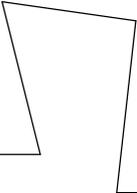


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m<sup>2</sup> Gallery

12.07.04

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## Helen Dowling

### *Crinkum Crankum*

Monday July 12<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> August 2004

This recent series of photographs shows two pairs of hands identical to each other except in the angle that they are seen. Each holding a white ball they are positioned in such a way for the hands to make faces and the balls become eyes. They imply a creature like presence yet each one has distinct humanoid qualities.

Recognition of the human expression communicates the tragic whilst simultaneously being undercut by the comical subject matter used to create them. The subject is obvious enough in its medium for the viewer to see them as both hands and faces at the same time offering a play between the two. This play is essential to the fragility of the photographs. This is meant not in an ephemeral sense of its physicality but as a part of its being. The constructed faces can break away to be experienced as the parts that make them and vice versa.

Essential to the photographs and my practice in general is to operate in the gap between the before and after, where possibilities are not differentiated according to likelihood. The work is not to play on polarities of the expected and unexpected but rather place them into a continuum. Where hands can become characters and spinning tops never fall.

Helen will also be showing 4 short DVD pieces at the opening;

*Petit Mal, Bobby, Peter's Projection and Jack & Bidy.*

All works are for sale. Photographs £150 unframed.

Helen is a recent graduate of the Fine Art and History of Art course at Goldsmiths College.

m<sup>2</sup> Gallery is a non profit making arts organization promoting the display of art through the m<sup>2</sup> exhibiting space that can be viewed by all visitors to Kings Grove, Peckham, London Se15 2NB. It is administered and curated by the m<sup>2</sup> Gallery committee. Proposals are welcome from all sections of the community who would like to exhibit in the space.