

PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday 13 April 2010
For immediate release



The Inconsistency of Everything

Harminder Singh Judge

Exhibition curated by Michael Forbes

New Art Exchange is proud to launch a new exhibition by artist Harminder Singh Judge. *The Inconsistency of Everything* features new work by the artist, and launches on 23 April 2010.

Harminder Singh Judge describes himself as an artist trapped in a perpetual love triangle with religion, art and pop culture. Over the last four years Judge has developed an interdisciplinary practice obsessed with romanticised fables within religious history, exploring the enduring appeal of spirituality within our postmodern and largely secular society.

He has a deep interest in the visual and conceptual mixing of religious mythologies with personal experience, pop culture and folklore. Judge also has a keen interest in the meeting point of East and West, both in culture and history, and how one can often exoticise and misinterpret the other.

"I always keep one eye on my personal history as a British born Sikh who loves rock music and Red Dwarf whilst also being genuinely fascinated and intrigued by the epic stories of religious history. I would site religious symbolism, mass conversion and the rituals of cults among my many influences, as well as Norwegian Death Metal, Gold Top Milk & Buddha."

- Harminder Singh Judge

For New Art Exchange Judge will create a culturally re-mixed installation incorporating conceptual links to Cain and Abel, The Land of Nod, John the Revelator, Kurt Cobain, Ganesh, Gene Simmons, Kali, Milk, and the legend of Robert Johnson.

Alongside the exhibition Judge will also bring his new performance installation, entitled *The Modes of Al-Ikseer* to the gallery as a one off event. *The Modes of Al-Ikseer* is a forty-five minute long show fusing contemporary pop culture, advertising aesthetic and tongue in cheek humour with epic symbolic imagery. It observes and locates the place of ancient religious symbolism and mythology into a world obsessed with capitalism, celebrity and marketing gimmicks. The work takes its basis from a Hindu myth

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concerning the creation of Amrit (the holy nectar of immortality) and Judge's love of 80's electro pop giants Depeche Mode.

A partnership between New Art Exchange and 198 Contemporary Arts and Learning, the exhibition has been curated by Nottingham-based artist - Michael Forbes. The exhibition and accompanying events and educational programme will explore the themes around Judge's work. The programme includes special talks, performances and workshops.

- Ends -

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Notes to Editors:

- Harminder Singh Judge's *The Inconsistency of Everything* will be on show between **Saturday 24 April - 3 July 2010**
- The Preview takes place on Friday 23 April 2010
- Venue: **New Art Exchange**, 39-41 Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 6BE
- The exhibition is a partnership between New Art Exchange and 198 Contemporary Arts and Learning
- Curated by Nottingham-based artist **Michael Forbes**, this is a new exhibition featuring new work
- The special performance accompanying the exhibition - **The Modes of Al-Ikseer** takes place on *Thursday 8th July, 7.30pm*
- Opening Times: Monday to Friday 10am - 7pm, Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday: Closed
- Admission to the exhibition is FREE
- For more information visit the NAE website: www.nae.org.uk

New Art Exchange

- **New Art Exchange was awarded £5million** of funding from Arts Council England, Nottingham City Council, the Greater Nottingham Partnership, East Midlands Development Agency, Radford and Hyson Green New Deal for Communities, and European Regional Development Funding, and took 18 months to build. The organisation was a big winner in Arts Council England's the January 2008 review of national arts funding gaining a 58% increase in its annual funding grant. The award was made in recognition of the organisation's vital role in supporting visual and performing arts.
- **The building designed by architects Hawkins\ Brown** boasts 5 -storey building provides 1360 sqm space dedicated to visual arts with; galleries, workshop/performance/rehearsal space, artists in

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residence facilities, and a cafe. Distinguished from the red clay buildings of the neighbourhood by its black brick façade and arrangement of frameless windows ranging in size (from 0.16 sqm to 4.84sqm), offers incidental and unexpected views into and out of the building.

- **Mission:** *The New Art Exchange ambition is to become a national centre of excellence promoting contemporary arts development within the cultural and creative industries, to deliver an innovative and exciting programme of activity to promote, support and advocate contemporary multi-cultural arts development in visual and performing arts and new media. To be a cultural centre led by African, African Caribbean and South Asian arts practice. To serve an international community from roots firmly embedded in the local area.*
- New Art Exchange has won a number of awards, including: **The RIBA National Award 2009, RIBA East Midlands Award 2009, The Lord Mayor's Awards for Urban Design - New Build and Overall Award, and the National Civic Trust Award 2009**