

'The Social Bases of Abstract Art '

Taking its title from two 1930s essays by the Art Historian Meyer Schapiro, this show will set out explore the relationship between contemporary British abstraction and the world beyond the gallery walls. Modern European Abstraction emerged just over one hundred years ago and has often been presented as an internal autonomous development, cut off from the wider world.

In exploring some of the ways in which contemporary abstraction continues to engage with the social, physical and historical realities of our times it is hoped that the exhibition will challenge the view of abstractions isolation, revealing its diverse modes of engagement with social and historical forces.

A London-based writer and art historian, Ben Wiedel-Kaufmann has published texts on a variety of modern and contemporary artists including Ben Nicholson, Tom Wesselmann and Piers Secunda. He is currently working on film and exhibition projects and writes for Abstract Critical and Studio International. In October 2014, he will commence a PhD on London's Murals at Plymouth University.