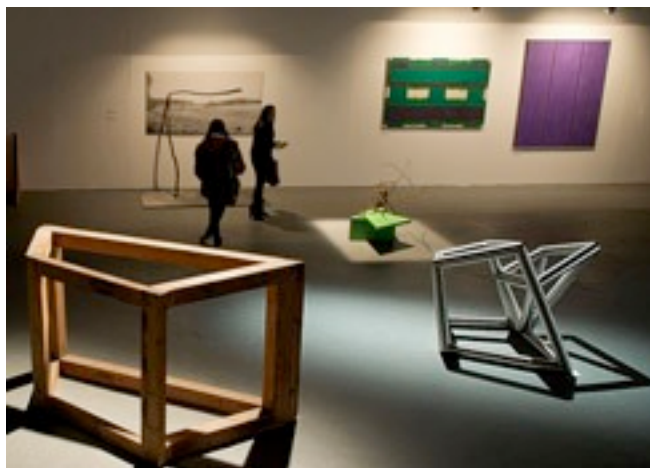


## From Floor To Sky

Ambika P3

### Teacher on a steep learning curve in From Floor to Sky

Ben Luke, Evening Standard 15.03.10



The main subject of this show is not an artist but a teacher. Peter Kardia was a radical and influential tutor at St Martin's School of Art and the [Royal College of Art](#) in the Sixties, Seventies and Eighties. [Richard Long](#), Richard Wentworth and 25 other former students have been selected by Kardia for From Floor to Sky, whose premise is neat — each artist presents an example of both their earliest and most recent work.

The venue is the former concrete construction hall at the [University of Westminster](#) and the show has a very laboratorial feel, not unlike a student show. This is both a strength and a weakness, as any exuberance is balanced by a cluttered, confusing layout. Most importantly, it features too much mediocre art, especially among the recent work.

Both Bill Woodrow's early experiment with sculpture and photography and Alison Wilding's reconstruction of her student work show an imaginative playfulness with form and ideas that is lacking in their recent pieces.

Wentworth, however, comes out of the show well — his early photographs and recent sculpture reflect an enduring, understated wit in his approach to materials and space. Elsewhere, Jean Matthee and Katharine Meynell show complex multimedia installations, which are deeply serious but at the same time simply unengaging.

Kardia was clearly an inspirational teacher to many but here, at least, he proves less effective as a curator.

Until 4 April. Information: 020 7911 5876, [www.p3exhibitions.com](http://www.p3exhibitions.com)