

Jesse Aron Green  
Ärztliche  
Zimmergymnastik

Tate Modern, Oil Tanks  
16–19 October 2008

MODERN  
TATE



# Jesse Aron Green Ärztliche Zimmergymnastik

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*Ärztliche Zimmergymnastik (Medicalized Indoor Gymnastics)* 2008, is a video installation by Los Angeles-based artist Jesse Aron Green, presented in the three previously inaccessible oil tanks at Tate Modern. Buried underground to the south of the building, these dramatic spaces are at the heart of plans to transform Tate Modern for 2012.

The video is based on a book of the same name by the influential German physician Dr Daniel Gottlob Moritz Schreber (1801–61), which presents a system of physical exercises 'for the curing of numerous complaints, for the growth of the body, and for the maintenance of health and vigour of body and mind'. Green uses Schreber's book as a score: the 45 exercises explained in its pages are enacted by 16 male performers arranged on a grid of wooden platforms. The camera documents their movements in a perfect circle, a 360° tracking shot whose duration matches precisely the 80-minute performance.

Green's work is informed by strategies drawn from Minimalism, Conceptualism and Structural Film: gridded structures, serialisation and repetition, chance operations, and durations of predetermined or extraordinary length. These systems are brought into relationship with the rigid methodology of Dr Schreber, whose son, Daniel Paul Schreber, wrote *Memoirs of My Nervous Illness* 1903, a first-hand account of mental illness and psychiatric confinement. The book is considered one of the most influential texts on Sigmund Freud and the history of psychoanalysis.

The performance Green presents in his video questions the relationships between the elder Schreber's aspirations for public health and his son's psychosis. Using the geometric and serial languages of art from the 1960s, it further questions Modernism's systems of power, control and domination, especially in regard to issues of masculinity and sexuality.

Jesse Aron Green was born in 1979 in Boston, MA. He received his MFA from UCLA, and his BA from Harvard University. He lives in and works in Los Angeles, and is in residence at the CCA Kitakyushu, Japan for 2008/9 as a Henry Luce Foundation Scholar.



Jesse Aron Green  
*Ärztliche Zimmergymnastik* 2008  
Video stills



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Jesse Aron Green  
*The Future of My Nervous Illness*  
(after Felix Gonzalez-Torres) 2008  
Twenty-four hour, backwards-motion  
clock. Unlimited multiple. 14x14 inches  
© Joshua White



In response to growing audiences, a growing collection and huge demand for learning programmes, Tate has embarked upon the second phase of Tate Modern's development: a dramatic new building rising from the redundant oil tanks and switch house of Giles Gilbert Scott's Bankside Power Station.

Designed by Herzog and de Meuron, the new building (TM2) increases public facilities by 60%, providing space to explore new areas of contemporary visual culture, enabling more of the national collection to be brought out of storage, and opening up visual learning to new audiences. The design also sets new benchmarks for sustainability and energy use.

**Tour info is as follows:**

Frieze VIP tours of Tate Modern Oil Tanks  
featuring *Ärztliche Zimmergymnastik*

Thursday October 16	10.15, 11.00, 11.45
Friday October 17	09.00, 09.45
Saturday October 18	09.00, 09.45
Sunday October 19	09.00, 09.45

As spaces are strictly limited,  
please RSVP in advance to  
melanie.harper@tate.org.uk or 020 7887 4979

**The Oil Tanks area is not suitable  
for wheelchairs or those with impaired mobility.**

**Ärztliche Zimmergymnastik**  
**Jesse Aron Green**

Assistant Director  
Hana van der Kolk

**Performers:**

Topher Albrecht, Dave Auerbach,  
Greg Barnett, Anthony Barbir,  
Brian Blanchfield, John Dewis,  
Matt Diebler, Zackary Drucker,  
Brandon Herman, Jason Herriven,  
Darin Little, Adam Overton,  
Matt Siegle, Peter Snow,  
Tobias Wofford, Hentyle Yapp

**Crew:**

Director of Photography - Eli Born  
Executive Producer - M. C. Schmidt  
Effects Engineer - Gil Levine  
Gaffer - Kevin Perry  
Sound - Lou Pepe,  
Wash Westmoreland  
Best Boy - Damien Chazelle  
Second Camera - Elmira Mohebbali  
Set Fabrication - Eben Goff  
Costumes - Sarah Beadle,  
Emily Daniel  
Craft Services - Kimberly Schoen  
Swing - John Alberts  
Digital Compositing - Mat Rotman  
Studio Photography - Peter Lynde  
Installation Fabrication - Seth Green

Motion Control Provided by  
Craig Shumard, Pacific Motion Control

Produced in Association with  
Complex Corporation

**Thank You:**

Michelle Dizon, Russell Ferguson,  
Andrea Fraser, Liz Glynn, Ashley Hunt,  
Mary Kelly, Catherine Lord, Jennifer  
Krasinski, Willem Henri Lucas, Dont  
Rhine, Robert Sember, Charlotte F. Smith

**Curator:** Stuart Comer