



Henna- Riikka Halonen The Bath House Tuesday 12th January

On Tuesday 12th January, George Polke begins a series of presentations of video work with Henna-Riikka Halonen's *The Bath House* 2009. Halonen's elegant and awkward videos function as both directed works and the documentation of the results of a set up situation. Developing a confusion of meaning, where original references become tenuous and the action 'on stage' develops its own logic and narrative.

The Bath House shows the Junior Edinburgh Diving Club as it enacts the play 'The Bath House' at The Royal Commonwealth Pool, Edinburgh. 'The Bath House' is a Constructivist satire of Russian state bureaucracy, first staged in 1930 by Vsevolod Meyerhold; the legendary director and originator of the biomechanic system of training for actors. The swimming pool in its utilitarian metal and tiled splendour becomes a stage set and Halonen's eye for detail follows the troupe of children as they enact wonderfully peculiar scenes.

HENNA -RIIKKA HALONEN was born in Finland and graduated with MFA Fine Art from Goldsmiths College in 2006. Solo exhibitions include the Northern Photography Centre, Oulu, Finland (2007) and MUU gallery Helsinki (2008). She was included in the Inceheon International Biennale of Women artists, Seoul (2007) and Ev+a Limerick, curated by Hou Hanru (2008). *The Bath House* was commissioned by 'Collective Commissions' and has been screened at the Nannay Film festival, France, Collective Gallery, Edinburgh and Art Claims Impulse, Berlin. It will be shown at Gallery Hippolyte, Helsinki in March 2010. Currently holder of the Berwick Gymnasium Fellowship, Halonen lives and works in Newcastle, UK.

Developing themes around employment and performance, the series will continue on intermittent Tuesdays at George Polke with presentations of video by YVON CHABROWSKI, LEILA HEKMAT, RAN HUANG and TRINE LISE NEDREAAS through February and March 2010.

3.5 FREDERICK TERRACE
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All events are open to the
public and free of charge
Open Saturdays 12-6pm
or by appointment

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