

Exhibition Guide

Vladimir Logutov *Twilight*

Tower Room

24 May – 16 July 2006

Born in Samara, Russia in 1980, Vladimir Logutov has worked with video since 2003, subtly using digital technology to disrupt our perceptions of modern life. In *Twilight* (2005) we see a wintry crossroads that appears to be an everyday scene, but on closer inspection, we find ourselves witnessing a sequence of bizarre and surreal phenomena. Red traffic lights are reflected as green in the rain soaked streets, for example. An old woman walking behind a waiting van becomes a clone of herself and strangely a number of strolling pedestrians are headless.

Similarly in *Episode* (2005), we observe extraordinary human behaviour in another public place, a park in a high-rise estate where a group of young men begin to fight. It quickly becomes clear that what at first appears to be horseplay is a merciless attack on one member of the group. This is uncomfortable to watch, as we remain passive onlookers. Added to our uneasiness is the fact that various passers-by pay no attention. Logutov manipulates the video to create different 'layers', conveying its simulated nature, whereby the action in the foreground has been slowed down and the pace of the pedestrians in the background has been accelerated. These effects, combined with the bleak, windswept soundtrack, result in a disjointed and disturbing viewing experience.