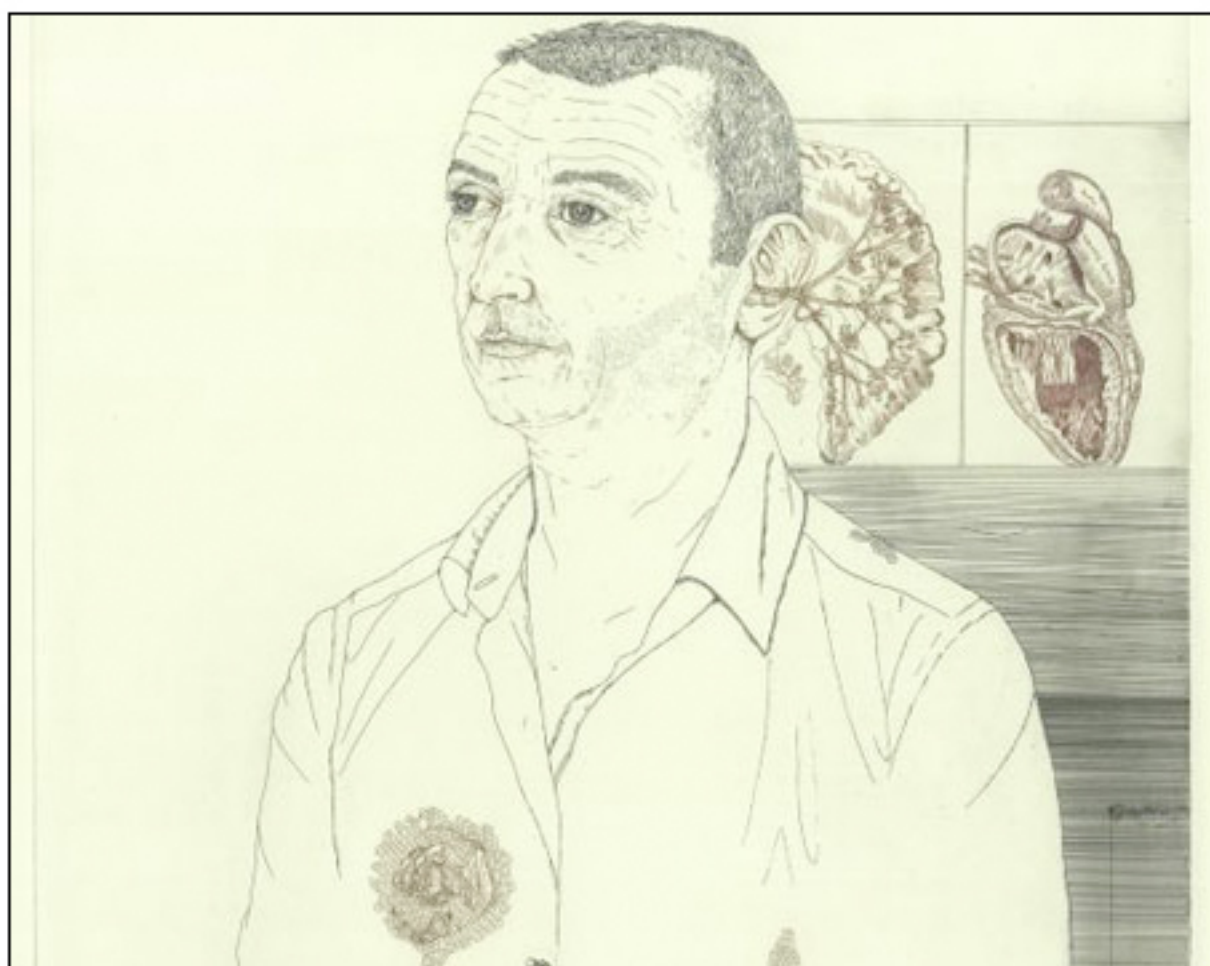


An Experiment In Collaboration draws artists together

Your views

by FISUN GUNER - Tuesday, August 12, 2008



Experiment In Collaboration

Artists, like writers, are usually solo performers. Team players do exist, of course - one thinks of Gilbert and George or Jake and Dinos Chapman - but loose collaborative efforts, especially with those from other disciplines, make different demands. True collaboration takes flexible thinking and so many artists get used to ploughing a lonely, rigid furrow.

There are six artists in this exhibition and six teams of collaborators. Among them are Michael Pybus, who invited stylists and a photographer from Dazed & Confused to create a fashion shoot among the artist's sculptural installation Richards, who just gets other artists to 'act' in an amateurish and dreary film whose characters look as if they've stepped out of 1980s clubland (more like friends filmed with a camcorder after a drunken night out).

By far the most interesting are Gemma Anderson's etchings of psychiatric patients (pictured) whose histories are incorporated into each portrait (a swarm of wasps erupting from a head; a tree sprouting from an ear).

But one wonders in what ways many have been meaningful collaborations, or just inspired by simply talking to people, which is what many artists might benefit from doing anyway.

Until Aug 31, Jerwood Space, 171 Union Street SE1, Mon to Fri 10am to 5pm, Sat and Sun 10am to 3pm, free. Tel: 020 7654 0171. Tube: Borough