Daniel Jewesbury and Aisling O'Beirn

In this exhibition, Daniel Jewesbury and Aisling O'Beirn bring north Belfast into the gallery, in a series of ‘microgeographical’ enquiries that they have been conducting over recent months. O'Beirn’s digital animations draw both on images from the Belfast Exposed archive and from contemporary images of the city; accompanying these is a new sculpture based on the Waterworks Park. Jewesbury’s short 16mm film NLR takes the form of a walk along the New Lodge Road, in an attempt to discover the ‘unity of atmosphere’ of an area already overdetermined by representation.

Jewesbury and O'Beirn bring the exhibition back out into the city through the production of a series of small pamphlets which suggest ‘tours’ of north Belfast. The artists have taken as their cue certain pre-existing ways of describing the city: for instance, the neat ordering of historical information familiar from tourist literature or interpretative panels; or the idealised, simplified vision of space so typical in urban planning. Jewesbury and O'Beirn appropriate images from the Belfast Exposed archive and combine these with maps, photographs and drawings of their own, to produce ‘tours’ that might be impossible or inadvisable to embark upon physically: linking sites that no longer exist, or which are under construction; sites whose precise location the artists are unsure of; spaces to which the tourist cannot get access, such as private living rooms; as well as spaces that might ordinarily be considered ‘dangerous’ to the casual walker.

The different parts of the exhibition all look for means to activate the competing visions of this part of the city. In written and visual archives, in maps and masterplans, and most importantly in everyday use, the sites of north Belfast have become overwritten with many conflicting inscriptions. Jewesbury and O'Beirn are interested in how these different
voices vie to be heard, and how they shape the social and physical fabric of the city that they live and work in. Today, Belfast exists in a state of perpetual regeneration; in this context, Jewesbury and O’Beirn want to discover more active modes of engaging, as citizens, with our city.

There are a number of events taking place during the final three weeks of the exhibition, further information is available here.

**What:** Daniel Jewesbury and Aisling O’Beirn  
**Where:** Belfast Exposed, The Exchange Place, 23 Donegall Street, Belfast, BT1 2FF  
**When:** Fri 2 Jul - Fri 13 Aug 2010, Tues - Sat 11 am to 5 pm  
**Associated Events:** Events information available here  
**Further Details:**  
- Visit the Belfast Exposed website  
**Map:** View events on the map here