

# The Gallery @ Idea Store Whitechapel



## Paul Ryan: Face to Face 13 February - 10 March 2013



The Gallery @ Idea Store Whitechapel presents a solo show by Paul Ryan, bringing together a selection of recent work inspired by the gallery's context.

Ryan is interested in the ways in which the Idea Store, as a hive of activity, represents a site of different dialogues between people, things and information. As well as being a meeting place, it also brings together texts and images in the pages of thousands of books and the web, which

in turn provoke thought and communication. Inside and outside merge and reflect each other in the architecture of the building and as people come and go. In short, the Idea Store exemplifies a location for different encounters, both planned and accidental.

The exhibition will consist of an eclectic range of works which echo these ideas of convergence on a variety of levels. Several open sketchbooks, as well prints twinned with their printing plates, present the motif of doubling and ways in which thoughts and images are produced and circulated. Also included is a changing display of objects that represent the double: photographs; photocopies; a selection of found objects, such as two halves of a broken plate or a split open gourd.

Ryan's main medium is drawing. He is best known for his sketchbooks, which over the years, he has filled with drawings, watercolours, notes and doodles, effectively creating a log of visual and written thoughts as he responds to the world around him.

Paul Ryan (b. 1968, Leicester) lives and works in London. He is an artist and curator and holds a PhD from the University of the Arts, London, where he also teaches. Recent exhibitions include *Drawing: Interpretation/Translation*, Hui Gallery, Chinese University, Hong Kong (2011); *What Are Feelings For?*, Centre for Drawing, Wimbledon College of Art, London (2007). Recent exhibitions curated by Ryan include *What the Folk Say*, Compton Verney, Warwick (2011); *Manual Setting*, Danielle Arnaud, London (2011).