

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

GENERATION: Graham Fagen

2014

[2:11]

Graham Fagen – Artist:

I'm not the sort of artist that works with a specific medium. I use all sorts of things from installation to bronze casts, neon lights, film work to writing. Perhaps its writers that has influenced me more than maybe artists per se. I've done a lot of works in the past with Robert Burns' lyrics or songs.

I've made my own arrangements of Robert Burns' songs. For me it's really important that as an artist, but also as a person, how we understand our own culture. More importantly, how we are able to understand other cultures and within contexts of other cultures and to see the connections, links and influences.

More contemporary writers like Alistair Grey and Irvine Welsh have been influential in the art work I've made. I think that's especially true for the exhibition 'Peek-a-Jobby' here. I think reading Alistair Grey and Irvine Welsh when I was at art school gave me the confidence to express myself in a way that was comfortable. That was a big influence.

I guess I work with things that make me curious. I work with things that leaves questions in my head. A lot of it is probably political, a lot social and a lot of it is cultural. I can break it into thirds: social, political and cultural questions, thoughts and memories.