

CHISENHALE

DUNCAN CAMPBELL INTERVIEWED BY YEAR 6 PUPILS FROM OLGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

A class of year 6 pupils from Olga Primary School took part in Chisenhale Gallery's 'live art' project lead by artists, Ayo & Oni. They were involved in a series of workshops where they learnt about and engaged with the film, 'Make it new John' by artist Duncan Campbell. The pupils devised a series of questions after viewing the show, which were answered by the artist.

To Duncan, who or what inspired you to make this film?

I was very interested in the DeLorean car that you see in the film. It was in a film that I saw when I was younger called Back to the Future and I thought it looked great. I was also very interested in story of the people and factory where the car was built. Belfast at the beginning of the 1980's suffered from very high unemployment and was in the middle of a violent conflict over whether Northern Ireland should remain as part of the United Kingdom or be united with the Republic of Ireland. The factory brought jobs and great hope to people in Belfast. They were upset and their lives were affected badly when the factory closed.

Why does it show different pictures?

This is because the film is set over a long period of time. The cameras that they used then use different technology, from film – like you see in the cinema- to old-fashioned video cameras – which are more like cameras we use today. Each type of camera produces a different look.

Where was the film set?

In different places: in Detroit, California, and New York in America; in Lebanon, Egypt and Israel; and in Belfast in Northern Ireland.

How long ago was this?

The story finishes in 1982 so, 27 years ago.

Why was most of the footage black and white at the start?

Because it is old, it's from the 1940's. That is the type of film that was mainly used then. They did have colour film but it was cheaper to use black and white.

When was this film made?

I made the film during 2009 and it took 10 months to complete.

Why are you filming people in the factory?

The people in the factory are very important to the story because they made the DeLorean car. The film also tells the story of why the jobs were important to the workers in the factory. Their job earned them money but it also gave them pride and respect.

Where was DMC Company made?

It was started in America and the car was built in Belfast.

How were you feeling when you made the film?

I felt happy because the subject of the film was something that interested me. I was also worried in case nobody liked it when it was finished.

What country was this made?

It was mainly made in Scotland where I live but some of it was filmed in London.

Why is the sound silly at first?

It is silly because I was trying to say how someone was feeling rather than what they were thinking.