

The dreamlike film noir referencing work partly explores the nature of the immersive cinema experience, and the possibilities for a somnambulistic kind of cinema viewing, one that is engaged but distant and dissipated at the same time, allowing the cinema's cloistered 'eternal present' to be disrupted (not unlike the way our everyday present can be disrupted by the past). 'The Futurist' is both the name of the real derelict cinema where the piece was filmed and an ironic comment on the persistence of the past to dictate the means by which we 'stumble backwards through life into the future'.

The sculptural objects shown in the video are works by Liverpool based artist Kai-Oi Jay Yung, who also appears in the video. Four of the actors are real life aspiring stand-up comics who are members of MUCK (Merseyside Uncut Comedy Kollektive, a supportive organisation for amateur comics), one of whom, Tony Schumacher, plays the lead role. The whole piece is originally inspired by 'Gumshoe', a 1971 Steven Frears film about an amateur Liverpool comic who accidentally becomes a detective and ends up revealing some of the darker sides of his city.