

Jonathan Ellery Biography

Jonathan Ellery b. 1964, England

Jonathan Ellery's clarity of thought and the concise arrangement of his ideas resonate through all areas of his art practice. He playfully works across a wide range of media from sculpture to performance, film to photography. The medium of book art is also central to his work, molding paper, fonts and images as he would any other medium, to create tactile, hand numbered, objects of art. The foundation for Ellery's conceptual approach is the commonplace concerns of life, that of memories, his childhood, his relationship with women, his family, which on first glance appear disguised in a seemingly surreal, minimalist aesthetic.

The concept of his work is constant while the materials come and go, from traditional Portland stone and machined brass to digital technology and sound. The notion of sequence and of a gentle, unfolding narrative is at the core of his art, enforcing a distinctive Ellery language that offers each work as one part of a continuous and burgeoning series, strengthened by its succession. The deceptive simplicity of the work is informed by Ellery's awareness of the absurd, a delight in constructing certain orders and exploring the tensions between them; a crumpled beer mat next to a wooden sign painted by his father, a blossom next to a pin, a live drummer next to a girl undressing. These frictional couplings are used as tools to address the questions of daily life, forcing the viewer to build an imaginative construction of meaning.

Jonathan Ellery lives above his studio in London. His latest solo show, *The Human Condition*, took place at Londonewcastle Project Space, London. A limited edition book was published, the sixth in his series of solo titles, to accompany the exhibition. Ellery has had notable solo exhibitions in New York and in London, has contributed to many group shows worldwide and has received numerous private commissions.

www.jonathanelery.com

Jonathan Ellery
Biography continued

Solo Exhibitions:

2011

The Human Condition

Londonewcastle Project Space, London

2009

Ellery's Theory of Neo-conservative Creationism

Wapping Project, London

2008

Constance

Wapping Project, London

2007

Unrest

Wapping Project, London

2005

136 Points of Reference

Roth Gallery, New York

Group Exhibitions:

2009

Creatures,

Londonewcastle Project Space, London

2008

Designs of the Year,

Design Museum, London

2007

Two Faced, Agnès B Libraire Gallery, Hong Kong

Art/Clic, Bankside Gallery, London

2006

British Social Posters. Past, Present and Future, British Council, Moscow

Felt-Tip, SEA Gallery, London

Urban Forest Project, Times Square, New York

My London/My City, ISTD, London

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2005

Stuck On Me, Notting Hill Arts Club, London
European Design Show Biennial, Design Museum, London
Handmade, Museum of Design, Zurich

2004

Ballpoint, Pentagram Gallery, London
Public Address System, Henry Peacock Gallery, London

Solo publications:

2011

The Human Condition
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

2010

Worldly Cares and Love Affairs
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

2009

Ellery's Theory of Neo-conservative Creationism
Exhibition Catalogue
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

Ellery's Theory of Neo-conservative Creationism
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

2008

Constance
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

2007

Works in Brass
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

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In and Out
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

2006
87 Ellery
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions

2005
136 Points of Reference
Jonathan Ellery
Published by Browns Editions