

Dialogue

Chorlton, Graham

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Title: 'Dialogue' was a group exhibition that included Chorlton's double-sided diptychs 'Quinconces' and 'Across the River', four large paintings on paper suspended from the roof, and the 'Bordeaux Sequence', a series of small paintings. All were developed from images of Bordeaux. Derived from old and new photographs, they create a “filmic” walk around the city, to filter the tourist gaze through individual experience and the act of making. The invited exhibition built on previous exchanges between artists in Birmingham and Bordeaux. The participating artists, the Dialogue group (Graham Chorlton, Myfanwy Johns, Peter Grego, Joss Burke and Tom Ranahan), were asked to create new work as a response to Bordeaux for the 2010 Art Chartrons Festival. They were given the Halle de Chartrons, a 19th century market hall, to create the keynote exhibition for the festival.

Place: **Halle Des Chartrons, Bordeaux, France**

Year: **2010**

Output type: **Exhibition**

Description:

Chorlton produced two sets of work: 'Bordeaux Sequence', nine small paintings hung on the outer walls of the octagonal building, and a set of 4metre long hangings suspended from the roof, 'Quinconces' and 'Across the River'. 'Bordeaux Sequence' allowed for exploration of the use of images placed in sequence, each image adding to an accumulated sense of moving through a city in space and time. This created an implied narrative, as in film, but with meaning or logic withheld, creating feelings of displacement and longing. The hangings pictured present-day Bordeaux, echoing the city outside the exhibition. These presented a challenge in terms of scale; their sculptural presence in the room, hanging in space and painted both sides, was emphatically physical. The viewing of the paintings, especially close-to, was immersive; viewed alongside 'Bordeaux Sequence' the viewer moved in and out of space and time, both literally and metaphorically. Both sets of work allowed for extended exploration of painted surfaces, of the relationship between the painted mark and the image depicted. This development of a personal expressive painting language using a sense of place is part of the contemporary painting agenda which foregrounds the formal properties of painting itself, such as composition and colour, informed by the personal experience of the painter, to create new representational possibilities for the medium.

The exhibition was opened by the British Consul, reached an audience of around 1,500, and featured on local television. The project received a grant of just under £10,000 from Arts Council England. The link between the British and French artists has continued, with an exhibition of French artists at the Article Gallery, Birmingham City University, and the Dialogue group's curation of a space at 'Allotment' for MAC Birmingham in 2012, which included work from both groups.

www.art-chartrons.info

Art CHARTRONS

bordeaux - france

du 04 au 14 nov 2010

6^{édition}
parcours d'art contemporain



Affichage mis à disposition par la Mairie de Bordeaux



www.art-chartrons.info

Exhibition venue: Halle de Chartrons



‘Quinconces’

‘Across the River’

Hangings, each 3 metre x 1.5 metres. Acrylic on paper 2010

Fire Station (across the River)



Quinconces 1



Quinconces 2



‘Bordeaux Sequence’, 2009-10

9 canvases each 31 x 36 cms, acrylic and oil on canvas

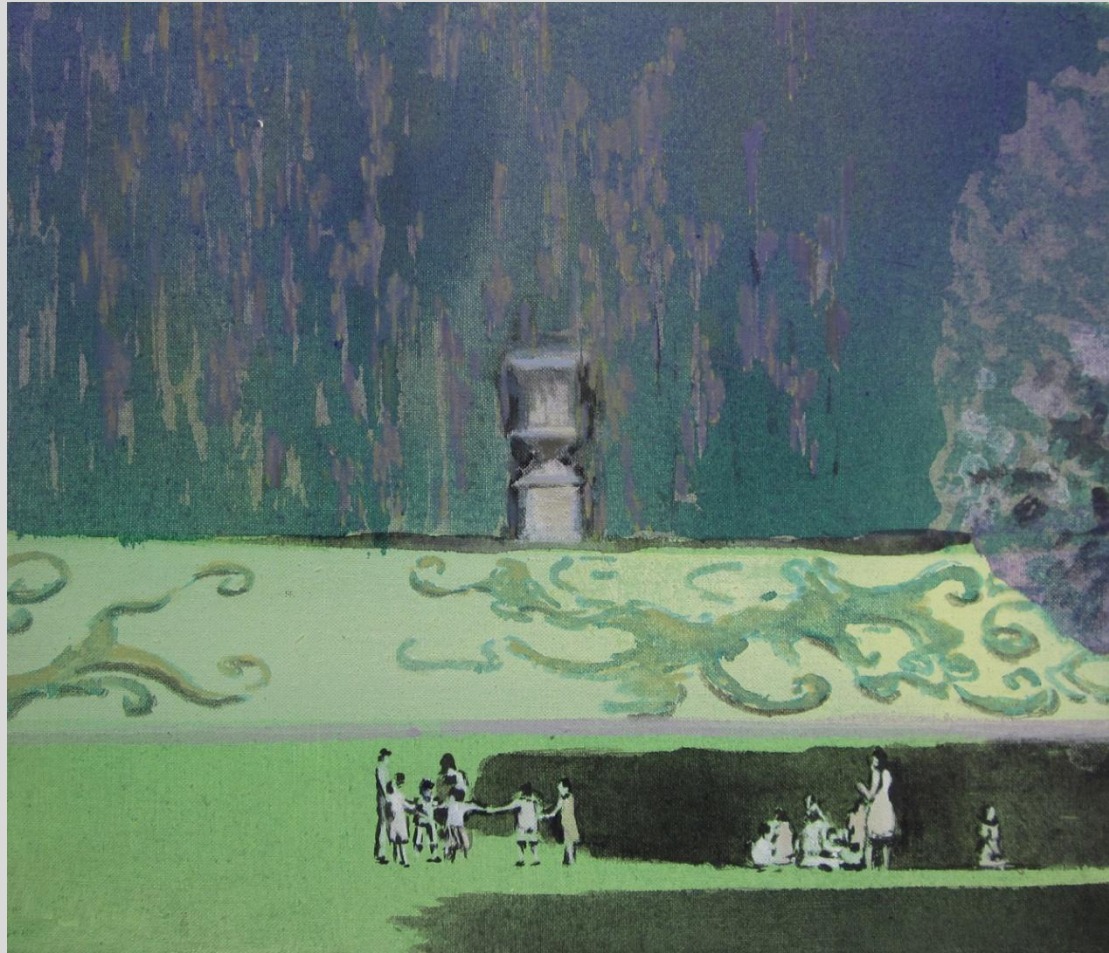
1. Quinconces



2. 2 Trees



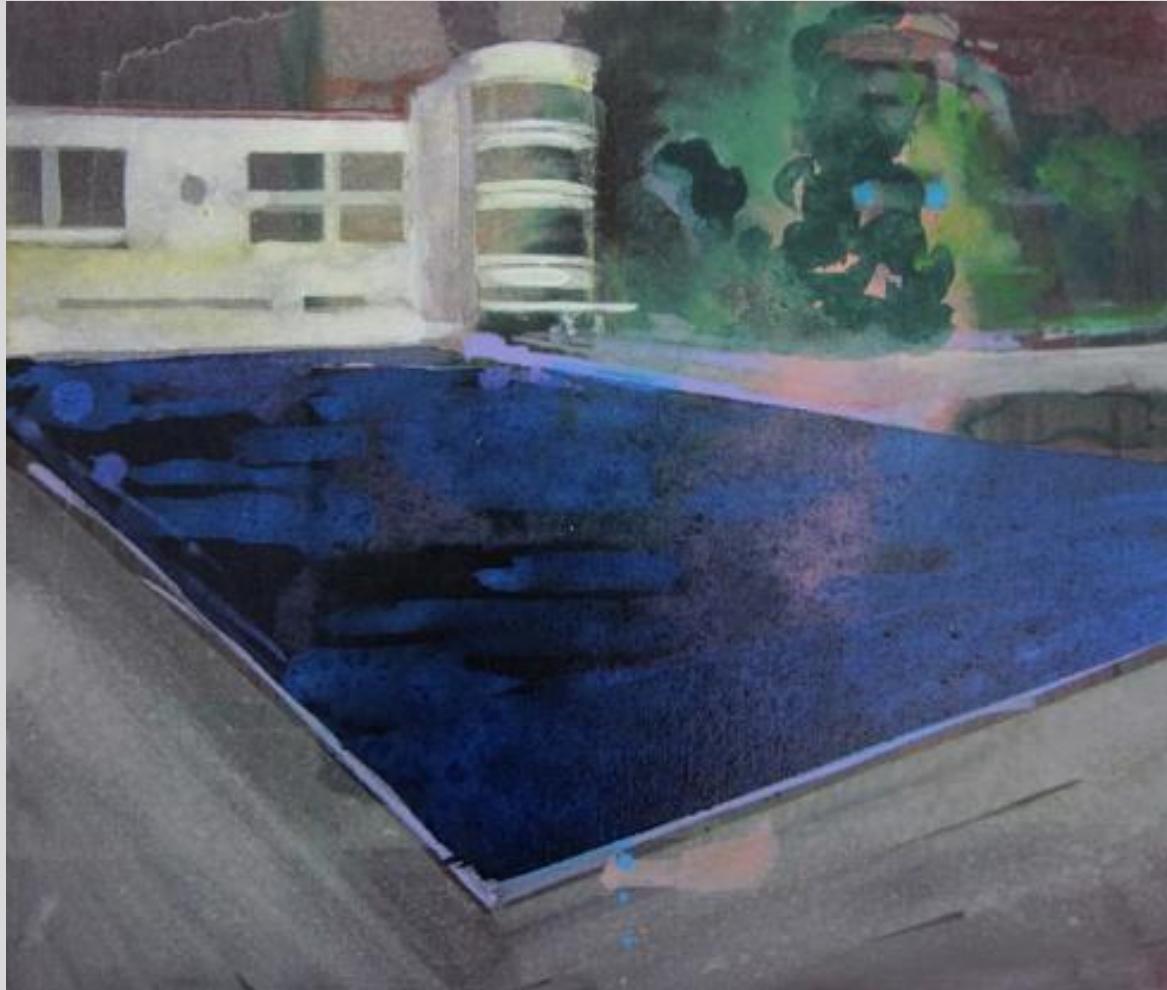
3. Park



4. Square



5. Swimming Baths



6. Warehouse



7. Cafe



8. Cafe 2



9. Avenue



Installation views



Installation views



Private view





Extracts from catalogue

DIALOGUE



GRAHAM CHORLTON

The work exhibited in 'Dialogue' consists of four large paintings on paper, suspended from the roof, and a series of small canvases placed around the walls. The images in the paintings are of Bordeaux, derived from old and new photographs, and create a sort of walk around the city, almost filmic, moving through space and time. The tourist gaze is filtered through personal experience and the act of making.

Le travail exposé dans le «Dialogue» se compose de quatre grandes peintures sur papier, suspendues au toit et d'une série de petites toiles placées autour des murs. Les images représentées dans les tableaux sont de Bordeaux, provenant de photographies anciennes et récentes, et créent une sorte de promenade autour de la ville, presque cinématographique, se déplaçant à travers l'espace et le temps. Le regard du touriste est filtré à travers l'expérience personnelle et l'acte de création.

DIALOGUE

The exhibition Dialogue features work by five artists from the city of Birmingham, UK; Joss Burke, Graham Chorlton, Peter Grego, Dr. Myfanwy Johns and Tom Ranahan. Building on previous exchanges between artists in the two cities, the Birmingham artists were invited by the Art Chartrons association to create an exhibition of new work as a 'response to Bordeaux' for the 2010 festival. All the work in the exhibition has been made over the last few months, the artists responding in their unique and different ways to the city. Common to all the artists is a concern with architectures and environments and their affect on the individual.

Joss Burke addresses themes of daily ritual and cultural identity in her work. Having lived in Birmingham for many years she now lives near to Bordeaux. For the exhibition her work utilises construction techniques from the renovation of her new home in France with objects brought from a previous home in Birmingham along with printed imagery, in a contemplation of place and belonging.

Graham Chorlton's paintings are sourced from modern images of Bordeaux as well as images from old photographs. His pieces for this exhibition create a sort of poetic, almost filmic journey through Bordeaux, a journey both in time and space, created through a sequence of large and small paintings.

Peter Grego's installation springs from his visit to the Cité Frugès. Through a juxtaposition of images of the present day Cité Frugès in Pessac, alongside texts from the architect, Le Corbusier, he points up one of the great dilemmas and problems of the modern age; that of the ambitions of high modernism set against the reality of real life.

Dr. Myfanwy Johns' work typically engages with architecture and pattern, and for this piece she has researched decorative conventions found in the rich architectural heritage of the eighteenth century mansions of Bordeaux, in particular the Musée des Beaux Arts. The perfectly crafted floor installation plays on the scale and pattern of traditional parquet creating a very human and tactile connection to architectural surface and history.

Tom Ranahan works mainly in photography, but with an eye trained through sculpture. His themes are often of the presence or trace of people in architectural and rural environments. Here his images animate the exhibition through a celebration of human warmth and activity.

All of the artists are delighted to be given the opportunity to create this exhibition, and would like to thank the people and artists of the Chartrons district of Bordeaux for hosting it and for making them feel so welcome. In particular we would like to thank Francis Viguera and the committee of Art Chartrons. We would also like to thank the association Art Chartrons and Arts Council England for their generous funding, without which the exhibition would not have happened.

We hope you enjoy our dialogue with each other, with the great city of Bordeaux and most of all with you, the audience.

DIALOGUE

L'exposition "Dialogue" présente le travail de cinq artistes originaires de Birmingham au Royaume-Uni: Joss Burke, Graham Chorlton, Peter Greco, Dr. Myfanwy Johns et Tom Ranahan. Consolidant les échanges établis auparavant entre les artistes dans les deux villes, ils ont été invités par l'association Art Chartrons à créer une exposition de leur nouveau travail, comme 'Réponse à Bordeaux', pour le festival 2010.

Tout leur travail exposé ici a été réalisé au cours des quelques derniers mois, montrant la réponse individuelle et différente de chaque artiste face à la ville de Bordeaux. La préoccupation commune à tous les artistes est la manière dont les architectures et les environnements touchent l'individu.

Joss Burke aborde des thèmes du rituel quotidien et de l'identité culturelle dans son travail. Ayant vécu à Birmingham pendant de nombreuses années, elle vit maintenant près de Bordeaux. Pour l'exposition, son travail utilise les techniques de construction employées pour la rénovation de son nouveau domicile en France avec des objets apportés de son ancien domicile à Birmingham ainsi qu'avec des images imprimées, dans une contemplation du lieu et de l'appartenance.

Les peintures de Graham Chorlton ont pour source des images modernes de Bordeaux ainsi que des images provenant de vieilles photographies. Pour cette exposition sa séquence de grandes et petites peintures crée une sorte de parcours poétique presque cinématographique à travers Bordeaux, à la fois dans le temps et dans l'espace.

L'installation de Peter Greco découle de sa visite à la Cité Frugès. A travers la juxtaposition d'images de la Cité Frugès à Pessac de nos jours et de textes de l'architecte, Le Corbusier, il met en évidence l'un des grands dilemmes et problèmes de l'âge moderne, qui est celui des ambitions de la haute modernité en opposition avec la réalité de la vie réelle.

Le travail de Dr. Myfanwy Johns engage généralement un dialogue avec l'architecture et le motif, et pour ce travail d'art, elle a fait des recherches sur les conventions décoratives dans le riche patrimoine architectural des demeures de Bordeaux au XVIIIe siècle, en particulier du Musée des Beaux Arts. L'installation du plancher, parfaitement conçue, joue sur l'échelle et la structure du parquet traditionnel créant une connexion très humaine et tactile avec la surface architecturale et l'histoire.

Tom Ranahan travaille principalement avec la photographie, mais avec un œil formé par la sculpture. Ses thèmes sont souvent ceux de la présence ou la trace de personnes dans des environnements architecturaux et ruraux. Ici ses images animent l'exposition à travers une célébration de la chaleur et de l'activité humaines.

Tous les artistes sont heureux d'avoir la possibilité de créer cette exposition, et voudraient remercier les personnes et les artistes du quartier des Chartrons à Bordeaux d'accueillir cette exposition et de les recevoir si chaleureusement. Nous tenons tout particulièrement à remercier Francis Viguera et le comité d'Art des Chartrons. Nous tenons à remercier également, l'association Art Chartrons et Arts Council England pour leur généreux soutien financier, sans lequel l'exposition n'aurait pas eu lieu.

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THANK YOU