

**Media Release**

Date: June 2, 2005

**Presentation House Gallery announces three solo exhibitions by artists from Britain:**

June 11 to July 31, 2005

**Julie Henry – *Going Down***

**Martin Parr – *Think of England***

**Nina Toft – *“The one I think I am...”***

**EVENT:** Saturday June 11, 4pm

Artist talk by Nina Toft and discussion on the picturing of ‘sport, work and leisure’ with curator Bill Jeffries.

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS:** 7:30pm on Thursday June 16 and 23

Julie Henry’s ‘X’, an extraordinary 8-minute video depicting London’s greatest video games player in action.

**EXHIBITIONS:**

**Julie Henry – *Going Down***

On side-by-side screens *Going Down* shows the ‘home’ and ‘away’ spectators at a Premier League football match in London. Possibly the greatest work of art ever made on the subject of sport, *Going Down* is 90 seconds of contemporary agony and ecstasy in football.

**Martin Parr – *Think of England***

Photographs by England’s pre-eminent social-documentarian show the English at their leisure. Parr lives in Bristol and is a member of Magnum, the global photo agency. His England is charming in an other-worldly way, sometimes decaying before our eyes, product-obsessed, arcanelly ritualistic and, overall, a place where the seagulls look healthier than the people. His framing and use of foregrounded fragments capture hidden meanings and eternal truths simultaneously.

**Nina Toft – *“The one I think I am...”***

A new video work by an emerging Edinburgh artist shows commuters at a rail station on their way to work; it captures the existential dilemma of working in the contemporary world in semi-confrontational portraits that mimic the work of the paparazzi. A work that is about many things, including the hidden beauty of our daily resignation to the working life.

**NEW BOOKS:** Presentation House Gallery is publishing **two new books** on the occasion of these exhibitions. Julie Henry’s ‘*Going Down*’ has a **36 page colour catalogue** with texts by Steven Bode from the Film & Video Umbrella in London and Bill Jeffries. Nina Toft’s “*The one I think I am...*” also has a **36 page colour catalogue** with texts by Shane Danielsen, the Director of the Edinburgh International Film Festival, and Bill Jeffries.

These exhibitions are curated by Bill Jeffries. **They are part of “UK Today: A New View”**, a city-wide series of presentations of new art, theatre and music from the UK.