

**FOOTERING – Gavin Mottram**  
The Horse, Dublin  
March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 14<sup>th</sup> 2022

The logo for 'The HORSE' art space, featuring the word 'The' in a small, white, sans-serif font, followed by 'HORSE' in a larger, bold, white, serif font, all set against a black rectangular background.

The Horse is proud to announce Footering - an exhibition of new and unseen video work by Los Angeles based multi-media artist Gavin Mottram.

## **Footering** - [foo-ter-ing]

*Verb.* Scottish slang for messing around

Primarily incorporating Digital Video, 16mm film, with aspects of performance, Gavin experiments with the nuances of how symbolic information is distributed through media and its outlets and how it is subsequently internalized and re-performed. The result is a collection of footerings that play with the language of media and wryly respond to its ever-increasing integration with daily life.

Footering with nuance, Gavin has developed a seemingly throw away approach to making work. Videos that appear effortlessly simple are in fact totally calculated. Utilizing DIY sensibilities through accessible technologies such as smartphone apps to work through ideas, Gavin's footerings are experiments with modes of repetition, mirroring, glitches and reversals that playfully critique notions of institution and media, and are attempts at confronting solemnity with foolishness, formality with abjection, reality with illusion, inklefecharty with frackmannatude.

The experience of watching Gavin's work is like reading bullet points. The videos are intense. Short. Memorable. This collection of vignettes at the Horse invites you to contemplate an ecology of absurd audio-visual language and your place among it. The unconventional installation of screens: monitors and projections, and QR codes invite the viewer to manoeuvre themselves around/interface with them in a manner that reflects the world at large.

Originally from Renfrew, just west of Glasgow, Gavin worked among the city's industrial infrastructure for a number of years, as a labourer on the railway and then as an airport-city taxi driver, before studying Painting and Printmaking at the Glasgow School of Art from 2009 - 2013. Gavin then moved to California in 2014 having been awarded a graduate scholarship to study Film and Video at the California Institute of the Arts. Since graduating Gavin has remained largely in Los Angeles working with artist workshops and cultural spaces such as Gemini GEL, REDCAT and The Hammer Museum. This is Gavin's first exhibition in Ireland.

Founded in 2021 The Horse is a contemporary art space in the centre of Dublin that seeks to provide a platform for emerging, experimental and underrepresented art practitioners.