

# *IN HIDING*

## Nick Mobbs

Nick Mobbs' work subverts the methods and rituals of childhood play to create images that conjure feelings of both nostalgia and anxiety.

This series of works draws inspiration from a child's tendency to hide in a very visible way under a blanket or towel and investigates how this childhood desire to cover ourselves - to find protection from being viewed - is mirrored in society. Working with 'found' googled photographs of celebrities, athletes, suspects, party-goers etc all covering their faces, the artist has blurred or replaced the original backgrounds. Removed from their context the figures' reasons for concealment are unclear and the characters become comic, menacing or uncanny.

Earlier works in the exhibition (for example, *Game* 2010) are staged scenarios which are deliberately ambiguous, leaving us uncertain of the nature or purpose of what confronts us. Does the scene depict a game or something more sinister?

Nick Mobbs is a tutor on the Fine Art BA course at the University of Nottingham. His recent exhibitions include *The Everyday* (Marsden Wood Project Space, London, 2011), *New Contemporaries* (A Foundation, Liverpool and London, 2010/11) and *Dens and Lairs* (Lace Market Gallery, Nottingham, 2010). He studied Fine Art Printmaking at Loughborough University School of Art and Design and the Royal College of Art.

The majority of the works on display were made during the artist's extended residency at the Leicester Print Workshop which promotes fine art printmaking across the East Midlands. From its Leicester city studio it provides specialist facilities for practising artists and also delivers a comprehensive education programme to artists, adult learners and students. For further information visit [www.leicesterprintworkshop.com](http://www.leicesterprintworkshop.com)

Further work by the artist may be seen on his website [www.nickmobbs.co.uk](http://www.nickmobbs.co.uk)