

DOMINIC FROM LUTON

ENGLISH MAN GOING INSANE

DEPARTURE LOUNGE AT THE STOREFRONT
26 APRIL - 02 JUNE 2018

Dominic From Luton's artistic practice melds the artist's personal histories with Luton's highly individual take on 1980s British pop culture. **English Man Going Insane** is Dominic's visual love letter to his hometown; it presents his own take on what a public arts programme in Luton could, should or might be, alongside work that is central to his own practice.

Adorning the windows of the Storefront is a seemingly unremarkable image of a suburban house. Sat between the mock-Tudor windows and pot plants is a disembodied section of wall, which, in fact is **Work No. 2608** (2016) by Turner Prize winner Martin Creed. This work is one of a series of artists' commissions that were part of **Sunridge Avenue Projects** (2016), a town-wide artistic intervention centred the street where Dominic grew up and where Creed's work remains today. (The curious can visit Creed's Sculpture at number 32).

As an artist Creed is well-known for his adaptability and for choosing media and materials which reflect the everyday and in this case the 'domestic' characteristics of his commission. Accordingly, inside the gallery, Kay Allen Dominic's mother

(and a regular, if unlikely, artistic collaborator), is pictured at builder's yard selecting bricks for Creed's sculpture.



Martin Creed, Work No. 2608 (2016)

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Dominic From Luton, Yeah! (2015)

A cluster of freshly washed plastic carrier bags pegged to a washing line, references Kay Allen's own washing line and the tensions that emerged between her domestic instincts – wanting the house the be tidy for **Sunridge Avenue Project** – and the latent unpredictability of contemporary art.

Reaching further into his back catalogue ephemeral objects are adopted and given a new lease of life. A lightbox with the self-deprecating text 'White Pratt From Luton' is not in fact an impolite way of describing someone from Luton but a last of names produced to advertise an exhibition with Laura White, Robert Pratt and Dominic himself in 2011.

English Man Going Insane is not an exhibition nor retrospective as such, but the meeting of an artistic practice and series of curatorial endeavours, which have been shaped and informed by his beloved hometown.

English Man Going Insane is organised by Departure Lounge in collaboration with Luton Culture and is part of 'As You Change, So Do I' a three-year programme of public art events funded by Arts Council England's Luton Investment Programme.