

Harald den Breejen *John*
9 May– 8 June 2013
Private view Wednesday 8 May 6.30 – 8.30pm

LEGION TV is proud to present *John*, Harald den Breejen's first solo exhibition in London.

John is a culmination of a two year-long period of sourcing, collecting and cataloguing second hand books containing the name 'John'. Painstakingly pieced together, page by page, den Breejen has created a new narrative that follows the story of *John*. The presentation of this project will take the form of an installation containing an audio version of the newly formed story. While listening, visitors will be able to leaf through the collection of sourced books, recreating the search for *John* themselves, and constructing their own, unique, impression of him.

John reflects on the fragmented structure of every day social relationships. In an attempt to come to know other people, we constantly piece together brief encounters and anecdotes about them, but they remain in the end unknowable; neither *John*, nor 'you', will ever become 'I'.

The story of *John* challenges expectations of narrative structure. If indeed there would be a narrative structure to life, most of us would be the uncles, pharmacists, or jesters; related only tangentially to the hero of the plot. Rather, our story is subject to whim, and ignorance of what is to come. Similarly, the life of *John* is characterised by unexpected and unconnected turns of fate.

Harald den Breejen employs a rigorous yet light-hearted approach to how we form systems of knowledge and experience through his narratives. Bold sets designed to facilitate his story coupled with a dry humour favour an embrace of the whimsy of knowledge over scepticism.

Den Breejen's work is concerned with examining the personal relationships we form with knowledge and its context-dependence when put to words, image, or music. This becomes apparent in den Breejen's works through the portrayal of individual psychologies, where judgement becomes consumed by overly dogmatic, dithering, contradictory, or erratic frames of reference and modes of expression. Den Breejen aims for the viewer's psychology to become intertwined with the inner psychology of the work, and through this process entices us to question our own epistemic position.

Harald den Breejen (b. 1983, Dordrecht, the Netherlands) lives/ works in London. Studied Birkbeck, MA Philosophy (2012), Rijksakademie (2009-2010). Recent exhibitions include: 'In Search Of...' Groningen, NL, (2012), 'TERRA NOVA' Kunsthuis SYB, NL, (2012) and Claremorris Open Exhibition, Ireland, (2011).