

# AURORA

Extension, Glasgow Art Fair  
April 20 - May 2 2005  
George Square, Glasgow

Ruth Beale  
Alistair Frost  
Catherine Street  
Kate Temple  
Alberta Whittle

For Aurora's stand at Glasgow Art Fair, a group exhibition of five artists' work creates a subtle exploration of the strange, mysterious and off-kilter. Wall-drawings, works on paper, paintings and installation are presented alongside a specially created 'zine, available to the first 100 visitors. During the opening, Alberta Whittle will conduct a performance project outside the fair in George Square. Extension is an area of Glasgow Art Fair dedicated to showcasing contemporary art through Scotland's artist-led initiatives. Groups are selected through application by invitation, and the cost of the stand is fully subsidised by the Scottish Arts Council.

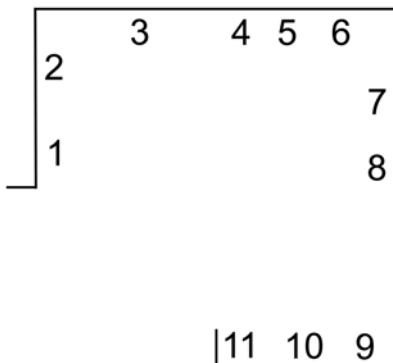
**Ruth Beale's** drawn 'collages' feature dislocated shapes and images taken from tattoos, murals, album covers, memorabilia, and geometry; echoing contrasting ornamental, modernist and mystical aesthetics. Coloured pencil, graphite and sugar paper are exposed and exploited in heavily worked, fragile, temporal, poster-like works. Components are built up to create compositionally complex and obscure fantasy dimensions. Elements that are at once glamorous and trashy jostle in a form of nostalgic reconfiguration.

**Alistair Frost's** paintings portray a world decrepit, abandoned and forlorn, where utopian and romantic notions of love, life, death, and memory are up for discussion. Time and reality seems confused or even absent, puzzling the viewer into ascertaining the exact nature and meaning of the place depicted. An arch naivety and tongue-in-cheek humour often offers the viewer a brief remedy from the melancholic, but not a complete cure. One is drawn into a sense of security, then left yearning for a lost but only imagined romantic idyll.

**Catherine Street** borrows words and images from various sources and combines them with her own drawing and writing; conflating imaginative and factual information. Sources for her wall painting at Glasgow Art Fair include a recently published book of men's adventure magazine covers from the 1960's and 70's. Her work suggests a fantasy of subversiveness in a visual culture where transgression is quickly absorbed into style.

**Kate Temple** experiments with the configuration, arrangement and display of found objects, images and text combined with made objects, structures and images. These experiments evolve into installations and environments that suggest and trigger narratives. Her personal relationship and history with each found component is significant, although elements of chance and randomness also emerge through the process of making, creating a tension and dialogue between the works. Within each configuration, meaning evolves through the processes of collection, and rearrangement.

**Alberta Whittle's** paintings are densely populated with figurative and abstract elements appropriated and manipulated from various cultural sources, both high and low, foreign and native, historical and pictorial. In her sculptures, too, she employs a hybrid collage strategy. The works incorporate tattoos, coats-of-arms, tropical flora, cartoons and folk art.



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| 1. Alberta Whittle  | Clever Like the Devil, Respect to All Crews 2005 |
| 2. Kate Temple      | Untitled 2005                                    |
|                     | now that we're miles apart 2005                  |
| 3. Ruth Beale       | Death Before Dishonour 2005                      |
| 4. Alistair Frost   | Silent Alarm 2005                                |
| 5. Alistair Frost   | A Tall Tale 2005                                 |
| 6. Alistair Frost   | So Long Sweetheart 2005                          |
| 7. Catherine Street | The Morality of Geometry 2005                    |
| 8. Catherine Street | A World of Trouble 2005                          |
| 9. Kate Temple      | and this distance haunts me 2005                 |
| 10. Ruth Beale      | Semper Fi 2005                                   |
| 11. Kate Temple     | Untitled 2005                                    |
|                     | Untitled 2005                                    |