



Andrew Carnie atlas:there and here 2012 video work

## Brains: The mind as matter

Wellcome Collection | 29 March–17 June 2012

Wellcome Collection's major new exhibition will look at one of the most complex entities in the universe. *Brains: The mind as matter* (29 March to 17 June 2012) explores what humans have done to brains in the cause of medical intervention, scientific enquiry, cultural meaning and technological change. Featuring more than 150 objects including real brains, artworks, manuscripts, artefacts, videos and photography, *Brains* follows the long quest to manipulate and decipher the most unique and mysterious of human organs, whose secrets continue to confound and inspire.

Brains asks not what brains do for us, but what we have done to brains. Famous and infamous brain specimens – including those of Albert Einstein, Charles Babbage and William Burke – are on display, and the exhibition is filled with thoughts on brains from the brains of famous thinkers, together with donors, surgeons, patients and collectors. Works by contemporary artists including **Andrew Carnie**, Helen Pynor, Annie Cattrell, and Susan Aldworth, offer personal responses to the form and physical matter of the organ, while the cultural significance of the rituals, rhetoric and reality of handling brains is explored across centuries.

***Brains: The mind as matter*** runs from 29 March to 17 June 2012  
at Wellcome Collection, 183 Euston Road, NW1 2BE, UK.