

The Gallery @ Idea Store Whitechapel



Andrea Stokes: Contemporary Dance for Beginners

27 June - 10 August 2014



Designed by David Adjaye, the Whitechapel Idea Store was commissioned by the Borough of Tower Hamlets in a bid to create a more accessible and popular alternative to the traditional library. Curious about the claims of an egalitarian architecture, the artist places herself within this institution in an attempt to understand the specifics of the place, and how its physical language operates.

Enthralled by the purpose built dance studio, Stokes enrolled on “Contemporary Dance for Beginners” and became an Idea Store “learner”. Over the ten-week course she recorded each class with a video camera attached to her body, placing herself at the centre of the learning experience. Through video collage, the architecture itself becomes a participant and is implicated in the project of learning.