

Visiting Artists Talks

David Cross

University of
Kent

School of Music
and Fine Art

Thursday March 20th 6pm
Bridge Wardens College
Lecture Theatre



David Cross has collaborated with Matthew Cornford since graduating from the Royal College of Art in 1991. Because Cornford & Cross respond to the intrinsic problems of particular contexts and situations, each of their projects has been different in form and content. A wide range of people have helped to realize their projects, which aim to stimulate discussion and debate on issues of public concern, including environment, development and social justice.

Cornford & Cross maintain that in addition to producing aesthetic experiences, a key function of contemporary art is to test concepts, assumptions and boundaries. Yet while such testing is necessary, it is not sufficient: art practice should expand the ability to envision alternative possibilities, and to choose from amongst them as an act of free will. The book *Cornford & Cross* (London: Black Dog Publishing, 2009) includes critical essays by John Roberts and Rachel Withers, and sets out a chronology of their projects as a basis for examining the aesthetic and ethical concerns of their practice.

David Cross Profile:

David Cross is a Reader and Pathway Leader for MA Visual Arts (Graphic Design) at Camberwell. Since setting up the MA in 2004, David has challenged the notion of professional neutrality in graphic design, encouraging instead an ethos that is interdisciplinary, research-oriented and socially engaged.

David has given lectures internationally, and chaired events at the South London Gallery, Tate and Whitechapel.