

Video Transcript

Dalziel + Scullion | Narrative Landscapes

Duration:

02:52

Speakers:

Matthew Dalziel and Louise Scullion

Transcript

Matthew Dalziel:

I suppose we've sort of built an artist profile as being environmental, ecological artists. That's what we're interested in – how mankind interacts with the natural world.

Louise Scullion:

We probably work much more to a context, or a commission than we do to a pure gallery setting, which is actually a situation we really like. I mean, we like collaborating with each other, we like collaborating with other craftspeople, and fabricators. So we like that kind of group dynamic, it makes us feel part of society rather than strange misfit outsiders. You kind of feel people want what we do.

Matthew Dalziel:

We work across a lot of mediums; there's photography, there's video, sculpture, just now we're designing a series of clothes. The medium is really determined by the context of what the work is.

Louise Scullion:

And I suppose what's consistent is the message more, we're kind of trying to look at how human beings are living within a bigger picture, you know, and trying to look at things from a non-human perspective.

You know when you go and look at a guillemot who's laying a rounded egg on a shelf an inch deep, and you look at how streamlined the bodies are, and how beautifully evolved they are to do what they do. We found that endlessly inspirational, that you can see these other models for living – living with very little means, and living in a really fragile habitat, but there's survival.

We used to do a lot of work where we had this wonderful botanist who would come with us on some walks, and it was just lovely having his voice in your ear. And you would be looking at something that was a fairly average landscape, and he'd point – why that grass is higher there, and why that's poorer pasture, and why this is... And suddenly all this information, and you'll never look at that bit of landscape again the same way. So I think – it took us ages to realise that, that narrative was actually quite important to what we do. So then we had to make the work be that voice in your ear, of ... to allow you to look at it differently.