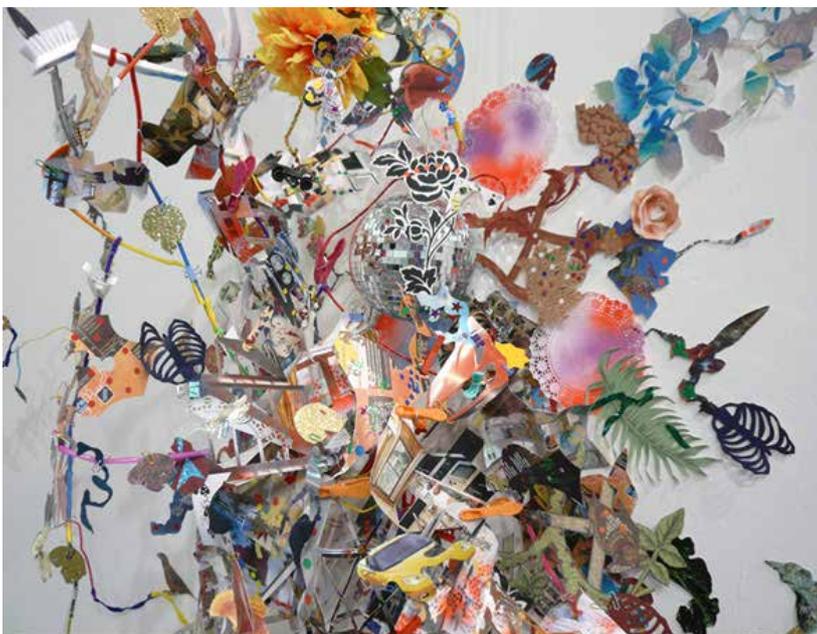




## Adam King: Rough Diamond Jubilee

27 April - 27 May 2012



The Gallery @ Idea Store Whitechapel presents an exhibition of new work by Adam King, made in response to the space and the local area. This includes a 32 feet-long mural along the main wall and an installation around one of the nearby columns.

For this exhibition, King decided on the idea of a mural not just as an effective format for the long gallery wall, but also as a way of acknowledging the context of the Idea Store as a busy public space. The work explores and speaks of the violence and celebration of a

contemporary moment in which riots, protest, the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee co-exist.

The artist has been inspired by a diverse range of images, including contemporary newspaper photographs, the Bayeux Tapestry, Picasso's 'Guernica' and 'The Dance' by Matisse.

Using collage and mixed media, he has composed a rhythmic composition of bold, simplified figurative and semi-abstract forms, evoking contradictory realities and moods. Brightly coloured police uniforms and gas masks created with spray paint, vinyl and crayon are juxtaposed with stylized skull-headed horses and cheering crowds.

The installation around the column echoes and makes reference to the themes explored within the mural. This dynamic cluster is made up of drawings, spray-painted balls, ribbons, plastic flowers and found objects. These materials are held together with wire, paper clips and tape to form a delicate, organic work that speaks of opulence and decay.

Adam King lives and works in London. Recent and forthcoming solo exhibitions include Norman Rae Gallery, University of York (May 2012); 'Mudflats and Galaxy', Monika Bobinska Gallery, London (2010). Recent group exhibitions include 'Remix: Selections from the International Collage Centre', Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University, PA, USA and tour (2011-12); 'The Man Who Fell to Earth', Jens Hills, London (2011).