

Pick of the week

Nicky Coutts

to 30 Mar

Danielle Arnaud Contemporary Art,
London SE11

Nicky Coutts's solo exhibition features work that she developed while on a residency in Berwick-upon-Tweed, a coastal town located on the border between England and Scotland. Appropriately, her video projection *The Discovery of Slowness* features a man made out of sand appearing to rise out of the waves and so denying the power of the sea.

Meanwhile, *Keep* is a 10-minute video constructed entirely out of footage from other feature films

shot in and around Berwick. She edited excerpts from Derek Jarman's *The Tempest*, *The Devils* by Ken Russell and Roman Polanski's *Cul-de-sac*. What's more, she spliced them together so that characters from different films appear to be talking to one another, which must make for strange conversations.

Also on display is *The Empire of Lights*, a film of Floors Castle in the Scottish Borders, and a series of new photographs, *Estates*, based on 17th-century drawings. In each case, the original grand houses are elongated and turned into more contemporary-seeming towers. They confirm Coutts as a master of manipulation.

**Peter Chapman**