

## **Tahiti Syndrome**

'After the Future,' EVA International, Limerick. 19 May-12 August 2012.

Curated by Annie Fletcher.

Tahiti Syndrome is a 20th century term that once described the desire amongst societal leaders for a remote or idyllic environment into which they could escape from the pressures of modern life. Aoibheann Greenan's solo exhibition reinterprets this utopian idea, applying it within the context of everyday modes of escapism such as travel, exercise and recreational drug-use.

The environment loosely adopts the framework of a tourist trail in which absurd devices are employed to help maximise viewing potential at various vantage points. They allow for the viewer to become playfully initiated into the role of the shaman for whom transcendence is achieved with the use of profane materials, ritual, and mind-altering plants. The show plays with the trope of the journey towards self-actualisation, although the aspiration is ultimately presented as futile; the viewer is kept in a perpetual cycle and the paradise is kept just out of reach.