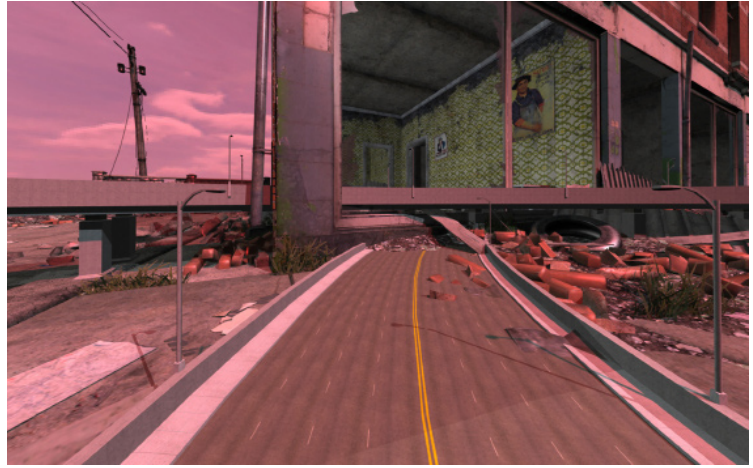


# STEPHEN HALEY DRIVEBY

16th June- 9th July 2011

GALLERY II

Opening Drinks  
Thursday 16th June, 6-8pm



*Driveby* is an exhibition of new work by artist **Stephen Haley** that expands his interest with contemporary space in the digital age – an age where simulation and the virtual are now fundamental aspects of actual space. The exhibition features *Driveby* (2011, single channel projection, dimensions variable, 02.04mins infinitely looped) a large-scale immersive video projection elaborately created from 3D modelling software. Rushing along a virtual road as if staring through a windscreen, the viewer is engulfed by a barrage of virtual images and events. The journey is both a compressed diurnal cycle through day into night and back again, but also evokes a grander time-scale of historical epochs where civilizations rise and fall.

The exhibition also features two large scale lightjet prints *Here (255)* and *There (107)* (2010, lightjet photograph, 130 x 240cm), also modelled in 3D software but realized as virtual photographs. The images depict a generic office building filled with identical waiting rooms. Viewed from outside, one seen in daylight, the other at night, each room is filled with individual figures in various poses. Each of these is an anonymous photograph bought or downloaded from the internet. The numbers of figures in each image (255 and 107) refer to the numbers of people that are born and die in the world each minute.

These works represent cutting-edge computer image technology and are produced using a range of software including 3D modelling software. Models are constructed in the software, or bought as pre-packaged sets from internet suppliers, and are then given textured skins over the wireframe forms. The results are arranged and lit within the program and then virtually photographed as a raytraced image. A series of these stills is then used to create an animation or, in the case of the lightjet photographs, a laser exposes photographic paper which is then chemically developed to create a Type C photograph. The result is a virtual photograph – a camera-less photograph with no direct indexical link to the actual world but rather to virtual subjects.

“The digital world is a world of binaries – ones and zeros, the world of either/or, but never both. Yet with the rise of the digital world many binaries begin to dissolve or blur. While we are here, we are often also there, as a virtual presence – as voices on the telephone, users on the internet, operators of webpages and so on. The solid divisions between opposites now seem fluid and malleable. As the structures of the internet, computer aided design and relentless urbanisation grow, the world begins to resemble a single form – a mirror with only minor local variations.” **Stephen Haley**, from *Here is There* artist statement, 2011

Since 1994 artist **Stephen Haley** has produced sixteen solo exhibitions and participated in over one hundred curated exhibitions both nationally and internationally. From January to March 2011, **Haley** exhibited *Here is There* at the Bendigo Art Gallery. Haley is represented in numerous national public and private collections and has won several awards including the Deacon, Graham and James/Arts 21 Residency Award in 1998 that funded a four-month studio in Tokyo and the ANZ Visual Arts Fellowship Award in 2004. In 2006 **Haley** received the Australian Council for the Arts Overseas Studio Residency Award and spent three months in Los Angeles researching the city's many thematic spaces. In the same year, he also won the prestigious R M McGivern Acquisitive Prize for painting. Additionally, **Haley** also has an extensive writing record, publishing a large number of critical essays, reviews and catalogue essays on contemporary art.

**Stephen Haley** completed a BA (University of Melbourne), a BFA (RMIT), a Postgraduate Diploma (VCA), a Master of Fine Art (VCA) and a PhD (VCA/University of Melbourne). He has lectured for the past eleven years at the Victorian College of the Arts and is currently Graduate Course Coordinator of Masters by Research. Prior to 2000 he spent five years lecturing in Art History and Theory, and in Studio practice at Monash University's Faculty of Art and Design. He also lectured in the RMIT Master of Fine Art program from 2004 to 2006. **Haley** received a 2010 Australia Council New Work Grant. This is **Stephen Haley's** sixth solo exhibition. For images or further information please contact: [shanley@nelliecastangallery.com](mailto:shanley@nelliecastangallery.com)

Image: *Driveby*, 2011, single channel projection, dimensions variable, 2mins 4secs infinitely looped

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