



LOVER'S VIEW

ART

IAIN FORSYTH AND JANE POLLARD

UNTIL OCTOBER 24
Kate MacGarry gallery

Among the ideas explored in the work of collaborative artists Iain Forsyth and Jane Pollard are authenticity, artifice, replication, stardom and fandom. Also up for debate is the meaning of a one-off live performance in a culture where events can be recorded live by the phone in your pocket. Previous work has focused on music, including an extensively researched, move-for-move re-staging of David Bowie's farewell performance as Ziggy Stardust, and a remake of a bootleg video of The Cramps' legendary performance in 1978 at Napa Mental Institute in

California, complete with grainy black and white feel.

For their latest work the artists have turned their attention to the artworld with the 22-minute video, *Walking After Acconci* (Redirected Approaches). The source material here is performance artist Vito Acconci's seminal 1973 video *Walk-Over* (Indirect Approaches), but instead of simply replicating the work, Forsyth and Pollard have also updated it. In the black and white original, made when artists' video was still in its infancy, Acconci is seen pacing a corridor, every so often appearing up close on screen, talking directly to camera as he addresses an unseen ex-lover.

In the new, colour version, Acconci's role is taken by up-and-coming young East End MC and rap musician, Plan B. Having also collaborated on the script, Plan B appears as a cocky, urban youth, addressing the camera, and by implication both his ex-lover and

also showing...

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This year's finalists displaying their work for public, media and critical scrutiny – plus the possibility of a large cash prize – are Darren Almond, Gillian Carnegie, Jim Lambie and Simon Starling

the viewer, with an analysis of their past relationship that is chillingly both complimentary and consoling and cruel and taunting – "What we had was special, but what we had doesn't exist anymore. I'm with her now". Whether or not the viewer is familiar with the original work the effect is not only emotionally powerful, but the performance and language utterly convincing.

Kate MacGarry gallery, 95-97 Redchurch Street, London E2 (020-7613 3909).

HELEN SUMPTER