

New Contemporaries / Art Fund weekend programme of events

IRL to URL

Friday 24th & Saturday 25th November 2017

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead

Friday 24th November:

10:30: Welcome & Housekeeping by Katie Hickman, Assistant Curator, Baltic
Introduction by Kirsty Ogg, Director, New Contemporaries

10:35 – 11:35:

Panel Discussion: Image Objects

The panel discussion will address how artist and curators work with digital homogeneity: the flattening of work through the screen.

Chair: **Beryl Graham**

Panel: **Heather Corcoran** (Curator and former Executive Director of Rhizome, New York),
Emily Mulenga (Artist), **Ben Vickers** (Writer and Curator and CTO, Serpentine Galleries, London).

11:35 – 11:55: Break

11:55 – 12:55:

Breakout Session

Participants work in four small groups led by each of the participants to address a specific issue related to the panel discussion.

12:55 – 2:30: Lunch

2:30 – 5:00:

Peer Mentoring

Delivered in collaboration with Artquest by **Chloe Cooper** who will suggest strategies and approaches to establishing a group and the benefits and challenges that come with it. Followed by an opportunity for participants to talk about an example of their work.

5:00 – 6:00:

Informal Networking Session

Saturday 25th November:

10:30: Welcome & Housekeeping by Katie Hickman, Assistant Curator, Baltic
Introduction by Kirsty Ogg, Director, New Contemporaries

10:35 – 12:50 (Including break):

Practical Advice Session: Digitalisation and the Market

This session will offer practical advice on how to sell and edition work online, as well as the copyrighting and distribution of digital works.

Workshop leaders: **David Blandy** (Artist and Bloomberg New Contemporaries 1999 alumnus), **Steve Fletcher** (Director, The Artists' Development Agency).

12:50 – 2:20: Lunch

2:20 – 4.35 (Including break):

Practical Advice Session: What are the advantages and pitfalls to creating a virtual identity?

Two workshops will run simultaneously, with participants swapping over after the afternoon break: Workshop 1 will address the issues of how to present yourself and your work online, and what to conceal, as well as reveal of your practice. Workshop 2 will address how to write about your work

Workshop leaders: **Marc Garrett** (Co-director and Co-founder, Furtherfield), **Nicola Singh** (Artist).

4.35 – 6.00:

Informal Networking Session

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Participants Biographies

David Blandy (b.1976) Lives and works in Brighton & London.

Blandy examines the cultural forces that inform and influence him; working with the image in the digital world, highlighting our relationship with popular culture and investigating our relationship with the narratives that shape us. Blandy is seeking to destabilise conventions, to subvert an idea of normality and point at the emancipatory possibilities that surround us.

He has exhibited at venues nationally and worldwide such as Tate Modern, London; Kiasma Contemporary Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland; The Baltic, Gateshead; Turner Contemporary, Margate; Künstlerhaus Stuttgart, Germany; MoMA PS1, New York, and Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai, China.

He is represented by Seventeen Gallery and his films are distributed by LUX.

Chloe Cooper works with people in places to bring about some kind of change. She uses performative tours, lectures and instructional videos to propose something quite improbable to be worked through together. Often combined with Chloe's participation in critical forms of art education in museums, galleries and schools, these performances look for alternatives to existing ideas, forms and knowledges. Chloe has been part of a live art peer support group since 2008, co-led peer mentoring projects in 2009 and 2010 in association with Live Art Development Agency, Camden Arts Centre and Zabłudowicz Collection and is currently leading practice sharing alongside the Learning team at Tate.

Chloe has recently exhibited and performed works at Art Vilnius '14, Vilnius, Lithuania (2014); SpiderS, Smaragd, Berlin (2014); LPV, Tate Britain, London (2013); Until I, I Know You Better, Ti Pi Tin, London (2013); Leeds Leeds Leeds!, blip blip blip, Leeds (2013); Project Visible, Tate Modern (2013); The Everything and Nothing Problem, Ceri Hand Gallery/Jerwood Space, London (2013); Reactor Halls E03: Daniel Oliver presents Live Art Dogging, Primary Studios, Nottingham (2013); Whitstable Biennial, Whitstable (2012); TURN IT ON AGAIN, Motel De Nowhere, London (2012); and Artists in Residence, Whitechapel Gallery, London (2012).

Heather Corcoran is a curator and producer with a specialism in technology and contemporary art, currently working with the creative funding platform Kickstarter. Before that, she was the Executive Director of Rhizome, the influential digital art organisation based at the New Museum, New York, and its celebrated art-meets-tech event, Seven on Seven. She has held curatorial positions at FACT, the Barbican Centre, Film and Video Umbrella and Space, as well as contributing to exhibitions at the Liverpool Biennial and Whitechapel Gallery, among others. Recent writing has been published in *New Collecting: Exhibiting and Audiences After New Media* (Routledge, 2014) and *Electronic Superhighway* (Whitechapel Gallery, 2016).

Steve Fletcher

Following a twenty-five career in finance and management consultancy, Steve co-founded the London-based commercial art gallery Carroll/Fletcher in 2012. In September 2017, Steve launched The Artists' Development Agency - a not-for-profit organisation that provides sustained intellectual and practical support and advice during transitional stages of their development. Whilst, the Agency has a focus on working with artists during the five to seven years following their formal education, it also undertakes projects with artists at other stages in their career. The Agency has a particular interest in artists using new technologies to take an open, interdisciplinary, socially engaged approach to investigating the impact of scientific, technological and political systems on society and how those systems shape our perception and behaviour.

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Marc Garrett is co-director and co-founder, with artist Ruth Catlow of the arts collective Furtherfield, beginning on the Internet in 96. Furtherfield has two physical venues, a gallery and a Commons lab, both situated in the park, in Finsbury Park, London. Has curated over 50 contemporary Media Arts exhibitions, projects nationally and internationally. Curated the renowned major exhibition *Monsters of the Machine: Frankenstein in the 21st Century*, at Laboral, Spain. Main editor of the Furtherfield web site. Written for various books and articles about art, technology and social change. Two key Furtherfield publications include co-editing of *Artists Re:Thinking Games* with Ruth Catlow and Corrado Morgana 2010, and recently on *Artists Re:thinking the Blockchain* with Ruth Catlow, Nathan Jones and Sam Skinner 2017. Currently in the last year of Phd at the University of London, Birkbeck College.

Beryl Graham is Professor of New Media Art at the University of Sunderland, and is co-founder of [CRUMB](http://www.crumb.org) resource for curators of new media art. She curated the international exhibition [Serious Games](#) for the Laing and Barbican art galleries. Her books include *Digital Media Art* (Heinemann 2003), *Rethinking Curating: Art After New Media* (MIT Press 2010 with Sarah Cook), and *New Collecting: Exhibiting and Audiences* (Ashgate 2014 ed.). She has presented papers at conferences including *Navigating Intelligence* (Banff), *Decoding the Digital* (Victoria and Albert Museum), and *Cultural Value and the Digital* (Tate Modern).
<http://www.berylgraham.com>

Emily Mulenga (b.1991, Staffordshire) gained a BA Hons in Fine Art from Birmingham City University in 2013 and she has since participated in shows across the UK, around the world and online. Mulenga's practice incorporates video, digital technology and online spaces to explore ideas around the body, race, and sexuality. She is interested in the Black feminine experience in the internet age, questioning the supposedly democratic nature of online spaces as a platform for the gendered body of colour, and the potential for new possible futures to be explored. Her first major solo exhibition, *Taking Up Space*, is currently showing at Firstsite, Colchester. In 2016 she released a short film for Channel 4's Random Acts programme. Previous shows include the touring exhibition *Short Circuit* (Birmingham, Venice, Copenhagen), *Abandoned Margins: Policing the Black Female Body*, (UICA, Grand Rapids and Woman Made Gallery, Chicago), *Futura Free: A Sensing* (198 Contemporary Arts & Learning, London) and the 2014 and 2015 editions of Fierce Festival (Birmingham).

Nicola Singh is an artist based in Newcastle. Her practice is rooted in performance and is made in response to contexts of feelings and chance, encounter and dialogue, location and place. She produces multifaceted projects, often involving live readings, experimental music, dialogue with other artists and the production of performative installations and objects.

Nicola also works as an arts educator in gallery and community settings, exploring ideas of performative, discursive and physical approaches to pedagogy and research. She holds a practice-based PhD in Fine Art, titled "On the 'thesis by performance': a feminist research method for the practice-based PhD".

Recent projects include a new performance for LUX and LUX Scotland at Glasgow Film Theatre and a commission from BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art to create a new performance for their FAMILY DAY event. Forthcoming projects include 3-Phase – a three part commission to make new work for Jerwood Visual Arts, Workplace Gallery and Eastside Projects (2017 – 2018), and a solo show at Sidney Cooper Gallery in Canterbury (2018).

www.nicolasingh.co.uk

Ben Vickers is a curator, writer, explorer, technologist and luddite. He is CTO at the Serpentine Galleries in London and an initiator of the open-source monastic order unMonastery.