Intro to Animation: Group Project

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TATE MODERN

Internation in the

WHITE CUBE

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Tate Thames Dig

Mark Dion



Tate Thames Dig

During the summer of 1999, U.S. artist Mark Dion and a team of volunteers drawn from local groups combed the foreshore of the Thames at the place which would become Tate Modern the following year.

In this case, he turned to the banks of the River Thames, looking for fragments of individual and ephemeral histories.

Working over a number of days, Dion's team collected large quantities of items, including clay pipes, vividly decorated shards of delftware, oyster shells and plastic toys.



Tate Thames Dig

The finds were then meticulously cleaned and classified in 'archaeologists' tents' on the Tate Gallery's lawn at Millbank during the summer of 1999.

Dion's practice incorporates aspects of archaeology, ecology and detection. His projects focus primarily on current issues surrounding the representation of nature and on the history of the natural sciences.

All pieces are presented archeologically but without tags to help the viewer creating their own understanding of the collection based on different memories.











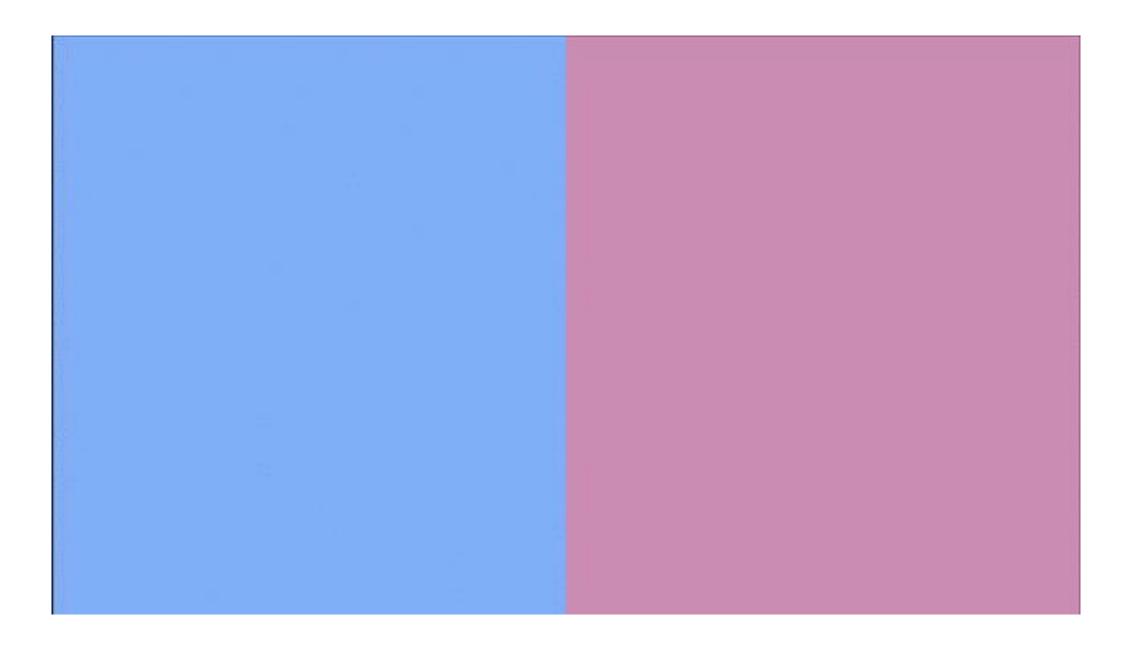


Most of your work revolves around themes of forgetfulness. What draws you to these old things?

It's something I've lived with my whole life. I grew up in Massachusetts, a small place where the past is very much valued.

So the concept of antiques is very important to me. I also have a special affinity for museums, and I've seen a lot of great places refurbished and made not so great.

I have also seen many cultural monuments disappear because of lack of funding and attention. There is only one museum that I have seen that has been renovated and made better, the Hunting Museum in Paris.



CONNECTION

- We have also used the collection of objects to bring out the dichotomy of male and female stereotypes. Through the combination of different objects and their unique characteristics, we visualize prejudice and present it to the viewers in a sharp contrast.
- Using different color palette and inspired from the video Furniture Poetry, We constantly change the locations of our objects to create a dramatic, almost conversation-like feelings.