



# Ronan McCrea

***Medium (The End)***

***Medium (Upsidedown)***

8 September—6 October 2007



# Medium (The End) and Medium (Upsidedown) are two new works exhibited simultaneously in *The Return* at the Goethe-Institut and Gallery for One at 5 Scarlet Row, from the 8th September until the 6th October 2007.

**Medium (The End)** at *The Return* takes the form of the projection of a single 35mm slide. The projector is programmed to cause the image to slowly “fade to black” over the duration of the gallery’s day. The fade is barely perceptible to the naked eye, and yet from the moment the projector is turned on each morning the “fade to black” begins. By the time the gallery closes at the end of each day the image has completely disappeared. Simultaneously, the prolonged presence of the single slide in the projector gate causes the slow obliteration of the image as the emulsion is affected by the heat and light of the projector bulb. This produces entropy, moving in the opposite direction: a “fading to white”. The slide will be replaced everyday with a fresh copy.

**Medium (Upsidedown)** at *Gallery for One* consists of a slide projection with audio, its subject a fictional character created by a novelist residing in Rome. One of the sources for this character was the protagonist from McCrea’s recent slide projection works, played by his daughter. McCrea travelled to Rome to speak with the author in the hope that this transposition of form could have resonance within his work, only to find that the novel had been rewritten, the latest draft existed only in fragments. Any recognisable traces of McCrea’s protagonist in the new text had gone.

In a sequence of projected images the separation of figure from background by means of dissolves, superimpositions and the orientation of the projections is set against the voice of the novelist. For the artist, the problematic of the voice and visual representation of the female subject by a male author is raised within the work and this in turn becomes the focus of *Medium (Upsidedown)*.

## Biography

Ronan McCrea was born in Dublin in 1969 where he continues to live and work. He has exhibited extensively in Ireland and internationally, including solo exhibitions: *Sequences, Scenarios & Locations and the Correction Drawings I-V*, Galway Arts Centre, 2004; *general-specific*, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, 2003; and *Seminal*, Glassbox, Paris, 2002. Recent group shows include *Red White Blue*, Spencer Brownstone Gallery, New York, 2005; *No-one else brings me the colours that you bring*, Temple Bar Galleries & Studios, 2004; *Permaculture*, Project Arts Centre, 2003; *Greyscale/CMYK*, Tramway, Glasgow, 2002. In 2005 he was one of seven artists who represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale. He is currently working on practice based PhD at University of Ulster, Belfast.

## Curated by Vaari Claffey & Georgina Jackson

### Preview

Friday 7 September 2007  
5.30pm–7pm The Return, Goethe Institute  
7pm–8.30pm Gallery for One, 5 Scarlet Row

### Gallery for One

5 Scarlet Row, Essex Street West, Temple Bar, Dublin 8  
Open: Mon–Sat, 11am–6pm

### The Return

Goethe-Institut, 37 Merrion Square, Dublin 2  
Open: Tue–Thurs, 10am–8pm; Fri–Sat, 11am–1.30pm  
Tel: +353 1 661 1155



Reverse  
*Medium (Upsidedown)*, 2007, production still