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## Don't throw your receipt away – Tate Britain may give you 30,000 for it

It's an item more commonly confined to the rubbish bin.

Yet a seemingly unremarkable shopping bill has now been deemed worthy of a place on the wall of one of Britain's most prestigious art galleries. A 70.32 grocery receipt entitled *Monochrome Till Receipt (White)*, by little known artist *Ceal Eloyer*, has been selected for exhibition at the Tate Britain.

Described by the artist as a *modern still life*, it's one of a number of works in a new exhibition which features Damien Hirst and the Chapman brothers.

It is made up of 36 items, all of which are white and includes boil-in-the-bag rice, (1.77) Sensodyne toothpaste (2.40) and Andrex toilet roll (1.25). It is believed to have cost the Tate Britain 30,000. However, it comes with a list of instructions from the artist, stating that a new receipt must be used every time it is shown.

Because she is now based in Germany, the latest shopping trip was left to exhibition curator Andrew Wilson.

He was simply told to base it on said the original list which has been archived by the Tate.

He was required to buy around 40 items, all of which had to be white.

He added: *Till receipts are light sensitive and fall apart so they have to be replaced. Also it is fixed to the wall, so each time it is taken down, it is ruined.*

Wilson initially went to Sainsbury's but was given an environmentally friendly list printed on both sides of the paper, therefore making it impossible for audiences to see all the items.

He was forced to make a second trip, this time to a branch of Morrisons in Camden, north London.

He paid for the items with his own money and kept what he had bought.

In explaining the inclusion of the piece in the exhibition, he said: *It's an imaginative leap of faith from the daily drudge of going to the supermarket to the idea of the domestic still life painting, but also with the supposed purity of Modernist*

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monochrome abstract painting. More... However, one critic disagreed with his appraisal.

David Lee, editor of art magazine, The Jackdaw, said: Anyone who is interested in a supermarket receipt is probably either certifiably insane or just doesn't get out enough.

The artist will claim that she is raising important issues or challenging something but the explanation usually bears no relation to what you are seeing with this type of conceptual art.

I mean what can you really get from looking at a receipt in a gallery that you can't get from looking at one in your home?

The Tate have bought an incredibly limited piece of work here which has no stamina as a work of art.

Pakistan-born Floyer, 41, describes herself as a conceptual artist, although she is also a film-maker and installation artist. She graduated from Goldsmith's art college in 1994.

Critics have said her work has an elegant simplicity and literalness, each piece challenges and surprises assumptions both about art and the domestic objects that surround us.

It is not the first time her work has caused controversy. In 2002, she won 30,000 after winning an award for bin bag filled with air. The bag was exhibited in Coventry and had to be labelled every evening to stop cleaners throwing it out.

A spokesman for the Tate Britain said it was committed to collecting across a broad front.

Classified: Contemporary Art at Tate Britain runs until 23 August, admission is free.

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