

WORKPLACE

The Guardian
'Exhibition Preview: Eric Bainbridge, Middlesbrough'
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By Robert Clark

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Exhibition preview: Eric Bainbridge, Middlesbrough

This Eric Bainbridge retrospective is titled *Forward Thinking 1976-2008*, signalling the artist's determination not to be trapped in any kind of retrogressive tendency. Yet the achievement is historically impressive. This is mischievously subversive sculpture in an environment of consumer waste and workaday banality. Bainbridge's materials might be purchased from the bucket shop and the DIY store, yet his structures are immaculately formed. It's far from the art of an untrained outsider. The outcome is delightfully unnerving. This looks like furniture that should be of some use but which can only uplift the spirit from the inkling of a possible disillusionment.

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