

ART REVIEW Ghosts Of The Future ★★★★★☆

Shape-shifting structures make for a fascinating spatial odyssey in Brendan Earley's first solo show at Mother's Tankstation. Drawing heavily on 1950s aesthetics, *Ghosts Of The Future* begins in the front gallery, which has been painted a grey-green, reminiscent of military offices. Black marker pen drawings of mutating space-age architecture, enhanced by areas of *découpage*, adorn the walls. Each structure is rendered in short, refined pen strokes, the assorted gradients of pigment lending an almost glassy, reflective quality as if the barren landscape is sun-bleached.

Underscoring the 'science field trip' vibe is the installation piece, *9 Reports*, that incorporates an old U-matic tape machine playing a recording of JG Ballard's short story, *Reports From An Unidentified Space Station*, read by artist and theorist Brian O'Doherty; we hear entries from a captain's log offering observations on a metamorphosing and unsupervised space station which seems to echo Earley's drawings. The narrative is aided by a hypnotic video of 'stars' shooting through space. Elsewhere, a concave, angular sculpture on castors



(half time capsule, half fallen satellite) may be in the process of being remodelled or, alternatively, dismantled. Alongside is *Chart Of A Space No.2*, a spectacular, large-scale pen drawing whose painstakingly layered marks on paper resemble seismographic lines.

Lucy White

Until Oct 31, Mother's Tankstation, 41-43 Watling St, Usher's Island D8, Thu to Sat noon to 6pm, free. Tel: (01) 671 7654. www.motherstankstation.com

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