



is a varied collection of artifacts, films and installations, that reflect the project's aims, which have been underway for 6 years, and grew out of a four-year-long initiative called Dis-assembly, where the Gallery worked with artists, students and people from the neighbourhood. Some of the videos on display, such as the four views of the road from fixed cameras by Susan Hefuna, are bland, if not bordering on the tedious. However, her tent, in collaboration with Westminster Academy and Townhouse, Cairo, is a vivid reflection of the new-found political expression and free speech since the anti-government protests in Tahrir Square, which was started by Egyptian artists papering over a closed KFC outlet with posters. Marie Paneth's Branch Street is a touching film concerning a group of children in a play centre in the neighbourhood in the Second World War. There is a tribute by Rania Stephan to the Egyptian actress, Soad Hosni, known as the 'Cinderella

of Arab cinema', entitled The Three Disappearances of Soad Hosni. This comprises 70 minutes of clips from her many films on poor quality VHS, mostly made in the sixties, and very much having the look and style of that era. She was found dead in 2001, having jumped, or having been pushed, from a window on the Edgware Road, where she lived. In contrast, there is a screening of a collaborative film made by some 65 participants of the Free School Cinema, which flaunts conventional film-making and is a energetic hotch-potch of styles and imagery, which one would expect from so many contributors. It is not a calumny to call this exhibition worthy, as it is an open-ended community project, and only Allah knows where it is heading. DG

## Brown Madder

### Clyde Hopkins

### Recent Paintings



They say that those that can, do, and those that can't, teach. Well, Clyde Hopkins is a rara avis who was not only an excellent and highly respected tutor, as Head of Painting at Chelsea School of Art, he is also a painter of sublime skill. His new show was organised by one of his ex-pupils and Director of Exhibitions at both Chelsea Futurespace and Chelsea Openspace, Donald Smith, who is a great admirer, and rightly so. The eleven oil paintings on display are a true pleasure in their freshness, warmth, texture and boldness, and on close examination, give up their secrets of painstaking detail and subtle variations of colour. Even though they could be termed as purely abstract, they tease the discerning eye with hints of landscape, flora and even figurative elements. Prices range from £3500 to £5000, which for a minor masterpiece is a modest sum these days. Before he moved to Chelsea in 1990, he was appointed Head of Painting at Winchester School of Art, and he later went on to act as an external examiner at the Royal College of Arts, the Slade School UCL and the University of Newcastle. After he left Chelsea in 2006, he was made an Emeritus Professor two years later. We are in a way fortunate that Mr Clyde gave up the classroom to return to his studio and concentrate on producing more delights. Only his students would complain. DG

**Chelsea Futurespace**  
Grosvenor Waterside, SW1W 8QP  
Until 1 April 2012

**Uncomlinesse**  
(Bucolic Hippy Painting #5, 2009/10  
Oil on linen 70cm x 55cm