

Louis Jeck Prestidge: Degree Show 2017

Following graduation I took the opportunity to use the Woodside Studios for another year as a Fellowship student. The degree course Wirral Met enabled me to have fun and express myself in a relaxed but professional environment. The space on offer enabled me to explore many different avenues that included sculpture and Installation. During the course I developed a reputation for 'skip diving', I frequently bamboozled the staff by retrieving parts of a nearby bus stop or discarded bedsteads.

As the course went on my confidence grew enabling me to take more risks as a student and led me to develop my interest in filmmaking. This led to a collaboration with tutor Michelle Rowley as part of Michelle's MA course at UCLAN. Michelle asked me and Jonny Benson, one of the other Fellowship students, to develop our filmmaking ideas on a semi-derelict site in Wavertree. We produced the film *'Hunting Ground'* (2018). It was a really important steppingstone for me, the opportunity to work with an experienced artist and teacher outside of a college context gave me a lot of confidence.

Since 2017 I have established myself as a Liverpool based artist having become a member of Road Studios. Working in my studio as a painter I have collaborated with fellow artist Jacob Gourley, exhibiting work at West Kirby Arts Centre and the Bridewell Gallery in 2019. I have been involved in group exhibitions for Light Night and Studio Shuffle, a pop-up exhibition night for studios in the Baltic area in Liverpool. In addition to working in the medium of painting I have also exhibited short films. I am currently looking to do an MA in Fine Art at a University in the North West or London.

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