

**FIONA BANNER**

**Beagle Punctuation (2011)**

***Neon, perspex frame, wire and transformer (73 x 53 x 14cm)***

***Anonymous donation 2015***

Fiona Banner was born in Merseyside, North West England. She completed her MA at Goldsmiths College in 1993, and in 1994 held her first solo exhibition at City Racing, an Artist-run space in an old betting shop in London, that exhibited many artists who would go on to be known as the Young British Artists, or YBAs.

Banner's work is an ongoing exploration of text, through sculpture, installation and publications. Her early work took the form of "wordscapes" or "still films", blow-by-blow accounts written in her own words of feature films including *Point Break* (1991). In 1997, she founded The Vanity Press, through which she published her own works, such as *The Nam*, a 1,000-page flip-book, which describes the plots of six Vietnam films in their entirety.

Following her shows at the Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, and Dundee Contemporary Arts, Banner was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2002. In 2010, created the 10th Duveen Hall commission at Tate Britain for which she transformed two decommissioned Royal Air Force fighter jets. Recent solo exhibitions include Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Ikon Gallery, Birmingham.

*Beagle Punctuation* was shown in her solo exhibition 'Snoopy Vs The Red Baron' in Berlin in 2011. The work is part of a larger exploration of the famous dog from the cartoon 'Peanuts'. Banner explores Snoopy as the anti-hero looking at how we mythologise ourselves and our histories.