







Much to do about Knotting 9/19 October 2001

Mechanical Patterned Renewal – The Box as ConsciousnessThe perception of the box as a conceptual, performative and filmic structure is of constant intrigue. The 'periodic kingdom' project has been manufactured out of corflute, a high density polyethylene plastic. The daily process of knocking out lid and chassis files to form boxers is algorithmic, over coded and made redundant by a fixed timeline. The components of the 'periodic kingdom' are modelled on the complex relationships between rules and exceptions to the rule. When placed in context with the tie know, the four colour map theorem, regalia and the renaming of the periodic table, the boxes propose a set of options, both for and against a methodology of clarity.

The files conveniently have a brick and shoe box appearance, and upon closer analysis obtain a more refined relationship between lid and chassis. They close gently like a packaging archetype, but when opposed to gravity present themselves as an overhead console.

In the novel by Kobo Abe called 'Box Man', (1973), one is instructed that anyone can become a Box Man – there are plenty of them around and once you irreversibly throw away your credit cards, address book, job responsibilities, non-portable possessions, all utterances of a compulsory life, and find a suitable box, you're set. It takes a little courage to put the box on your head and a little skill to create a home within it. The only necessity is the scale of the box, an empty carton with no marking or striking features on the outside so that anonymity is maintained. Schrödingers' cat + Pavlovs' dog + Elwood P. Dowds' rabbit + brick + arm + window=

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