Artist in Residence at HMP Grendon 2014 - 2017

Ikon is delighted to announce a new partnership with HMP Grendon, Buckinghamshire and the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust, working with artist Edmund Clark over a three-year programme. The project will culminate in a publication and exhibition at Ikon in 2017.

In light of growing evidence that the arts can offer transformational experience in offenders’ lives thus breaking the vicious circle of crime and incarceration, the Artist in Residence programme will develop a public discourse about prisons, rehabilitation and criminality. Integral to Clark’s research and art work undertaken during the residency, will be practical opportunities for offenders to work alongside a professional artist assisting them in their own creative endeavours.

Edmund Clark is a multi award-winning artist whose work links history, politics and representation. He traces ideas of shared humanity, otherness and unseen experience through landscape, architecture and the documents, possessions and environments of subjects of political tension. Through photographic and mixed media works, Clark is committed to communicating the complex issues surrounding crime and punishment. He has previously worked on several long-term projects in custodial institutions including HMP Kingston, YOI Lancaster Farms and the detention camps at Guantanamo Bay.

Clark’s work can be found in museum collections including the National Portrait Gallery and the Imperial War Museum. He was awarded the Royal Photographic Society Hood Medal for outstanding photography for public service in 2011, shortlisted for the Prix Pictet in 2012 and nominated for the Deutsche Börse Photography Prize in 2011 and 2013.

As an institution dedicated to championing public engagement through the visual arts, this residency provides an exciting opportunity for Ikon to engage audiences with current debates concerning incarceration and rehabilitation.

Note to Editors:

1. Ikon is open Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am - 6pm. Admission is free.

2. Ikon Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council.

3. HMP Grendon operates a unique regime in the therapeutic care of offenders. Currently Grendon can house up to 238 residents in Cat B secure conditions, with each of its six wings operating as autonomous therapeutic communities.
4. The Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust was set up in 1992 by the Viennese émigré artist Marie-Louise von Motesiczky (1906-1996) for the promotion of her work, the charitable support of the arts and other charitable objects as stated on the Charity's website: www.motesiczky.org/about-the-trust/introduction

5. For more information on Edmund Clark please visit his website www.edmundclark.com

6. For more information, high-res images and to arrange an interview with the artist or the curator please contact Sophie Campos or Emma Gilhooly at Pelham Communications on 020 8969 3959 or email sophie@pelhamcommunications.com or emma@pelhamcommunications.com