

Paul Housley

Portfolio

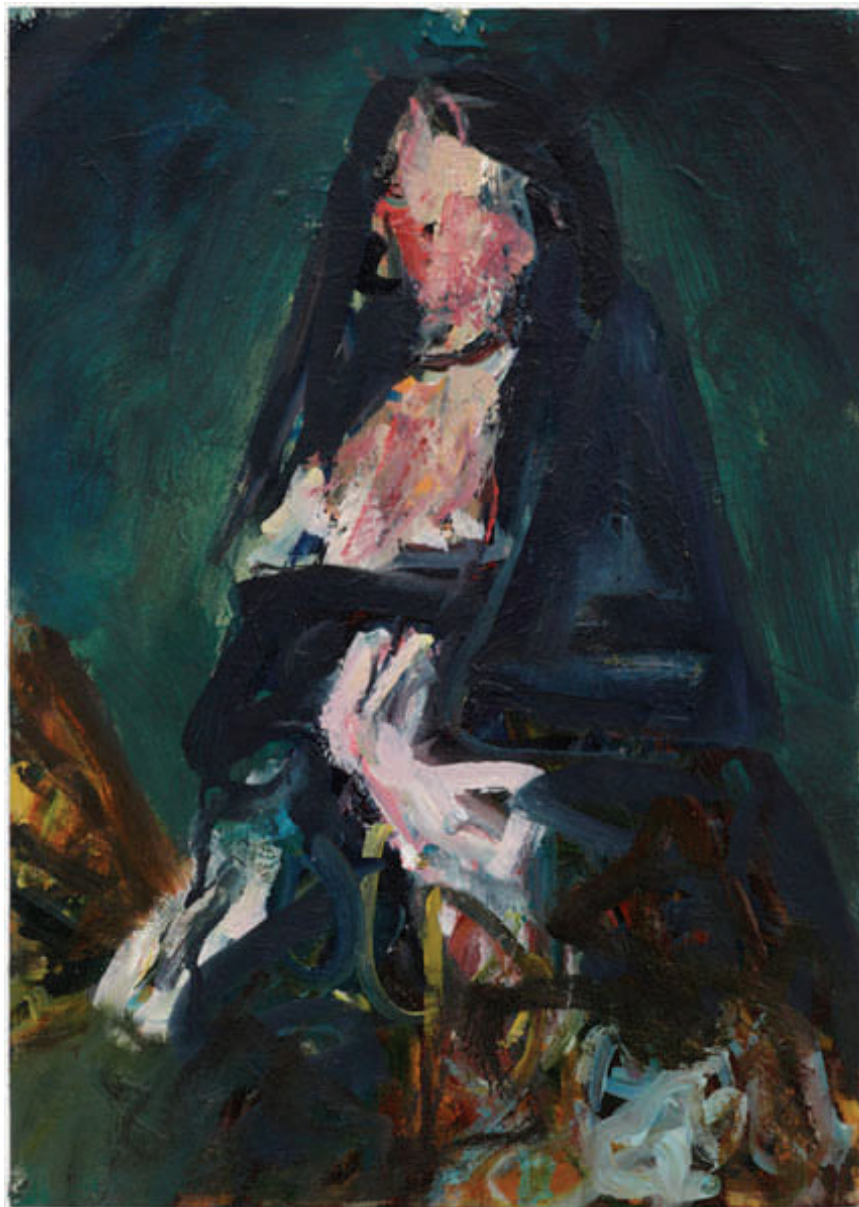
AKINCI Amsterdam



Yellow Bird
2010
Oil on paper
40 x 30 cm



Jealous Games took my Curls
2010
Oil on canvas
50 x 40 cm



Lady with fan-A.V.
2010
Oil on canvas
40x30cm



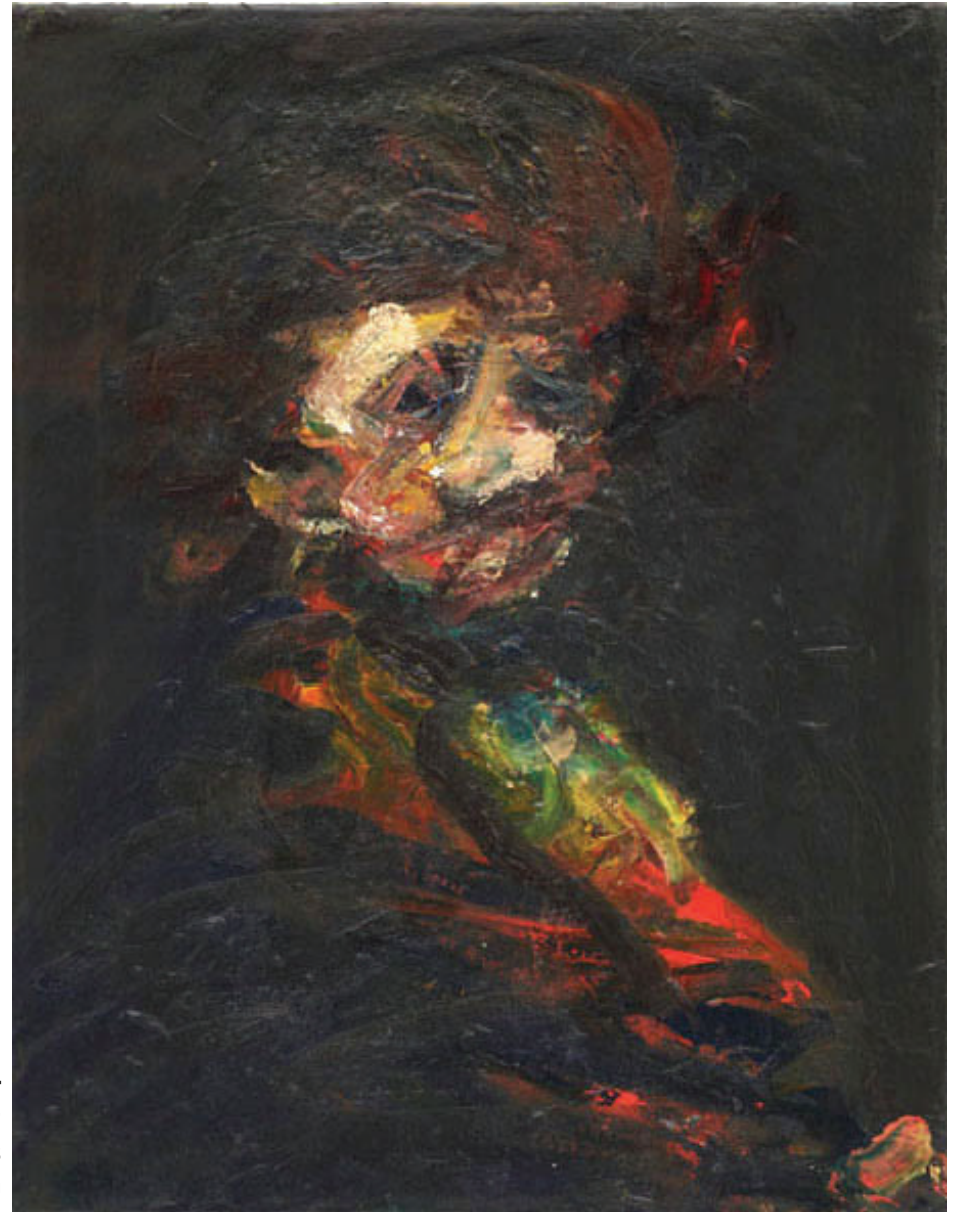
Grubby White
2010
Oil on paper
40 x 30 cm



Dice
2010
Oil on paper
35 x 25 cm



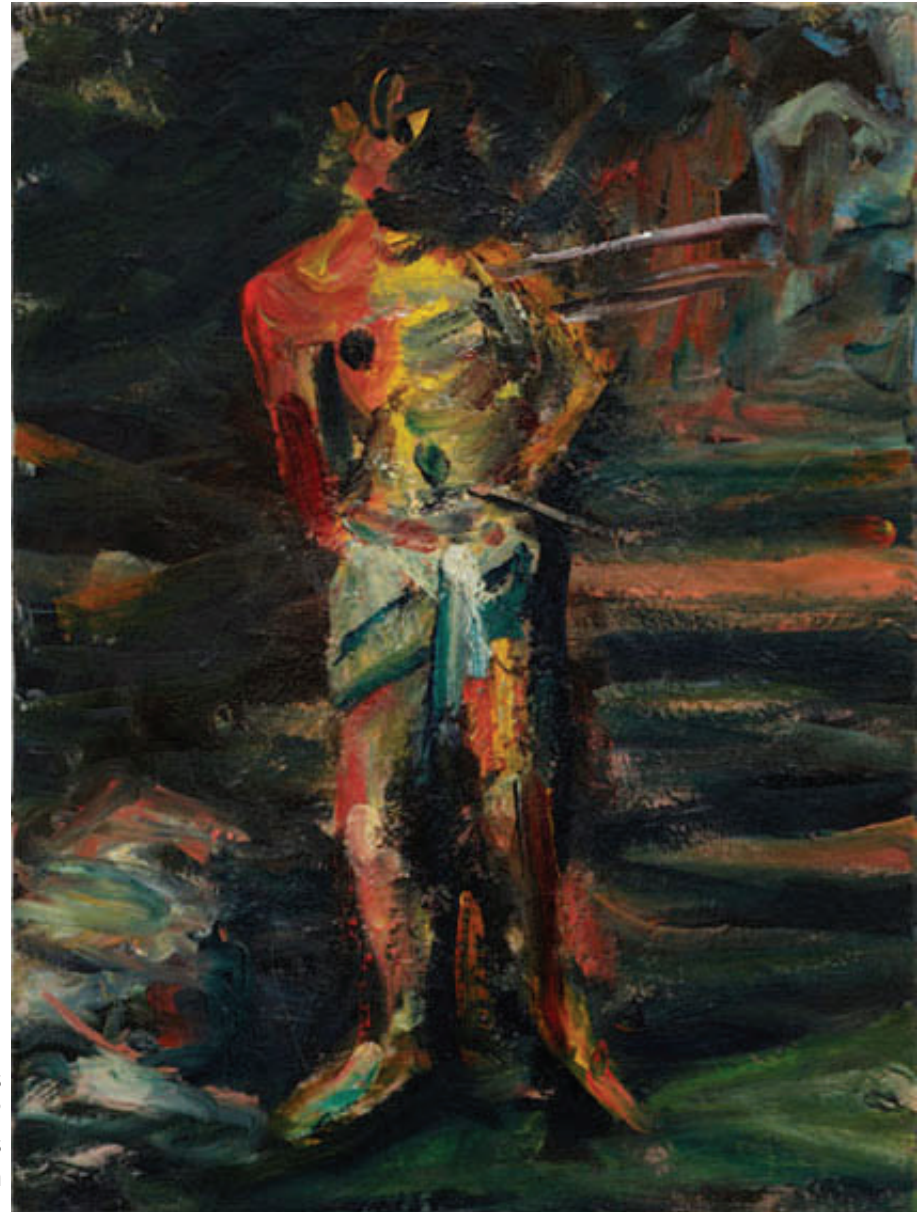
Clay Smiler
2009
Oil on paper
40 x 30 cm



Into the night
2009
Oil on canvas
60 x 40 cm



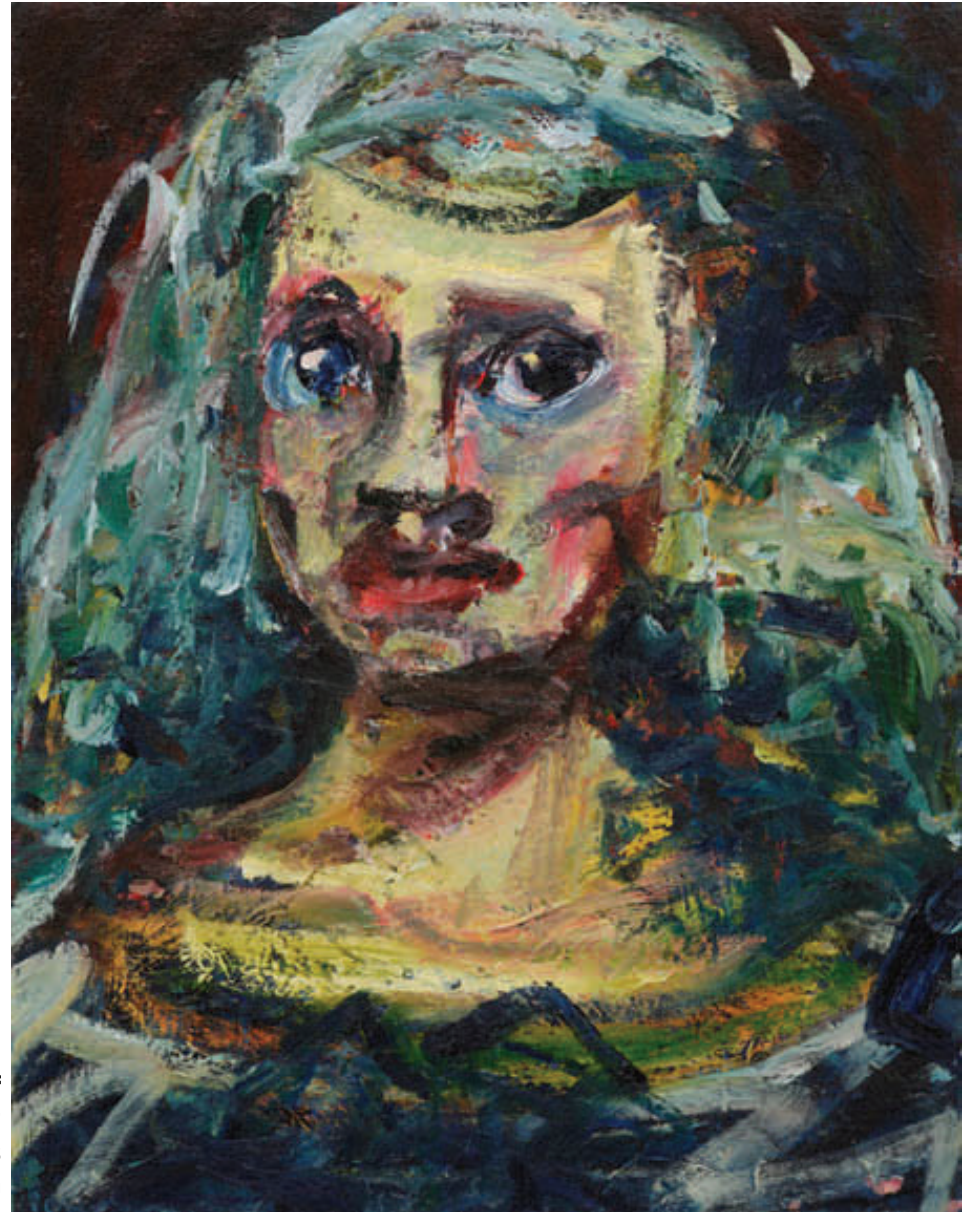
Pale Velasquez
2009
Oil on paper
40 x 30 cm



The Artist Laughing at his Wounds
2009
Oil on canvas
62 x 46 cm



Golden Head
2009
Oil on canvas
13 x 10 cm



Spanish Self
2009
Oil on canvas
35 x 27 cm

Paul Housely

Paul Housley is one of the leading new figurative painters of his country, showing throughout the UK and Europe. His paintings are mostly small in scale and often take their subject matter from Housley's collection of toys and figurines purchased from charity shops. Housley paints blank, quiet objects, requiring him to make the painting itself an interesting thing. Speaking of his painting technique Housley says: *"You dive in. That is what it feels like. You try to make it all work at once, in one spontaneous moment, like it dropped out of the sky. It should look easy."*

"What I really would like to do would be to paint a face...The most powerful instinct is to paint a single form in its continuity, which is after all what a face is." (Philip Guston) Paul Housley has long shown little regard for the boundaries of prescribed genres. This is one of the qualities that render his work so appealing. Yet, assessing Housley's latest body of paintings compels us to define his oeuvre in terms of genre. After all, is a painting of a plastic figurine a portrait or a still-life? Housley's paintings of impotent toy soldiers and petrified animals bear testament not only to these objects, but especially to the particular mode of perception of the artist. In this way the still-life functions as an indicator of its creator in a manner that is more effective than any attempt at a conventional self-portrait. It seems that for Philip Guston the idea of explicitly painting a face may have initially proved either too simplistic or insurmountable a task. Housley sometimes paints faces as well, but as seen in *A Girl's Face* (2005), the artist has a tendency to crop and press the form flat to the extent that it then becomes as easily readable as either a landscape or an abstraction. Yet, Housley's paintings of his collection of miniature objects show us that we instinctively seek out faces in the most abstract patterns. In Housley's *Hill of Dice* (2005) for instance the mass of black eyes soon begin to return our gaze and assume a lifelike quality.

Paul Housley was born in Stalybridge in 1964 and studied in Sheffield before being taught under Doig at the Royal College of Art from 1993 till 1995. Amongst his latest shows were *Orders from Chaos* in the Peter Bergman ALP Gallery in Stockholm in 2009, *Being there* in the Gallery Akinci in Amsterdam in 2009, *Some Have Eyes* in the Wilkinson Gallery in London in 2008, *Night Painting* in Sunday L.E.S. in New York in 2008. Paul Housley's works are in various collection throughout the U.K., the USA and the Netherlands among others: Peter Doig, Mario Testino, Anita Zabludowicz, etc.

Quoted from the catalogues "The Boy is made of plastic" and "Paul Housley Paintings"

C.V. Paul Housley

1964 Born, Stalybridge, Greater Manchester.
1981-2 Fine Art Foundation, Tameside College of Art and Technology.
1983-6 Fine Art B.A. (hons), Sheffield City Polytechnic.
1993-5 Painting M.A. Royal College of Art, London.

Fellowships

2008 Space for 10 Residency. London Print Studios.
2004-2005 Durham Cathedral Residency.
1998-9 Evelyn Williams Trust Drawing Fellow, Six month residency, University of Northumbria at Newcastle Upon Tyne.
1997-8 Berwick Gymnasium Gallery Fellowship, Four Month Residency, Berwick Upon Tweed.
1994 R.C.A. Travel Award, 3 month Residency in Paris.

Solo Exhibitions

2011 'A Maid for Paint', Poppy Sebire, London
2010 Akinci Gallery, Amsterdam
2009 Orders from Chaos, Peter Bergman ALP Gallery, Stockholm
2008 Some Have Eyes, Wilkinson Gallery, London
Night Painting, Sunday L.E.S., NY
2006 Heavy Easel, Norwich Art Gallery, Norwich
2005 The Boy is made of Plastic, Reg Vardy Gallery, Sunderland
New Works, DLI Museum & Durham Art Gallery, Durham
2004/5 *New Ways to be Alone*, Wilkinson Gallery, London
2003 *New Works*, Waygood Gallery, Newcastle
2002 Liste 2002, Young Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland.
2002 *New Works*, Nylon Gallery, London.
2001 I, Mancunian, The Lowry Gallery, Salford touring under different titles to Nottingham, Angel Row, Leeds City Art Gallery and James Hockey Gallery, Surrey Institute, Arts Council sponsored tour.
2001 *New Works*, Studio Raffaelli, Trento, Italy.
2000 Some Things Smell in Denmark, Nylon, London.
2000 *New Works*, University of Northumbria at Newcastle Gallery.
1998 *England till it Hurts*, Berwick Gymnasium Gallery, Berwick Upon Tweed.
1997 Poets and Dentists, The 312 Gallery, London.
1996 IF, Alternative Art Galleries, London.

1994 Bummed, The Hockney Gallery, R.C.A. London.
1990 One Man Show, The Graves Gallery, Sheffield.

Group Exhibitions

2011 'Fade Away', Gallery North, Newcastle upon Tyne
'The Perfect Crime', No.4A Gallery, Malvern
'Keep Floors and passage Clear', White Columns, curated by Tom Godfrey, New York

2010 'Dark Nature', Poppy Sebire Gallery, curated by James Aldridge, London
'She Awoke With a Jerk', Andrea Rosen Gallery, curated by Nigel Cooke, New York
'Meteor', New Court Gallery curated by Oliver Basiano, Repton Derbyshire

2009 Repetition, Paintwork3 Galerie Borchart, Hamburg
Summer show, Gallery Akinci, Amsterdam
Paperview, curated by Danny Rolph, John Jones Project Space, London
Paintwork 2, SW1 Gallery, London
Being There, Gallery Akinci, Amsterdam

2008 Presence Curated by Robert Mollers, Tony Wight Gallery Chicago US 2008

2007 Inaugural Show, ALP/Peter Bergman, Stockholm
Mutineer, Atelierhaus Mengerzeile, Berlin
Things we Know, Jessica Bradley Art and Projects, Toronto, Canada

2005 Drawing 200, The Drawing Room, London

2004 Sidelonging, 117 Commercial Street, London
John Moores 23, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool
Works on Paper, Keith Talent Gallery, London

2003 The Painting Show, Anthony Wilkinson Gallery, London.
Sometime Blonde, Rockwell Gallery, London.
Lone Ranger, James Coleman Gallery, London.
Masters of the Universe, Chapter Gallery, Cardiff.
Dirty Pictures, The approach, London.
Yes! I am a long way from home, Wolverhampton Gallery touring to
The Nunnery, London, Northern Gallery of Contemporary Art, Sunderland.
The Cat Show, Acme Gallery, Los Angeles.

- Herbert Read Gallery, Kent.
Arcadia, Laurent Delaye Gallery, London.
 2002 Painting and Illustration, The Luckman Institute, Los Angeles.
 2003 *Art Basel Miami*, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York
Closer, Standpoint Gallery, London.
Glossies, Keith Talent Gallery, London.
Yesteryear, Nowadays, Hales Gallery, London.
Air Guitar, Milton Keynes Gallery, touring to The Cornerhouse, Manchester,
Angel Row, Nottingham, Carlisle.
 2001 The Record Sleeve Show, VTO Gallery, London.
 Modern Love, Hobbypop Museum, Dusseldorf touring to VTO Gallery, London.
 2000 *Zeitgenossen/Contemporarians*; Malerei. 20:21 Galerei, Essen.
Homage to the Budokhan, Foyles Gallery, London.
Vim and Vigour, Mass, Sheffield.
The Poster Show, Cabinet Gallery, London
 1999 The Poster Show, Gavin Brown Enterprises, New York,
 9/9/99, Anthony Wilkinson Gallery, London.
EAST International, Norwich Art Gallery, Norwich.
 1997 Bad Reproduction, Thames Valley University Gallery, London.
 1996 Making a Mark, The Mall Galleries, London.
 1994 22, Gulblenken Galleries, R.C.A, London.
 1991 John Moores 17, The Walker Gallery, Liverpool.
 1990 Revolver, The Graves Gallery, Sheffield.
 1989 12, The Leadmill, Sheffield.
Blast, The Blast Street Studios, Sheffield.
The Mappin Open, Mappin Gallery, Sheffield.

Publications/Catalogues

- 2008 The Berwick Gymnasium Fellowships, An archival record. Published by Art Editions North and English Heritage.
 2006 Heavy Easel, Interview with Linda Morris, Norwich Art Gallery, Norwich
 2005 The Boy is Made of Plastic, Exhibition Catalogue, Text Andreas Leventis and Alistair Robinson, 'Art Editions North', University of Sunderland. 64 pages.
 2004 Exhibition Catalogue, Waygood Gallery.
 2003 Masters of the Universe, Exhibition Catalogue, Chapter Gallery.
Yes! I am a long way from home, Exhibition Catalogue, The Redgate Press.

- 2002 Still Life, Exhibition Catalogue, Gallery Del Tasso Bergamo.
Air Guitar, Catalogue, Milton Keynes Gallery.
Paul Housley, 58 page Catalogue, Lowry Press.
Paul Housley/Jordan Tinker, 50 page catalogue, Studio Raffaelli.
- 2000 The American Easy and Other Stories, University Press.

Bibliography

- 2011 ArtSlant, Interview with Paul Housley, May
 Another Magazine, Art Talks – Paul Housley, 23 March 2008
 Time Out London, Critics Choice, December 4 – 10 2008
- 2008 Helen Sumpter, Paul Housley, In the Studio, time Out London, 20 – 26 November 2008
 Francesca Gavin, Some Have Eyes, Dazed and Confused, November 2008
 Michael Wilson, *Paul Housley Sunday*, Artforum, May
- 2006 Robert Clark, *Exhibition Preview*, The Guardian Guide, 28th January
- 2005 Robert Clark, *Exhibition Preview*, The Guardian Guide, September
 Jessica Lack, 'Critics Choice', The Guardian Guide, March
 Sue Hubbard, 'Independent Review', The Independent, February **Front Cover, a n Magazine, September**
 Marcus Harvey, *Turps Banana*, Issue One
- 2003 Broadcast Channel 4 25.09.03, Modern Painters, Text JJ Charlesworth,
- 2002 Kate Kitamura, 'Yesteryear Nowadays' Review, *Contemporary Magazine*, October
 Duncan McLaren, 'Reconsidering Rock', *Contemporary Magazine*, November
 Beverley Hood, a n Magazine, September
 Helen Sumpter, 'Rising Star', Hot Tickets Magazine, February
- 2001 Ronnie Simpson, Art Review, December
4 i, manucunian, Flux, February
 Alfred Hickling, The Guardian Newspaper Review, January
 Marissa Burgess, City Life Magazine, January
 Graham Parker, *Review of I, Mancunian*, The Lowry, Art Monthly, January
 Front Cover, Juliet Magazine (Italian), January
 Fiorenzo Degasperi, Trentino Mese, April
 Rich Jevons 'England needs Paul Housley, but he can't get out of bed', *The Leeds Guide*,
- 2000 Tank magazine, September
 Limb by Limb, August
- 1999 Dave Beech, *Review of EAST International*, Art Monthly, September
- 1995 Review of Royal College Degree Show, Sunday Telegraph, June