**** **Peter McArdle
Stories from the Big Flat Now**

**Press release**

**Acclaimed North East Stuckist artist Peter McArdle exhibits an all new body of work**

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NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, PREVIEW: FRIDAY 19th APRIL 2019, 6PM - 9PM

 **Abject Gallery is pleased to announce a new exhibition by acclaimed Stuckist artist Peter McArdle.**

Peter McArdle presents a body of work that explores the relationship between fine art traditions - the nude, the landscape, sculpture, as well as the history of painting itself, and reconsiders each in the context of the new digital image that now dominates visual culture. Across video, drawing installation and painting McArdle, through the relocation of digital images in a fine art context, makes an enquiry into the possibilities of narrative in such a culture. The images he creates disorientate the viewer and plunge them into the unreliable narrative and self-reflection that he suggests result from consuming images in the way we do. He invites the viewer to consider the status of the people, places and events that populate these images and negotiate the gaps between thoughts, desires and language. In doing so he asks a series of questions about contemporary visual culture - what happens when images are taken out of their contexts and sit alongside others? What happens when images find themselves in new cultural and political spaces? How does fine art relate to other image forms? What does it mean to live in a culture in which multiple images are disseminated? Ultimately for McArdle painting is an individual pursuit and a shared experience and through it he asks us to consider how painting changes how we consider these images, once we see them made material.

Peter McArdle was born in Tynemouth, in 1965. In 1989, he was on the shortlist for the Winsor & Newton Young Artist Award. In 1997, during the Year of Visual Art, he was commissioned for work by the Tyne & Wear Development Corporation. He also received commissions from Arts Resource, Sunderland, and the City Council. From 1990, he participated also in group shows, including the Discerning Eye show at the Mall Galleries, London.

In 2003 he founded The Gateshead Stuckists group and was exhibited at the Stuckism International Gallery. He was a featured artist in The Stuckists Punk Victorian show at the Walker Art Gallery for the 2004 Liverpool Biennial, and was one of the ten "leading Stuckists" in Go West at Spectrum London gallery in 2006. In 2007, he was shown in “I Won't Have Sex with You as Long as We're Married” at the A Gallery.

In 2007, he became Head of the Foundation course at Northumberland College, and currently teaches the FAD (Foundation Art & Design) course located at Bamburgh House in Newcastle.

**The preview for this exhibition takes place on Friday 19th April 2019, 6pm-9pm.**

**The exhibition continues to be open from 20th April to 1st June 2019, Wednesday - Saturday, 11am-5pm. Entry is free**

**There is also a special late opening as part of The Late Shows 2019 on 18th May, 7-11pm.**

More information is available at [www.abject.gallery](http://www.abject.gallery)

**Peter McArdle: Stories from the Big Flat Now**

Preview: **Friday 19th April 2019, 6-9pm**

Exhibition: **20th April – 1st June 2019**

Opening times: **Wed - Sat, 11am - 5pm**

Location: **Abject 2 Gallery, 2nd Floor, Bamburgh House, Market Street (East), Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6BH**

Web Address: [breezecreatives.com/abject-gallery/peter-mcardle](https://breezecreatives.com/abject-gallery/peter-mcardle)

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**Information for editors**

For media enquiries contact Daniel Gibson at info@breezecreatives.com.

**Press image available at:**
**https://www.dropbox.com/sh/t45uzvib3xfs77z/AAAdvPalNKcDscqcETkzsJkVa?dl=0**

Additional images can also be emailed upon request.

* **Breeze Creatives**, based in Newcastle upon Tyne, specialises in cultural projects and events around the North East of England, and provides artist studios and project spaces in Newcastle city centre. Breeze Creatives latest projects include Abject Gallery, a contemporary art gallery exhibiting a mixture of national and international emerging artists. [breezecreatives.com](http://www.breezecreatives.com)
* **Abject Gallery**, run by Breeze Creatives, is a contemporary art gallery in Newcastle city centre that exhibits a selection of national and international artists from all over the globe, including Turkey, Canada, Iceland and China. Located on the 2nd and 8th floors of Bamburgh House on Market Street East, the gallery is also known for its stunning views of the Quayside including the Tyne Bridge, Sage and BALTIC. [www.abject.gallery](http://www.abject.gallery)