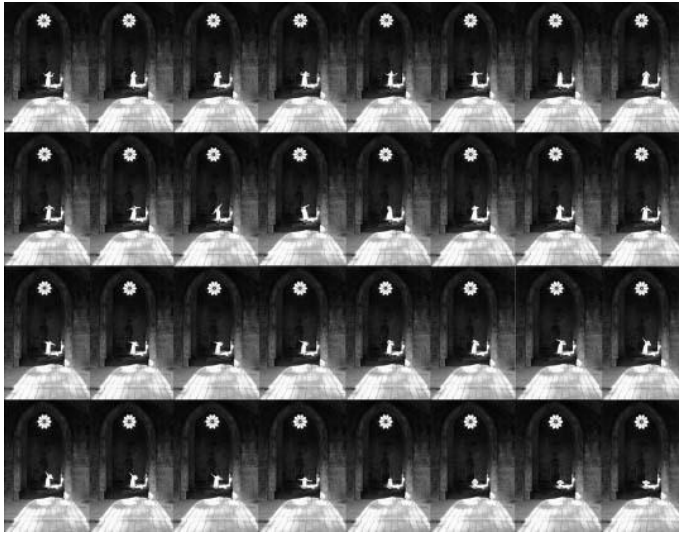


TANIA DOLVERS

In that sweet mood where pleasant thoughts
bring sad thoughts to the mind



February 9th- 29th 2012

The Hackney Picture House

270 Mare Street, London, E8 1HE

Private View

Thursday February 9th

7.00– 9.30pm

Tania Dolvers' project, *In That Sweet Mood Where Pleasant Thoughts Bring Sad Thoughts To The Mind* examines the relationship between still and moving image through the traditional medium of the Zootrope, or 'wheel of life,' a mechanical device that produces an illusion of action from a rapid succession of static pictures.

Inspired by Eadweard Muybridge's pioneering photographs of motion as well as Victorian optical toys, Tania Dolvers explores our preoccupation with the illusion of animation. Referencing Victorian death portraiture and early attempts to capture the supernatural, these ghostly images of the dancing actress Niamh McGrady play upon our nostalgia for the maverick years of moving image. The imagery is boldly reminiscent of early silent film, especially classic horrors such as *Nosferatu*. By choreographing a series of dances similar to the work of legendary Isadora Duncan, Edwardian screen actresses and silent film stars such as Louise Brooks, the artist takes us on a sentimental journey into the past.

Tania Dolvers was born in London in 1982. After studying Photography and Film at St Martins she moved to New York where she worked for Magnum Photo. Since her return, Tania has worked as a freelance photographer and video artist. Her work focuses on the representation of space and time and our emotional relationship with both moving image and stills. She has exhibited widely in group and solo shows throughout London.

For further information on the artist please visit www.taniadolvers.com

For information about the actress Niamh McGrady please visit www.niamhmcgrady.co.uk

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