Alexander Pollard School of Art and Media

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#### Research interests

Alexander James Pollard's work explores divergent world making through composite painting, writing, and the production of graphic novels. Drawing on converging motifs within myth, sci-fi and neurodivergent forms of cognition, his practice-based research mines the potential of the cut-up as a catalyst for image-making, world building and the creation of alternative narratives.

About His Paintings:

"I am interested in representation as a carrier for narrative, visual oddness, ambiguity, atmosphere, composition, beauty and ugliness. I also explore the emotive resonance of colour and texture, and the nuance and unpredictability of the painterly mark. These factors all contribute to why one painting might 'talk', stand out and hold something special, and another might not. Themes within my paintings reflect an interest in myth, science-fiction, the animal kingdom, cultural studies and everyday magic. These are all dealt with emotively and intuitively, using mark-making, or touch, to reach the viewer."

Collaborative Book Projects:

In a recent illustrated artist's book titled: *Aleister Crowley and Charles Dawson: The Order of the Dawn Man* of 2022 (\*made in collaboration with Luke Pendrell), Pollard co-wrote and illustrated a short story using a cut-up collaborative process. The work explores a fictional relationship between Aleister Crowley and Charles Dawson (creator of the Piltdown Man), conjuring up an alternative history of the Piltdown skull. One which accentuates the occultish, esoteric and supersensible readings of the skull as a hyperstitional object.

- \*The painting shown above is titled "Cat God", oil on panel, 2020. Originally shown in *Reboot: Ruins in Reverse*, La Plateform, Dunkirk, France, 2020.
- \* Aleister Crowley and Charles Dawson: The Order of the Dawn Man by Luke Pendrell and Alexander James Pollard is available in the University of Brighton Library at St. Peters House.

\*Instagram: @ajpollard

Pollard studied BA (Hons) Painting and Drawing at Glasgow School of Art (1996-99). His MPhil titled *A Genealogy of Bad Painting – Legacies, Soft Objects and Networks* was undertaken at Goldsmiths College, London (2017). In 2005 Pollard represented Scotland at the Venice Biennale. Highlights of his exhibition history include: Reboot: Ruins in Reverse, La Plate-forme, Dunkerque, France (2020), Paleo Fauvism, Hop Projects, Folkestone (2018), Jungle, Celine Gallery, Glasgow (2017), WoW Paintings, Young Team HQ, London (2016), Black Marks, Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh (2007), Counter Facture at Luhring Augustine, New York (2007), The Santorini Biennale, Santorini, Greece (2018), and The Irrogular Correct. New Art from Classow at the Francette At Contral Francette. Augustic (2010)

of Edinburgh (2007), Counter Facture at Luhring Augustine, New York (2007), The Santorini Biennale, Santorini, Greece (2012) and The Irregular Correct – New Art from Glasgow at the Fremantle Art Centre, Fremantle, Australia (2012). Pollard has worked as a lecturer in Fine Art Painting and Printmaking at the Glasgow School of Art (2006-2013) and in Fine Art Painting at Wimbledon College of Arts (UAL) (2013-14). He now works at The University of Brighton (2014 - present), where he is a Senior Lecturer in Fine Art Painting and MA Fine Art.

His work is held in major international private and public collections including: Arts Council of England, Scottish National Gallery, Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal, The Government Art Collection. And private collections in the UK, Italy, Greece, Germany, Japan and the USA.

# **Employment**

Senior Lecturer
School of Art and Media
University of Brighton
15 Mar 2014 → present

### Research outputs

The Tangent Factories Pollard, A., 4 Jul 2023.

The Tangent Factories
Pollard, A., 17 Jun 2023.

The Tangent Factories: Graphic Narrative Production and Interdisciplinary Writing as Contemporary Painting Practice Pollard, A., 15 Sept 2022.

The Tangent Factories: Graphic Narrative Production and Interdisciplinary Writing as Contemporary Painting Practice Pollard, A., 30 Jun 2022.

The Tangent Factories: How can the cutting up and re-arranging of the work of Philip K Dick be useful in articulating new narratives for the role of intuition in painting?

Pollard, A., 4 Apr 2021, Online science- fiction themed symposium - "Confusion 2021".

Aleister Crowley and Charles Dawson: The Order of the Dawn Man by Luke Pendrell and Alexander James Pollard Pollard, A. & Pendrell, L., 1 Mar 2019, (Accepted/In press) 40 p.

Emotionorama: curated by Andrew Hunt and Andro Semeiko Pollard, A., 2019

Time Donut

Pollard, A., 2019

ASP 4: Artist's Self-Publishing Fair

Pollard, A. & Pendrell, L., 9 Dec 2018

Paleo Fauvism

Pollard, A., Staff, D. C. & Young, L., 1 Dec 2018, 1 ed. Folkestone, UK: Hop Project Space, Folkestone. 36 p.

**Extinction Event** 

Pollard, A., 7 Nov 2018

Paleo Fauvism by Alexander James Pollard

Pollard, A., 22 Sept 2018

Painting, Drawing and the Digital: International symposium and exhibition

Pollard, A., 16 Jun 2017

Painting, Drawing and the Digital: International symposium and exhibition

Pollard, A., 16 Jun 2017, Northampton: The University of Northampton. 46 p.

More Real Than Veal by Angus MacInnes

Pollard, A., 14 Jun 2017

A Genealogy of Bad Painting: Legacies, Soft Objects and Networks

Pollard, A., Jun 2017

Where's My Sugar?

Pollard, A., 13 Apr 2017

Jungle

Pollard, A., 25 Mar 2017

### WoW Paintings: P by Alexander James Pollard

Pollard, A. & Young, L., 26 Mar 2016

# WoW Paintings: Alexander James Pollard

Pollard, A., 26 Mar 2016, Brighton: University of Brighton. 32 p.

### Three Works by Alexander James Pollard

Pollard, A., 26 Feb 2016

#### Chain

Pollard, A. & Franklin, M., 17 Jan 2015

#### MUD∞

Pollard, A. & Franklin, M., 2015

#### Surface To Air

Pollard, A., 2015

# Angus MacInnes: African Affair

University of Edinburgh & Pollard, A., 30 Jun 2014

### **Angus MacInnes: The Four Seasons**

Pollard, A., 2014, Copenhagen: Hour Editions, Copenhagen. 54 p.

# **Activities**

# The Clairvoyance of Painting Workshop

Alexander Pollard (Presenter) & Tomas Poblete (Presenter) 14 Oct 2018

# Capitalist Artist Scum - Caledonian Dreamtine: The Bad Paintings of Angus MacInnes

Alexander Pollard (Presenter)

11 Nov 2015