



Contact  
Visit Us

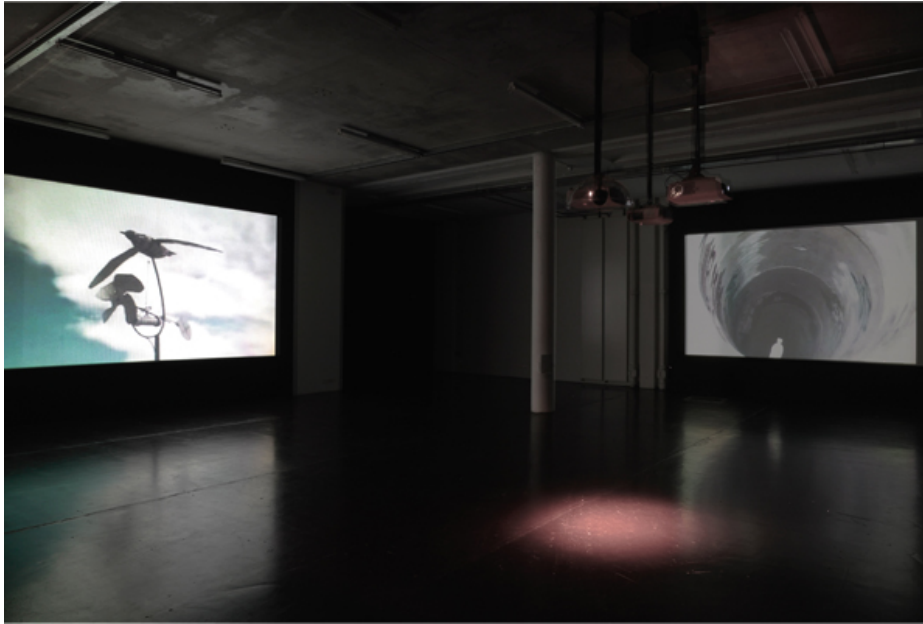
[Spike Island](#) [Exhibitions](#) [Studios](#) [Associates](#) [Residency Programme](#) [Spike in the City](#) [Spike Design](#) [Archive](#)

[Login](#)

## The Known Unknowns: Rod Dickinson, Richard Grayson & Charlie Tweed in conversation

Saturday 20 November, 2-3:30pm, Associates Space

[Newsletter](#)  
[Email Spike Island](#)  
[Events RSS feed](#)



*Notes Part I, II & III*, Charlie Tweed, 2010. Installation view. Photo: Stuart Bunce.

Join us for *The Known Unknowns* when artists **Rod Dickinson, Richard Grayson & Charlie Tweed** will discuss their individual practices and their shared concerns around language, narrative and power, in particular their interest in power manifested as pervasive, self-policing social control.

All three artists use performative strategies in their respective practices, playing in particular with the conventions of documentary and reportage, stretching out their factual forms to seemingly absurdist, fictional conclusions. These include an endless live looping press briefing that layers catastrophe onto emergency (**Rod Dickinson's *Closed Circuit*, 2010**); a choral work with a libretto based on a 1960s cult Children of God, imagining a Book of Revelations style, post-peak oil apocalypse (**Richard Grayson's *The Golden Space City of God*, 2009**) and a series of sci-fi transmissions from a shadowy collective orchestrating change on a global scale in order to keep us 'safe' (**Charlie Tweed, *Noteseries 2007-10***). These works appear to over-identify with a world in thrall to crisis, acting out our fears as a form of critique.

This event will provide the chance to discuss the artists' strategies, their individual works and the wider social and political contexts which frame them.



*Who, What, Where, When, Why and How, (2009)*

**The Known Unknowns** has been programmed in response to Charlie Tweed's solo exhibition Notes I, II & III currently on show at Spike Island and on-line courtesy of Animate Projects. The discussion will be chaired by Spike Island Curator Marie-Anne McQuay.

This event is free, please contact [admin@spikeisland.org.uk](mailto:admin@spikeisland.org.uk) or call 0117 929 2266 to book tickets. Refreshments will be served.

#### Biographies:

**Rod Dickinson** (1965) is a visual artist and lecturer in media and cultural studies at University of West England in Bristol. His most recent live project '**Closed Circuit**' - an examination of political rhetoric and the government press briefing - was staged at Stara Elektrarna (The Old Power Station) Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 28 August 2010, as part of the International festival Mladi levi. '**Closed Circuit**' was made in collaboration with writer Steve Rushton and commissioned and produced by [Aksioma Institute for Contemporary Arts](#). Most recent exhibitions include '**Greenwich Degree Zero**' (with novelist Tom McCarthy, 2006) at the Arts Council's Longside Gallery in Yorkshire Sculpture Park until 10 October, 2010. For more information on the artist, please see: <http://www.rod dickinson.net/pages/index.php>

**Richard Grayson** (born 1958) is a London based artist, writer and curator. He was a founder member of the Basement Group (1979–1984) in Newcastle upon Tyne. Recent exhibitions include Art Pace San Antonio Texas 2009, Matt's Gallery, London 2009; a Five year retrospective the De La Warr Pavilion Bexhill, 2010, the 2010 Sydney Biennale, Australia and the Kunstmuseum Thurgau, Switzerland 2010. Works include: Messiah 2004, Intelligence 2005, The Golden Space City of God 2009 and The Magpie Index 2010. He was the Artistic Director of the 2002 the Biennial of Sydney and most recently, in 2010, curated the group show Polytechnic for Raven Row. His critical writing has been published by Art Monthly UK; and Broadsheet, Australia. He has written catalogue essays and monographs on Suzanne Treister, Mark Wallinger, Roy Harper, Mike Nelson and Susan Hiller.

For more information on the artist, please see: <http://ensemble.va.com.au/Grayson/>

London based artist **Charlie Tweed** (1974) graduated from Goldsmiths MFA Art Practice in 2008. He was selected for the group exhibition <dragged down into lowercase> (Sommerakademie) at the Zentrum Paul Klee in 2008, was the winner of the Galerie Klatovy Klenova prize at the Start Point European Academy Awards 2008, the winner of the ECO 09 prize in 2009 and selected for Bloomberg New Contemporaries in 2007. His solo show at Spike Island is accompanied by an on-line exhibition of the notes series programmed by [Animate Projects](#).

For more information on the artist, please see: <http://www.charlietweed.com>

Calendar

Galleries open 11-5pm Tue to Sun

Spike Café open Mon to Fri 9-5pm, Sat & Sun 11-4pm

Spike Island 133 Cumberland Road, Bristol BS1 6UX, UK

+44 (0)117 929 2266

Terms of use

Privacy

Accessibility

© 2008 Spike Island



Spike Island on Facebook



Spike Island on Twitter

Registered Charity No: 1003505



Supported by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**CALOUSTE  
GULBENKIAN  
FOUNDATION**

