

## Piper Keys Exhibitions

### BANK *Summa*

1st June to 7th July

For the exhibition *Summa*, Simon Bedwell, John Russell, Milly Thompson and Andrew Williamson show a series of paintings and posters they produced together as BANK in the 1990s.

A group of paintings titled *Field of Dreams*, first exhibited in 1999 at EAST*international*\* in Norwich, are hung across the gallery, approximately filling the walls. The paintings combine a loose ground with graphic marks, applied at intervals by each member of the group as they worked in-turn at the canvas. Lowry figures set against lazy, Rothko-esque colour fields; balmy summer days and hazy vermilion skies.

When first shown, the paintings were accompanied by four large-format posters relating to the exhibition's location in Norwich. At Piper Keys a new selection of posters, including their 'BANK public information' message to the British provinces, are tacked to the walls in the gallery entrance. These posters make factual statements and exclamations about gallery ownership, Art and Love.

Between 1995 and 2002 BANK made other collaborative paintings. As was characteristic of their broader activity, the group varied its approach to making these works. In another series which they described as 'group therapy paintings', a hundred paintings were made illustrating the traumatic and formative experiences of BANK members, including a woman driver's naked feet, a green devil from an acid trip, and a man throwing a TV from a balcony.

On the occasion of this re-staging of the *Field of Dreams* paintings, twenty years on and with a new selection of posters, many of the group's original political and aesthetic concerns appear to be in rude public health. They suggest 'it's about time these works were bought by a public collection like the Tate or Arts Council'.

Gallery opening hours 12noon to 6pm, Friday to Sunday  
Entrance through 58a Artillery Lane

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EAST*international* was an annual, open submission exhibition organised by curator Lynda Morris, which ran from 1991 to 2009 and took place across the rooms of Norwich School of Art & Design.