



ICA Production / Offsite Re-enactment

ROD DICKINSON PRESENTS

NOCTURN

THE WACO RE-ENACTMENT

www.wacoreenactment.org

Thurs 16 September, 7pm

£8, £7 Concs. £6 ICA Members

Meet in ICA Foyer at 7pm for Coaches

ICA, The Mall, London, SW1

Tickets & Information: 020 7930 3647 / www.ica.org.uk

Artist Rod Dickinson will reconstruct the FBI's secret psychological warfare assault on the infamous Branch Davidian religious community in Waco, Texas, at a secret, remote location close to London, on Thursday 16 September.

In 1993, the FBI laid siege to the religious community led by David Koresh for 51 days, intimidating them with a continuous barrage of white noise, rock music and an array of repetitive sounds played at 110 decibels.

Using first-hand testimonies from interviews with survivors and academic researchers, Dickinson will recreate some of these original sounds, which included babies crying, circling helicopters, high pitched rabbit screams and dentist drills. The reconstructed audio will be broadcast at 100 decibels at a remote location surrounded by wire fence and bright floodlights.

The reconstructed audio from the psychological warfare siege will also be streamed over the internet in real time for 24 hours a day for over a month at: www.wacoreenactment.org

Rod Dickinson

Rod Dickinson is best known for his covert creation of crop circles during the 1990s, where he documented the public reactions that they generated and explored the belief systems that they produced. More recently his work has included a reconstruction of Stanley Milgram's 1961 'Obedience to Authority' experiment, where subjects were asked by a scientist to give what they believed were fatal electric shocks to a protesting victim. Dickinson is interested in the peculiarities of human behaviour and exploring the mechanism of belief systems. For the Waco re-enactment his particular focus is on the moment when these belief systems come into conflict with the state or mainstream culture. He is also interested in inserting historical events into the present where they can serve as powerful metaphors for contemporary events. The Waco re-enactment has clear references to the recent incidents of torture and abuse during the ongoing conflict in Iraq.

Background Information on the Waco siege

The extensive press coverage of the Waco siege in 1993 barely acknowledged the FBI's psychological intimidation tactics and the FBI have denied their use – despite the existence of written records documenting the events. The millenarian Branch Davidians believed their prophecies were coming true when the heavily armoured BATF (Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms) officers raided their home. The Davidians retaliated against the FBI and the resulting stand-off culminated in a fire that killed 80 Davidians. Some of the survivors are currently serving life sentences in US state penitentiaries.

Further information on Nocturn can be found at: www.wacoreenactment.org