

MARTY ST.JAMES & ANNE WILSON.   REVIEWS 1983 / 1987.

1983: THE GUARDIAN.'Their images make you think in anew way about human relationships and identity; exercise the imagination; extend, heighten and alter perception.'

CITY LIMITS.'Their honourable experimental work enjoys a lineage worthy of cultural cross reference.Their use of banality resembles speeded up David Lynch; her womans magazine voice over and his repetition of masculine prerogative blending over a dizzy succession of deadpan images that both celebrate and investigate mass manufactured tackiness.'

1984: ARNOLFINI PREVIEW UK.'They collaborate equally and interchangeably, both working behind the camera as well as both working in front of it.They work with an eye for everyday detail, for the possibilities which lurk behind the apparently commonplace.'

1986: VIDEO:THE STATE OF THE ART CHANNEL 4 TELEVISION CATALOGUE.'The works by Marty St.James & Anne Wilson dissect the romance and intoxication with glamour so prevalent in pop video.They take a cool ironic perspective far removed from the throbbing heartbeat of the Teen Dream commercials.In 'True Life Romance' the parody of promise is carried off with a breathless reciting of Mills & Boon prose accompanied by the grainy texture of colourised video post-production.The swimming pools and stilletos are still there, but whatever happened to the technicolour sheen?'

HIGH PERFORMANCE MAGAZINE USA.'They have remarkable presence and self control.Their vocabulary of gestures, props and sounds create a hallucinatory reality, one so carefully and closely observed it becomes realer than real.St.James & Wilson describe the gap between polished media presentation and the least polished, least self-conscious gestures that are still our own.'

1987: LONDON DAILY NEWS.'As Marty & Anne say "Reality is often more fantastic than fantasy itself'.Theyhave made the symbiosis between the real and the fantastic in our soap-oriented society the theme of their highly successful work.Their aim is to question our assumptions, real and unreal, right and wrong.'

HUMAN INTEREST CATOLOGUE:NORBERT LYNTON:'The Marty St.James & Anne Wilson images of 'The Kiss' are as emphatically of our own age as anything as long established as a kiss can be.They are also hyped up, and camp in their hot-cold insistence on chasing the ultimate cliché of position, location and idiom.They pull the rug from around our mental knees, rarely done in this sanctum of self regard.'