

## Exhibition Information

# DRAWN INTO TOMORROW

## IC-98

Sat 28 November 2015 - Sun 14 February 2016

**DCA**  
Dundee Contemporary Arts

152 Nethergate  
Dundee DD1 4DY  
01382 909900  
Scottish Charity No. SC026631

Open daily 11:00-18:00  
Open late Thu 20:00  
Admission free  
[www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk)

# INTRODUCTION

This winter, DCA is delighted to present the largest UK exhibition to date by Finnish artist duo IC-98. The artists are renowned for their extraordinary, richly detailed works, which combine intricate hand drawings with digital animation. IC-98 are fascinated with nature and culture, material and myth and the individual and the collective. They are also interested in the idea of the Anthropocene, a term which describes our current geological age as a period during which human activity has been a dominant and often negative influence on climate and the environment.

IC-98 are Visa Suonpää (b. 1968) and Patrik Söderlund (b. 1974). Based in Turku, Finland, the duo's original name was Iconoclast, an allusion to the destruction of images and an antagonism towards prevailing values. *Drawn into Tomorrow* continues a series of major exhibitions for IC-98; from the 2015 Venice Biennale to Helsinki Art Museum, Turku Art Museum and Beaconsfield, London. The exhibition is kindly supported by Frame Visual Art Finland.

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“In recent years the term Anthropocene has emerged as experts attempt to define the effects of the human race on a global scale. The argument is that as a species our impact has reached a tipping point, from which there is no turning back: altering the make-up of the atmosphere, causing the mass extinction of flora and fauna, and the deep traces of radiation left by the detonation of atomic weapons, are just a few of our irreparable ‘footprints’. While whether we are truly in the age of the Anthropocene, at a geological level, remains contentious, in recent years it has become a buzzword amongst environmentalists, who use the term to advocate for a wider understanding of our collective responsibility for the Earth's future. The notion of the post-Anthropocene has also become an area of interest, for scientists but also philosophically: the contemplation of the extinction of our species and the possibility of ongoing development beyond us has ignited passionate speculative debate. In 2011 the Finnish artist duo IC-98 (Patrik Söderlund and Visa Suonpää) produced a feature-length animation ‘A View from the Other Side’, which depicts a piece of architecture over the course of centuries, eventually imagining its ruin crumbling to dust and then being overtaken completely by nature.”

Beth Bramich, *this is tomorrow*, May 2014  
Review of IC-98: Arkhipelagos at Beaconsfield, London

## WORKS IN THE EXHIBITION



### **Abendland (Hours, Years, Aeons)**

2015 / 42m40s / HD video installation / loop / stereo sound / Animated by Markus Lepistö / Music by Max Savikangas

*Abendland (Hours, Years, Aeons)* is a digital animation that muses on the past, present and future of Finland's forests - timber being the country's main natural resource - and imagines what Finlandians will inherit in the millennia to come. An arrangement for double bass and electronics by Max Savikangas accompanies the haunting moving images. *Abendland*

*(Hours, Years, Aeons)* was recently presented at the Venice Biennale in the Alvar Aalto designed Finnish Pavilion, situated in the Giardini. IC-98 transformed the pavilion into a pitch-dark chamber that aspired to give visitors an altered sense of temporality.

“Deep time begins to resonate through fleeting cycles of life, and space... [The tree serves] as a microcosm of knowledge and colonial power over the world of cultural diversity... As the entanglement of different time scales and causal relations in the work of IC-98 suggests... Trees may well inherit the land, but what kind of a land we must ask.”

IC-98: *Hours, Years, Aeons* la Biennale di Venezia Exhibition Leaflet, 2015

### **Work Drawings**

Pencil on paper drawings for the following projects:

**Abendland I-III**, 2013-2015

**Arkipelagos (Navigating the Tides of Time)**, 2011

**A View from the Other Side** (2 drawings), 2008-2011

The exhibition includes working drawings by IC-98, complete with smudge marks, which can be viewed on the exterior wall of Gallery 1. The initial analogue process of pencil on paper is critical to the conception of the digitally produced animations. “A great thing about drawing, and the same can be said nowadays about CGI (computer-generated imagery), is that you can visualise any kind of world you want. Drawing is the oldest way of creating worlds. However, drawing - and especially the quite realist drawing we are using - is also good for the thing we are trying to achieve: to superimpose actual and virtual elements. This allows us to create something which is real enough, though still stylized...”

IC-98 [ibid]

## **Theses on the Body Politic (In the Labyrinth)**

2007/2008, set of 29 offset prints, cardboard case, edition of 200

## **Foucault's Sleep. Models for a Proposal**

2005/2006, publication

A series of publications designed by IC-98 are presented across three vitrines, situated outside the galleries alongside the working drawings. *Foucault's Sleep* is a poetic homage to the philosopher and political activist, whose work and thinking have deeply influenced IC-98's practice. Designed as a free distribution book, it is a collage of texts, images, drawings and diagrams with numerous themes - the sea, islands, territory, birds - that have resurfaced time and again in IC-98's body of work. *In the Labyrinth* is composed of 29 digitally-assisted pencil drawings, printed on separate cards. Each card depicts a room in a large, fictitious building, with a small story or a situation being played out in each room. Inspired by the 20th century writers Alain Robbe-Grillet and Jorge Luis Borges, the individual cards can be organised into an almost infinite set of combinations. This maze, unlike traditional labyrinths, is not designed to be solved.

## **Arkhipelagos (Navigating the Tides of Time)**

2013 / 20m / three-channel HD animation / loop / silent

Animated by Markus Lepistö

*Arkhipelagos (Navigating the Tides of Time)* suggests the aftermath of a possible future catastrophe. No geographical reference points remain and only time and weather endure. The sheer scale of the presentation makes the animation all-encompassing. In *Arkhipelagos (Navigating the Tides of Time)*, the material debris portrayed in and around the riverside Stoa in *A View from the Other Side* has broken free from the gravity of history. What remains is open water and rafts built from the debris – the remnants of a sunken world. The rafts create temporary groups, gravitating towards each other only to part again, carried by the winds and currents. The same rafts could just as well be sailing in the Mediterranean, aiming for a perceived promised land. Climate, economy, social and political struggle are all alluded to in this re-imagining of *The Raft of the Medusa*.

## **Arkhipelagos (Ebb)**

2013 / 10m / HD animation / loop / silent

Animated by Markus Lepistö

*Arkhipelagos (Ebb)* serves as an epilogue to *Arkhipelagos (Navigating the Tides of Time)*, and presents an alternative scenario to the deluge. The roaring sea has abated. Masts now stick out of the ground like memorial flagpoles in a seemingly unpopulated landscape.



### **A View from the Other Side**

2011 / 70m / HD animation / loop / stereo sound

Animated by Markus Lepistö / Music by Markku Hietaharju

*A View from the Other Side* is an alternative depiction of a controversial building in the artists' hometown of Turku, Finland. The *Gyllich Stoa* was built in the early 19th century after the then-fashionable model of the *Stoa Poikile* (Painted Porch or Portico) of ancient Athens. Over the decades the building has functioned variously as a fishmarket, bazaar, café, restaurant and gas-station. For several years prior to the production of this work, this protected structure lay empty and in a state of decay. In 2010 the city of Turku sold the building to a private company, which reopened it as upmarket restaurants and bars in 2011. Taking local history as a starting point, the animation deals with universal questions relating to ownership of public space, immigration, and neo-liberal city policies. The work is the second in a series of site-specific animations by IC-98, which create a virtual ghost image of an actual place (*Riket*, 2009, being the first).

### **Theses on the Body Politic (The Descent)**

2008 / 6m11s / HD animation / stereo sound

Animated by IC-98 / Music by Marko Laine

*Theses on the Body Politic (The Descent)* is a short, vortex-like plunge into the unknown. The circular image opens up like a hole: is it a rabbit hole into the past or a tubular peephole into some future cosmos? The animation is inspired by the novel *The Masters and the Shadows of the Masters* (1935) by the Finnish author Pentti Haanpää (1905-1955).

## TALKS AND EVENTS

Book your place on 01382 909 900.  
For more information visit  
[www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk)

### Artists' Talk

Wed 25 November, 11:00  
Cinema. Free, but please book  
in advance.

IC-98 will discuss their fascinating  
practice in this lecture presented in  
association with DJCAD.

### Meet the Artists

Fri 27 November, 18:30  
Galleries. Free, but please book  
in advance.

Join IC-98 and Graham Domke,  
Exhibitions Curator at DCA, for a  
special tour of the exhibition ahead of  
the official opening.

### Senior Citizen Kane Tour and Workshop

Tue 19 January, 10:30  
Galleries. Free, but please book  
in advance.

This event is specially designed for  
our visitors aged 60 and over. We  
will explore the exhibition with one of  
our friendly Gallery Assistants, then  
there's the chance to take part in a  
creative workshop making work  
inspired by the exhibition. Tea, coffee  
and biscuits will be on hand to fuel  
your creativity.

### BSL Interpreted Gallery Tour

Wed 20 January, 13:30  
Galleries. Free, drop in.



Join us for an informal BSL interpreted  
tour of the exhibition followed by a

cup of tea and a chat. We will take  
time exploring the exhibition, asking  
questions and sharing ideas  
supported by experienced sign  
language interpreter, Jennifer Ramsay.

### Drawn into Tomorrow: Discussion

Thu 21 January, 19:00  
Galleries. Free, drop in.

An evening of presentations inspired  
by the exhibition, with contributions  
from Dominic Smith, Lecturer in  
Philosophy at the University of  
Dundee, and artists Andrew  
Mackenzie and Fiona Gordon.

### Aktix: Sam Annand & Scott Gordon

Thu 28 January 2016, 18:30  
Galleries. Free, but please book in  
advance.

We are pleased to welcome Scottish  
sound artists Scott Gordon and Sam  
Annand, who will be performing a  
live acousmatic improvisation to  
accompany the exhibition. Using a  
custom modular synthesizer patch  
and quadraphonic loudspeaker  
arrangement, they will generate a  
unique soundscape in response to  
IC-98's work.

### (((echo)))

Thu 4 February, 19:00  
Galleries. Free, drop in.

Come along and contribute to this  
popular event designed to provoke  
discussions about the current  
exhibition through a series of  
presentations by local artists.

Please email [exhibitions@dca.org.uk](mailto:exhibitions@dca.org.uk)  
by Fri 22 January if you are interested  
in proposing a response to IC-98's  
exhibition.

## FOR YOUNGER VISITORS AND FAMILY GROUPS

### Art Cart

Sat 28 November, Sat 19 December,  
Sat 16 January, Sat 13 February,  
13:00 – 15:00

Level 4. Free, drop in.

Fun for all ages, Art Cart offers active ways to connect with our exhibitions. For this show we'll have activities including stick doodles and wave makers.

### Family Art Labs

Sun 29 Nov: Experimental Drawing;  
Sat 6 Feb: Creating Soundscapes,  
13:00 – 15:00

Activity Room. Free, drop in (last activity starts at 14:30). Suitable for ages 5+. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Join our artists to explore IC-98's exhibition. Chat about what you see, create your own art together and try out new techniques. We have two different sessions to choose from for this exhibition: each lasts two hours but you don't have to stay the whole time.

### Art in Action: Mindful Drawing Workshop

Sat 30 January, 13:00 – 15:00  
Activity Room. Suitable for ages 10+ (children can stay unaccompanied).  
£3. Advance booking recommended.

Spend some quality time focusing on detailed drawing by hand, using a mindfulness approach. We'll provide the materials, inspiration and exciting artists to work with.

### Activity Room

Open daily unless being used for a workshop. Free, drop in.

DCA Activity Room is a comfortable and imaginative space designed for younger visitors and family groups. Have a go at DIY activities, browse our excellent children's art library and make connections with the exhibition. For this show there will be some collaborative drawing, tree printing and sea inspired storytelling.

## ARTIST CHOICE SCREENINGS

For each exhibition we ask the artists or curator to choose films to screen in the cinema to coincide with the show. IC-98 have selected three mesmerising films about life and death.

### Le Quattro Volte

Sun 10 January, 15:00

This is a contemplative film about a small Italian village and its inhabitants (human, animal and plant). An exploration of the changing seasons and the wonders of nature in a rural Calabrian mountain village, the story moves effortlessly between an old shepherd, a baby goat, a tree, and a kiln. The film contains plenty of unexpected moments of laughter and sadness. Despite the lack of spoken dialogue, the soundtrack is a rich tapestry of local voices, dog barks, church bells and even the wind rustling through the forest.

Dir: Michelangelo Frammartino  
Italy / Germany / Switzerland 2010 /  
1h28m / U

## Hard to Be a God

Tue 19 January, 20:30

This is not the Earth, this is a different planet. *Hard to Be a God* is a brutally mesmerising Russian science fiction epic directed by the late Aleksei German, based on the 1964 novel by Arkady and Boris Strugarsky, whose *Roadside Picnic* inspired Tarkovsky's *Stalker*. Jonathan Romney's five star review in *The Observer* stated "it's as if a time traveller had gone back and handed a movie camera to Brueghel or Bosch. As medieval fantasy goes, it makes *Game of Thrones* look like musical chairs."

Dir: Aleksei German  
Russia 2015 / 2h57m / 18  
Russian with English subtitles

## The Turin Horse

Sun 7 February, 15:00

Set on a remote farm, *The Turin Horse* depicts a week in the life of an elderly man, his daughter and the titular horse. We witness their routines in meticulous detail, but as the days progress things begin to deteriorate: the horse refuses to eat; the well runs dry, and strange visitors arrive. As ever, director Béla Tarr has refused to comment on what the film means and it is open to countless religious and political interpretations. This austere beautiful film consists of only 30 meticulously choreographed shots.

Dirs: Béla Tarr & Ágnes Hranitzky  
Hungary / France / Germany /  
Switzerland 2011 / 2h34m / 15  
Hungarian with English subtitles

## JUST ASK

Our friendly Gallery Assistants are always happy to help with your questions.

Keep up to date with the very latest from DCA by visiting [www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk) or by following us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. We love seeing your photos and comments about each exhibition at DCA: share them with us online using **#helloDCA**.

## SEASONAL OPENING HOURS

The gallery will close at 15:00 on 24 and 31 December. DCA will be closed on 25 & 26 December and 1 & 2 January.

## NEXT EXHIBITION

### Grey Gardens

Sat 27 February – Sun 1 May 2016

An exhibition that addresses art and architecture inspired by modernity and nature. Works by Scotland-based architects including Modernist houses by Morris and Steedman, Peter Womersley's Studio for Bernat Klein and the town art of Glenrothes and Cumbernauld are presented alongside artists including Guido Guidi, Martin Boyce and Neville Rae. The exhibition is part of The Festival of Architecture; an international, Scotland-wide celebration of Scotland's unique built environment, with over 400 events taking place in 2016.