

Max Dean - Clip 4

Present practice and individual dialogues

One of the concerns that I've had is that I think that as artists I think there's a thread that runs through all of our work. I think that historically you can see it. I think you can see it now in the contemporary work of my peers, you can see it in younger artists, you can see it in all artists, but there's a thread running through their work and there's a kind of common concern and my kind of naïve, and simplistic way of putting it would be that we're basically dealing as individuals, with one or two questions in our lives. We're trying to resolve these individual dialogues, and I think what happens is that as we get older we just get better at focusing our attention and hopefully at offering a different and more insightful answer to that particular question. So I think fundamentally I'm always in dialogue with myself and then when the work gets into the public, that the public takes over and the level of meaning that they might or hopefully ascribe to it is something completely different from what I'm initially probably started out. So what's influencing the practice is basically, first off, is me as a person. Two, it's the events around me - which is everything from me getting older - and by that I mean more maturing - that I have a kind of feeling that I can do certain things that I wouldn't have probably ever done ten years or fifteen years ago. So, I feel that I have a greater degree of freedom personally to do that and I think just the circumstances of what's

happening around us - I think that there's an enormous kind of urgency at the moment.

