

UNHOLY TRUTHS at INITIAL ACCESS New Art from the Frank Cohen Collection 8 September–15 December 2007



Artists

Dirk Bell , Jake and Dinos Chapman, Dan Colen, Till Gerhard, Matthew Greene, Mike Kelley, Terence Koh, Tallur L.N, Yue Minjun, Sudarshan Shetty, Andro Wekua, Douglas White

Unholy Truths is the third exhibition at Initial Access of new works from the Frank Cohen Collection. It presents important works from recent years, by some of the key painters and sculptors currently working in India and China alongside artists from Europe and the USA. Almost all the works will be on display in the UK for the first time.

A sense of powerlessness and alienation in modern society translates into an anxious state of mind that characterises contemporary life. It can conceal aggression; it is often obsessive and melancholic. Artists have always been fascinated with the darker side of life. That dimension of the imagination in the visual arts provides it with a purpose. From earliest times artists have depicted myths and legends. They have imagined biblical scenes, the apocalypse and the redemption, heaven and hell. They have wandered through the surreal recesses of the human mind and dredged their emotions in order to express hidden feelings that cannot be spoken of but which can be manifested visually.

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The current fashion for the 'Gothic' in contemporary art is acknowledged in Unholy Truths but has been extended and deepened, avoiding the pastiche of imagery that graces the walls of so many exhibitions today.

Introducing new artists to the West from India including Tallur L.N. whose sculpture, Esophageal Reflex, is illustrated above middle, and also from China including Yue Minjun whose painting, Between Men and Animal, is illustrated above right alongside European and American artists including Mike Kelley whose sculpture, Frankenstein, is illustrated above left, Unholy Truths demonstrates that the macabre can translate into the satirical and that the satirical can become the profane.

Initial Access opened on 19 January 2007, as a space to present exhibitions from Frank Cohen's internationally important collection of contemporary art. It is sited on the outskirts of the millennium city of Wolverhampton, in two refurbished warehouses that provide 10,000 sq feet of exhibition space. Initial Access presents different aspects of the Collection in a series of exhibitions curated by David Thorp. The programme is designed to mount shows of new acquisitions to the collection, explore themes among works that may not have been seen before and give the public an opportunity to see more of the collection currently in store.

David Thorp is the former director of the South London Gallery and curator of contemporary projects at the Henry Moore Foundation. Frank Cohen grew up in Manchester, and has been collecting art for thirty years.

For further press information and images please contact:

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Visitor Information:

Initial Access Units 19 & 20,
Calibre Industrial Park, Laches Close,
Off Enterprise Drive, Four Ashes,
Wolverhampton, WV10 7DZ
Website www.initialaccess.co.uk

Hours Tuesday-Friday 11am-4pm,
Sat. 10am-4pm Admission Free
Visitor info: +44 (0) 1902 790419,
info@initialaccess.co.uk

Train/Taxi Wolverhampton Station is on a direct route from Birmingham and London Euston. Initial Access in Four Ashes is a ten minute drive from the station

Car

At the M6 J12:
from the North take the first exit OR
from the South, take the third exit,
on to the A5 heading east towards
Brownhills & Cannock.

After approx 200 meters sign-posted "Four Ashes Industrial Estate", turn first right into Vicarage Road, which incidentally is not signposted!

Continue straight for approx 1.5 miles, taking the third left into Enterprise Drive and right into Laches Close, continue round and turn right at the multi-coloured sculpture, where you will find us on the left.
On-site parking is free.