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# BALTIC

## Heather Phillipson: *The Age of Love*



Heather Phillipson, *EAT HERE*, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, 2016

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art presents a major new commission by Heather Phillipson (b. 1978, London). Responding to BALTIC's vast Level 4 gallery, *The Age of Love* comprises video, sound and objects, evoking alternate worlds and temporalities. Somewhere between an agricultural vista and a lunar wasteland, the gallery is punctuated by functioning farm equipment, holding pens, sequenced lighting and screens, vocal warm-ups, rave era undertones and the noise of circling gulls.

Phillipson works across sculpture, video, music, online media, drawing, and poetry. For this commission, her work shifts away from what she calls her "increasingly apocalyptic undertones" towards "affirmative ways of conceiving and defying". Animatronic dog hair, augmented reality bird faeces, birds' eye views, mobile sculptures and a leftover foot like a knock-off archeological

relic allude to what might exist beyond the rigidly anthropocentric. *The Age of Love* suggests alternative forms of coupling, gendering, intimacy and duration, and consigns linearity to junk.

For this exhibition, Phillipson proposes a site in which there is little to differentiate between what's here and what's gone, between textures underfoot, a grain silo and interstellar blast-off, between banality and wonder, and between animal noises and vocal riffs, sung from an ecstatic brain. In *The Age of Love*, everything is contingent, already squandered and about to happen.

Heather Phillipson: *The Age of Love* is supported by the Henry Moore Foundation



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### Notes to Editors:

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#### Spokespeople Available Include:

Curator, Alessandro Vincentelli

Artist, Heather Phillipson

#### About Heather Phillipson

Heather Phillipson works across video, sculpture, online media, music, drawing, poetry and installation. Her forthcoming projects include the Fourth Plinth, Trafalgar Square, in 2020, a new commission for the Sharjah Biennial 2019, and a new online commission for Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago in 2018. Recent solo projects include: a major installation along the length of Gloucester Road tube station in London for Art on the Underground in 2018; Artist in Residence at the Drawing Room, London; Screens Series, New Museum, New York; Whitechapel Gallery, London; Frieze Projects New York; 32nd São Paulo Biennale, Brazil; Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, the 14th Istanbul Biennial and Performa New York. Phillipson is also an award-winning poet and has published four volumes of poetry. She was named a Next Generation Poet in 2014, received Poetry Magazine's Friends of Literature prize in 2016, and writes a regular column for ArtReview magazine. She received the Film London Jarman Award in 2016 and the European Film Award Selection from the International Film Festival Rotterdam in 2018.

**BALTIC** is a major international centre for contemporary art situated on the south bank of the River Tyne in Gateshead, England and has welcomed over seven million visitors since opening to the public in July 2002. BALTIC presents a distinctive and ambitious programme of exhibitions and events, and is a world leader in the presentation and commissioning of contemporary visual art.

Housed in a landmark ex-industrial building, BALTIC consists of 2,600 square metres of art space, making it the UK's largest dedicated contemporary art institution. BALTIC has gained an international reputation for its commissioning of cutting-edge temporary exhibitions. It has presented the work of over 396 artists from 54 countries in 197 exhibitions to date.

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