Sony portable, are enough to send his tape-bound 'Victim' shuttling forwards and backwards in time. 'Victim' is steered through significant historical events, visiting 1960s New York and Renaissance France as well as Jesus' crucifixion at Golgotha – arriving inside the body of Christ by mistake, causing the abortion of Christ's conjoined 'sensible twin', before finally meeting GOD – who requests the end of the art-work.

Nathaniel Mellors is known for his ad-hoc sculpture, psychedelic theatre and satirical films which target the question of who controls language.

Nathaniel Mellors (born Doncaster, 1974) graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2001 and lives and works in London and Amsterdam. Selected solo exhibitions include *Hateball* at Alison Jacques Gallery (2005) and *Profondo Viola*, Matt's Gallery (2004). He is currently resident at the Rijksakademie, Amsterdam and will exhibit *Hateball* in *The Present Order is the Disorder of the Future* at De Hallen Haarlem this Autumn. Nathaniel Mellors was selected for a residency at ArtSway in partnership with the Arts Institute at Bournemouth's text + work programme. text + work is publishing a full-colour publication to accompany the exhibition, entitled 'B.OK', and including new critical texts by Jennifer Higgie, David Evans and Martin Herbert.

Nathaniel Mellors is represented by Alison Jacques Gallery, London and Matt's Gallery, London. -(ends)-

For press images, interviews, and further information, please contact Laura McLean-Ferris on 01590 682260 x 16 or email laura@artsway.org.uk

A FREE COACH FROM LONDON WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE PREVIEW ON 6 OCTOBER, LEAVING FROM TATE BRITAIN AT 11.30 AND RETURNING FOR 7PM TRAFFIC PERMITTING. PLEASE CONTACT ARTSWAY TO BOOK A PLACE AS SPACE IS LIMITED. A LIGHT BUFFET WILL BE SERVED ON ARRIVAL AT ARTSWAY.

Nathaniel Mellors will be in discussion with writer and critic Sally O'Reilly at ArtSway on 10 November 2007. To book a place, please contact ArtSway on 01590 682260

Notes for editors

The **Time Surgeon** was developed by Nathaniel Mellors during an ArtSway Production Residency and co-commissioned by ArtSway and **Biennale de Lyon 2007**. *The Time Surgeon* will also be exhibited in Lyon 19 September - 6 January 2008. See www.biennale-de-lyon.org for more information.

ArtSway and The Arts Institute at Bournemouth offered a two-month production residency with a following exhibition at ArtSway and an accompanying publication/critical text as part of the The Arts Institute at Bournemouth **text + work** initiative.

ArtSway is a unique place in the UK's New Forest to see, discuss, make and engage with significant contemporary visual art from the local to the international. A purpose-built and architecturally important gallery space hosts a changing programme of exhibitions and wide ranging creative opportunities for all.

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ArtSway is open: Tuesday - Sunday 11am - 5pm, Admission is FREE.

The **Arts Institute at Bournemouth** is a leading specialist higher educational institution, offering undergraduate and postgraduate degrees across a range of contemporary arts, design and media subjects. Its programme of **text + work** promotes dialogue between innovative contemporary art and design practice and its theoretical context.

 the **arts institute** at bournemouth