

FrenchMottershead

Club Class

www.frenchmottershead.com

Tate Modern, London, 7 October 2006

WHAT ARE THE RULES AND RITUALS OF A VISIT TO TATE?

HOW DO WE BEHAVE IN AN ART GALLERY?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN OUR BEHAVIOUR IS SUBTLY CHANGED?



Club Class is a performance experience created especially for **Tate Modern** by artists **FrenchMottershead** (Rebecca French and Andrew Mottershead). It invites participants to explore the unwritten rules that govern how we conduct ourselves when visiting the gallery.

Participants choose to attend one of four micro-classes, where they devise a personalised performance transforming the way they look, feel or behave. The work then offers a social arena in which to play out their performance. Led by experts, the micro-classes cover **bad behaviour, clothing, surveillance** and **body language**.

A wry comment on the cultural capital of personal development and the relationship between art, performance and everyday life, *Club Class* offers the opportunity to perform in a unique artwork, to subtly alter normal behaviour and to see what it's like to be different.

The process will be playful and engaging, encouraging awareness of self and of others with simple, disarming tactics and no small amount of charm. Participants will explore the social rituals of Tate Modern and look at their own behaviour and alter it, just for a short while.

Club Class at Tate Modern: Saturday 7 October 2006, 14.00–18.00 £10 (£7 concessions), booking required: sara.raza@tate.org.uk or call 020 7887 8888 www.tate.org.uk/modern/eventseducation
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Club Class was piloted over three nights during June 2005 at London's Great Eastern Hotel, with the support of Arts Council England through New Work Network's Networked Bodies scheme. Following the Tate Modern event, *Club Class* will be presented at **Tate Liverpool** - 11 November 2006 and **ICA, London** - 24 February 2007.

The events have been made possible with financial assistance from:



MEDIA RELATIONS:

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FrenchMottershead

Rebecca French and Andrew Mottershead make works in unconventional sites that stretch the boundaries of what performance can be. Often physically absent from the work, they invite the audience to engage complicitly in the creation of unique performance experiences.

Recently, FrenchMottershead have been Artists in Residence at the UK's National Review of Live Art 2006, Glasgow and completed commissions for Newlyn Art Gallery, Penzance, Arts Council England, Arnolfini, Bristol, Peckham Pier, London, Finland's ANTI Festival and appeared at PSi#11 at Brown University, Rhode Island, USA. Their 'Shops' project has been commissioned by Liverpool Live for the Liverpool Biennial 06, and FrenchMottershead are currently Thinkers in Residence at the Live Art Development Agency, London.

Tate Modern

Club Class Curriculum: four micro-classes

Micro-class 1: Bad Behaviour with Tom Bruno-Magdich

Earn your TASBO (Tate Anti-Social Behaviour Order)! Trained in 'controlled delinquency', you'll be motivated to step outside of your customary social self and perform wicked misdeeds that disrupt and subvert expectations of a museum visit.

Tom Bruno-Magdich combines his in-depth, academic study of analytical psychology, hypnotherapy and Neuro Linguistic Programming with over 20 years of working in the entertainment industry, appearing both on the West End stage and on television. Through his work at Impact Factory, Tom hosts training courses on personal impact, leadership, motivational thinking, creativity, communication and presentation skills.

Micro-class 2: Clothing with Marsha Roddy

Are your clothes communicating your self-image? Witty ... considered ... glamorous ... spontaneous? What personal imprint do you leave on your clothes? Through discussion, removal and display of your clothes and accessories, Marsha will lead you to explore the meanings of what you and other museum visitors wear, and invite you to fashion and try out a new identity.

Marsha Roddy is a costume and production designer responsible for envisioning and realising dramatic works during a 20 year career that has taken her to Europe, America and Asia. A personal passion has been to draw on ideas of tribe and uniform when interpreting and creating character identities through clothing alone. Marsha has worked on numerous feature films, operas, theatre and dance productions. She also works widely on

television programmes and commercials for the BBC, satellite and cable channels.

Micro-class 3: Surveillance with Jason Hunter

This is people-watching under pressure as you experience the world of covert, on-foot surveillance. Unnatural behaviour will betray your ulterior motives so you'll be trained to 'go grey' and blend into the crowd. Building up an intelligence picture of your target and watching for brush contacts, without blowing your cover, is the challenge of this micro-class.

Jason Hunter has been working in Intelligence for 19 years. Alongside continuing operational work in the commercial and private sectors for clients such as Coca-Cola and Microsoft, Jason teaches Special Forces units in Europe, North America and beyond. Jason also works with ISS Training, the UK's foremost surveillance training company.

Micro-class 4: Body Language with Athina Vahla

An up-close examination of the nuances of your movement through the museum. Athina will prompt awareness of what your gestures, touches and pacing through the galleries communicate. Subverting your habitual body language, you'll create alternative ways to relate to the museum visitors, exhibits and spaces.

Athina Vahla is an award-winning choreographer who has produced critically acclaimed work across London and Europe. A teacher at the LABAN Centre and London Contemporary Dance School, Athina has her own dance company and is a member of 'Shinkansen'.

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