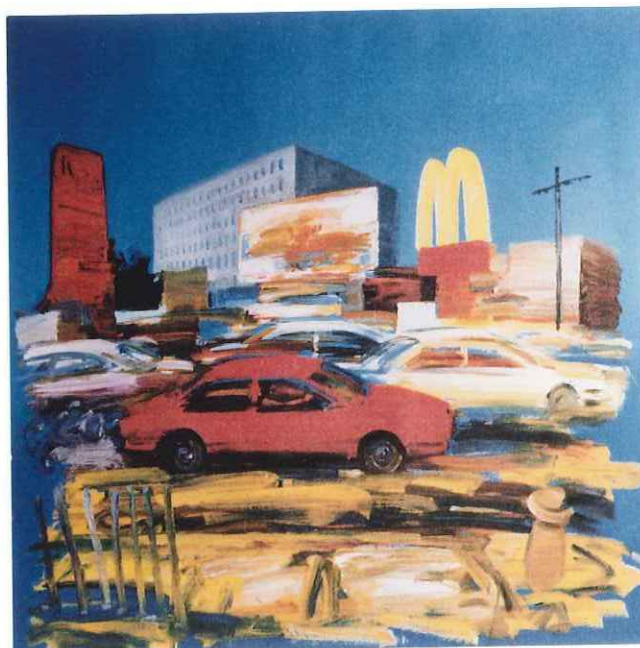


PRESS
RELEASE

THE SURREY INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

'CONNECTIONS'

Curated by Professor George Barber & Professor Paul Butler
14 February 2003 – 29 March 2003



Red Car by Paul Butler

The Surrey Institute of Art & Design University College is one of the UK's leading specialist colleges of art, design, media and communication. A vibrant community of students, staff and researchers, it provides a challenging environment in which creativity can flourish. Now, a new exhibition will reveal and show off the talents of just one part of this community. *Connections*, which opens to the public on 14 February 2003, will bring to notice some of the more unusual work of the staff of the Institute.

To be held within The Surrey Institute's own Lottery funded Foyer Gallery and its larger James Hockey Gallery, *Connections* includes work by well-established artists who combine creative practice with an academic career at the Institute. Each artist/tutor has been encouraged to pair themselves with an artist from outside the Institute's community and will exhibit alongside work with which they personally identify. An exciting antidote to the narrow focus of many contemporary exhibitions, the resulting exhibition investigates and celebrates these links and connections.

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Curated by two of the Institute's leading international artists, Professor George Barber and Professor Paul Butler, *Connections* will offer some genuine surprises, and the curators firmly believe that visitors to the exhibition will, in turn, create their own connections, adding a further set of associations to this cultural encounter.

George Barber's work, *Upside Down Minutiae*, was recently shown on Channel 4, receiving an enthusiastically positive review from the *Evening Standard's* Victor Lewis-Smith – a man not usually known for such unqualified generosity. Many of Barber's best works will be on show at *Connections*. A senior lecturer in Time Based New Media at The Surrey Institute, George Barber has pioneered video art, gaining an international following for his fast-moving, multi-layered video edits.

Paul Butler has shown nationally and internationally in various solo and group exhibitions. His most recent exhibitions include a one person show at the Robert Sandleson Gallery, Cork Street, London (1999); *Transmission* at the British Council, Bologna (2001) and *Crossing the Line*, an Arts Council touring exhibition (2001/02). He was the winner of the National Painting Award from the Rootstein Hopkins Foundation in 1999/2000. Butler's work is included in many public and private collections including the Arts Council, the Museum of London, the Corporation of London and the Jerwood Foundation. Paul Butler is a senior lecturer in Fine Art.

Connections is open from 14 February until 29 March 2003 between 10am and 5pm daily and between 10am and 4pm on Saturdays. It is closed on Sundays. Admission is free. For further information on the exhibition, please contact the Galleries Co-ordinator, Christine Kapteijn, on 01252 892646/ 892668 or by email on galleries@surrart.ac.uk.

Ends.

For further information please contact Sara Laver on 01252 892733 or at slaver@surrart.ac.uk.