

Artists in Residence: DARTER

The Whitechapel Gallery's ongoing schools programme includes year-long collaborations between artists, students and teachers.

Residencies from September 2010 – July 2011 developed from visits to the Gallery and investigations into the social, physical and historical contexts of two east London schools and their communities. Artists engaged students through collaborative and participatory approaches, where the input of the young people was crucial.

DARTER (Chloe Cooper, Phoebe Davies, Louisa Martin) are a London-based group of live and performance artists who respond to particular social contexts - in this case Bridge Academy secondary school, Hackney.

Notes (2011) reveals the impact of the artists' approach as facilitators, providing students with technical and logistical support to realise diverse and ambitious artworks both inside and outside the classroom. The artworks described in *Notes* were shown in a public exhibition at the school in July 2011.

The oversized text piece *Learning Objective* (2011) playfully distorts typical art-curriculum language in order to question the emphasis on pre-determined outcomes and targets within formal art education. The intentions and consequences of placing artists within an education setting are also explored. This debate is continued in *Observational Drawing* (2011), a manipulated recording of a conversation that took place at the school.

Interruption (2011) is a video documenting school staff performing to a set of absurd instructions issued by the artists, who interrupted the normal functioning of a staff meeting to create the performance artwork.

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For more information visit: whitechapelgallery.org/education

A publication about the Artists in Residence is available from the bookshop

