

JUAN FONTANIVE

b.1977 Cleveland Heights, Ohio, USA

Blue Blood Cells 2006

11 x 9 x 11 cm

Clock parts, brass, steel, oil on paper, motor

Juan Fontanive makes films without using light. Often recycling the mechanical parts of found clocks and bicycles as the portable containers of his 'animations'. His interest lies in the beauty of sequential and repetitive movement. Hand drawn characters, human and typographical, occur in cranky flip-book modules powered by oxide. Pages fall in neat layers in the manner of a paper fountain, somewhere between film and sculpture - there is no 'screen' as such. His filmstock is often pulped card or metal leaves.

Fontanive attended Montessori schools in New York City. Juan's mother and sister are both painters and muralists and now work together. He often watched his mother in her studio, which inspired him to begin drawing. Another influence was his father's laboratory which contained jars filled with human organs, brains, and an electron microscope. The influences shaping a large part of Juan's own attitude towards the moving image, which lies almost solely in the tedious, frame-by-frame handling found in animation.

"My influences include clocks, drums, repetition, things that hang from the ceiling. Physical quarrels, relationships (of objects), tigers, and the persistence of vision. Memory is a good source for ideas - I've been thinking recently a lot about the house I grew up in and dreams I've had about that house." Juan Fontanive, 2006

EVENT: Monday 4 December 2006, 6.30pm

Juan Fontanive, Liliane Lijn, Conrad Shawcross and Guy Brett will talk about *Indica: Kinetica and Concept 1966 - 2006* at Riflemaker. For booking see Events list.