

Neumeister Bar-Am

Daragh Reeves – The Guilty Machine

13.09 – 01.11

For his first solo exhibition in Germany, Daragh Reeves presents 'Formulaic Musical', a new video he shot in Brazil this year.

The work is exhibited along with drawings, a photographic sculpture and a slide collage that encompass potential for new narratives and frequently pose riddles with time.

'Formulaic Musical' took its departure from Reeves' suspicion that the time it takes to smoke a cigarette is similar in duration to that of a pop song. In turn the duration of an entire packet of twenty cigarettes, smoked end to end, would achieve the running time of a feature film.

For the making of 'Formulaic Musical', twenty smokers were captured on a break from work. Each were matched to a song from the artist's Brazilian music collection, fitting the exact length of their smoke. The smoking workers transcend the ordinariness of the moment, unwittingly they participate in the creation of a movie, before returning to their jobs.

Elements of chance composition, layering and alternative reality are familiar and repeating themes in Reeves' oeuvre. Other pieces in the exhibition include collages reusing discarded 35mm archive sheets, a drawing developed over ten years, a slide animation activated by the visitor, a sculptural movie poster for 'Formulaic Musical', inspired by a Brazilian album cover and a newly restored version of the 2004 video 'Time is Money'.

'Formulaic Musical' has an additional screening at 17h on 19th September at abc – art berlin contemporary, with a reception hosted by Neumeister Bar-Am.

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