

Animalation focuses on Andrew Bracey's new animation work inspired by flip-book techniques and his ongoing fascination with animals. In this playful and intriguing exhibition we have to look closely and wait patiently to catch a glimpse of animated Spinner Dolphins, Humboldt Penguins and others in their gallery habitat.

Andrew Bracey Animalation 31 October 2009—28 February 2010 Manchester Art Gallery

Work and Play (2007)

A post-it note has been carelessly left on the gallery carelessly...every once in a while we see a Spinner



wall, or maybe not so Dolphin as it leaps into view.

Humboldt (2006-7)

Humboldt Penguins swim back and forth under shifting line of the water. This animation is made individual Indian ink drawings strung together to movement, projected back onto a sheet of A4 the studio process.



the hypnotic from hundreds of create a flowing paper to refer to



Crawl (2009)

A strange creature crawls across an abandoned piece of paper. The endangered Pink Velvet worm has been created as a fluorescent disco creepy-crawly using a highlighter pen.

Limbless Limbo (2009)

Watch where you step on the this very moment is sliding snake changes its colour rainbow made from felt tip



gallery floor; a snake has escaped and at about. Like a chameleon, this unique as it moves, creating a pulsing pens.

Studio Monkey (2007)

A wall in the artist's studio is shown on a monitor, by CCTV. A clutter of images and studio ephemera and on first glance nothing much seems to be closely though, and one of the photos comes to life...



as if captured fills the screen happening. Watch

Hover (2009)



A bird is trapped in an endless hovering flight above our heads. It's unable to escape gallery visitors or swoop down to feast on prey.

Humboldt

A bright and fresh animation that could not be easier.

Follow this step by step recipe to make your own back at home.

For variety you can change the animal, following the instructions in the same manner. Just replace the penguin with a leopard, flamingo or dog – or any animal you like!

You will need:

One digital video camera

Lots of sheets of paper

One bottle of Indian ink

One brush

One jar of water

One empty jar

One computer

One flat-screen monitor

One scanner

One animation program

Serves one animation

Preparation will vary depending on length of animation.

1. To start you will need to visit a zoo. Find the penguin enclosure and position yourself in front of the glass viewing station. Hold your camera against the glass and press record. Keep the camera very still, recording for as long as you want.
2. Back at home, look through your footage and select a moment when the penguin is not in shot. This will be where you start your animation.
3. Lay your flat screen monitor, showing your footage, on your desk like a light box. Put a sheet of paper on the monitor and check that you can see the penguin through it. If you cannot see it, dim the lights.
4. Pour some ink into the jar, dip your brush in and paint a silhouette of the penguin on the paper, then draw a line along the top for the water line. Move the video image along one frame and repeat this process until the penguin has swum out of frame on the video.
5. Once you have the required amount of drawings, clean your brush and plug the scanner into the computer.
6. Making sure the ink has dried, place the paper in the scanner and transfer the image to a digital file on your computer. Repeat for every drawing.
7. Open an animation program. If you have a PC, then Windows Movie Maker will be fine. In the options menu, set the picture duration to the smallest time possible.
8. Import all the images and then drag all the images into the timeline.
9. Publish and save the animation to your computer, then watch the results.

Andrew Bracey is a Manchester-based artist who works on the edge of painting as it slips into installation, animation, sculpture and video. His work takes a sideways look at often overlooked aspects of the world around us.

Other recent work includes *Frames*, hundreds of miniature paintings on 35mm film strip and *The Jump*, a re-make of Chris Marker's film *La Jetee*, with each photograph frame of the original replaced by vibrant colourful paintings. Recent solo exhibitions include *Freianlage* at firstsite, Colchester, Transition Gallery, London and Wolverhampton Art Gallery and *Frames* at Mid Pennine Gallery, Burnley. Group exhibitions include *John Moores 23* at The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, *A long time ago* at Draiocht, Dublin, *Small Mischiefs* at Pumphouse Gallery, London, *Swap/Vaihto* at Bureau, Salford and The Cable Factory, Helsinki, and *Pressure Points* at Badhaus, St Gallen, Switzerland. Bracey teaches fine art at The University of Lincoln and is a member of Suite Studio Group in Salford.

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