

Down Stairs at Great Brampton House presents:

DOWN STAIRS
AT GREAT BRAMPTON HOUSE

Upstare

MARK HOUGHTON

For immediate publication

Down Stairs is proud to present **Upstare** an exhibition by Hay-on-Wye based artist Mark Houghton. The show will consist of works conceived for, and in response to the flat roof area of Great Brampton House. Alongside this, a number of works illustrating a preoccupation with readymade's, will line the stairway leading up to the roof space.

Houghton's practice is concerned with the search for potential narrative in the overlooked and seemingly insignificant aspects of the everyday. Suggesting from the evidence of impact and detritus of mankind that any landscape can essentially be read as an inescapable narrative of intervention, Houghton uses discarded items, worn out things, everyday bits, reconfiguring them not beyond recognition, but rather just enough to illustrate the complexity of the environments we inhabit.

Upstare commandeers the roof area of Great Brampton House as exhibition space. Visitors will find their gaze struggles to find a view that one would traditionally expect when ascending a building. Instead the horizon is punctuated all around by a row of raised balustrades. Thus one is either forced to look upwards for a vista or confront the area immediately around them. Working with this dynamic Houghton will produce site specific works that drift in and out of what one would or wouldn't expect to find on such a non-space.

"The poet scans the landscape with his hermeneutic gaze, but it remains trackless, refuses to emerge into meaningfulness as a landscape of signs".

J.M.Coetzee, *Disgrace*, 1999

Upstare is open from Friday to Sunday 12–5pm until 29th November, or by appointment outside of these hours.

Notes to Editors:

For images and further information, please contact:

Craig Barnes, Gallery Manager, Down Stairs, tel: 01981 251094, e: office@downstairsgallery.co.uk

Down Stairs is a new 6,000 square feet artist-run gallery space located at Great Brampton House in Madley, Herefordshire. The gallery showcases new work from emerging to internationally-acclaimed artists with an ambitious program incorporating installation, sculpture, performance, film, painting and drawing, both in the gallery spaces and in Great Brampton House's extensive grounds and gardens.

DOWN STAIRS AT GREAT BRAMPTON HOUSE, MADLEY, HEREFORD, HR2 9NA

Tel: 01981 251 094

www.downstairsgallery.co.uk