Abstract for NAFAE Research Practice Research symposium
July 2016.

‘Brecht and the Village of Figgate’:
A critical contextualization of the origins and uses of a cultural materialist
theory and the aesthetic strategies informing a series of consciously
satiric, ‘counter-hegemonic’ paintings.

‘Because cultural theory is about the way in which the specifics of works
relate to structures which are not the works.’

Raymond Williams, ‘Media, Margins and Modernity’, Politics of
Modernity, p. 185.

In this analysis I will discuss the efficacy of Brechtian theory within the
creation of contemporary satiric paintings. The presentation will analyse
Brecht’s critique of aesthetics, the application of the dialectic and the
attempted creation of a ‘New Realism’ within contemporary art
production.

References:
Hill and Wang, New York.

Biography:

Graduated from Glasgow School of Art in 1994.
Graduated from Winchester School of Art MA European Fine Art in 1995.
Senior Lecturer in Fine Art, Institute of the Arts, University of Cumbria,
2006 – present.
Currently in Yr. 2 of PhD at Institute of the Arts, University of Cumbria.

Exhibitions:

City Art Gallery & Museum, 2010.

‘Scotland the Brave: A Concise History of Scotland from 1514-2014’, solo

Publications:
