

FLATPACK FESTIVAL

30 APRIL - 5 MAY 2019

BIRMINGHAM

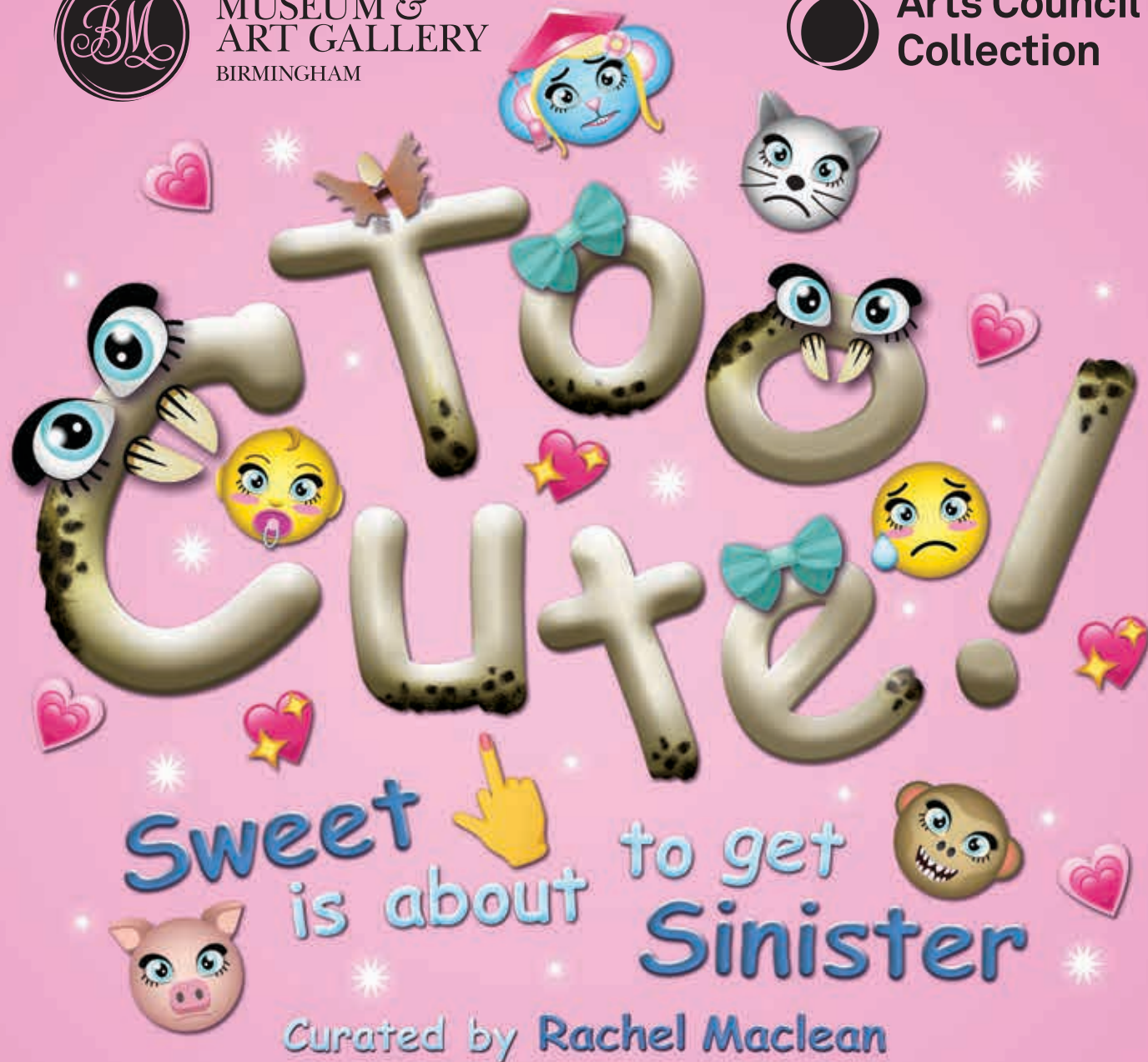




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The Old Crown



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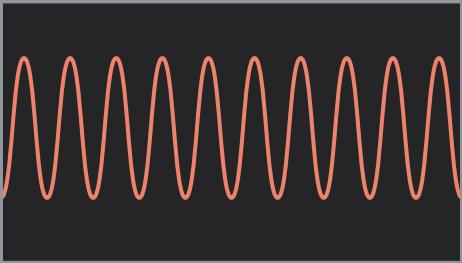
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Hew Locke Here's the Thing

8 March – 2 June 2019

Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
ikon-gallery.org / 0121 248 0708
Tuesday – Sunday, 11am–5pm – free entry

The exhibition is organised in partnership between Ikon, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and the Colby College Museum of Contemporary Art. Ikon is supported using public funding by Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon. Registered charity 528892.

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FLATPACK ENTERS ADOLESCENCE CONTINUING TO SPROUT IN INTERESTING DIRECTIONS, WHILE REJECTING ALL THE MUSIC WE LIKED LAST YEAR AND FIDDLING WITH OUR ACNE. IF YOU'VE NEVER BEEN BEFORE, THE GENERAL IDEA IS THAT WE SEEK OUT THE MOST WEIRD AND WONDERFUL WORK FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE (FILMS, PERFORMANCES, INSTALLATIONS, YOU NAME IT) AND BRING IT ALL TOGETHER IN ONE JAM-PACKED WEEK OF DISCOVERY WHICH TAKES OVER VENUES ACROSS BIRMINGHAM EACH SPRING.

SO WHAT'S NEW FOR OUR THIRTEENTH EDITION? REGULAR VIEWERS WILL NOTICE THAT WE'VE RETURNED TO OUR ORIGINAL NAME AND DROPPED THE WORD 'FILM' FROM FLATPACK FESTIVAL. THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT FILM IS ANY LESS IMPORTANT TO US - IT'S JUST A SNAPPY MONIKER, AND REFLECTS THE ECLECTIC MIX OF ARTFORMS YOU CAN FIND IN THE LINEUP. WE ARE SLIGHTLY LATER IN THE YEAR, MAINLY BECAUSE EASTER HAS AN ANNOYING HABIT OF MOVING BACK AND FORTH. THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND ARE APPARENTLY WORKING ON THIS, BUT IT HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR AT LEAST FIFTY YEARS SO IN THE MEANTIME WE HOPE YOU ENJOY OUR NEW MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY SLOT. SINCE 2006 WE HAVE NOT USED THE SAME FESTIVAL HUB TWICE, AND 2019 IS NO EXCEPTION - FROM WEDNESDAY 1 MAY YOU CAN FIND US BENEATH THE ARCHES JUST BEYOND THE CUSTARD FACTORY, DISHING OUT BEVERAGES AND SHOWING FILMS (SEE OVER FOR MORE INFO).

AS FOR THE ACTUAL PROGRAMME, THERE IS AS EVER A BULGING BOX OF DELIGHTS TO DIG THROUGH IN THIS HERE BROCHURE. MAKE YOUR OWN CAT-SHAPED BENTO (P.12). SEE CONTEMPORARY DANCE MEET YOUTUBE (P.16). HEAR STEWART LEE PAY TRIBUTE TO THE PARTICULAR GENIUS OF THE NIGHTINGALES (P.10). WATCH A TRUCKLOAD OF BRILLIANT SHORTS



FROM AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING OVER 20 UK PREMIERES (P.34). LOSE YOURSELF IN A WORLD OF COLOUR AND LIGHT (P.24). CUT A RUG TO SOME 90S CLASSICS (P.49). NEW ADDITIONS INCLUDE THE TIME MACHINE STRAND, GATHERING ALL OUR ARCHIVE EVENTS IN ONE PLACE AND INCLUDING A CHANCE TO PEEK AT PEOPLE'S LONG-FORGOTTEN TEENAGE FILM EXPERIMENTS (P.28).

THE MOST COMMON QUESTION WE GET ASKED IS 'DO YOU WORK ON THE FESTIVAL ALL YEAR ROUND?' (SAID WITH A SCEPTICAL FACE). WELL, IT WOULD BE ENOUGH TO KEEP US BUSY, BUT NO... FLATPACK HAS ALWAYS BEEN MORE THAN JUST A FESTIVAL, AND THIS SIDE OF OUR WORK HAS GROWN RAPIDLY IN RECENT TIMES. THE PAST YEAR HAS INCLUDED: 2000 PEOPLE PACKED INTO DUDLEY CASTLE FOR TWO NIGHTS OF OUTDOOR HORROR; EYE-OPENING INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE STORY OF BIRMINGHAM IN 1968; TWELVE AUDIOVISUAL ARTISTS SUPPORTED THROUGH THE NEW WAVEFORM SCHEME, BEARING FRUIT AT THIS YEAR'S OPTICAL SOUND WEEKEND; THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW FILM FESTIVAL FOR TELFORD; GROUPS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS THE REGION PUTTING ON EVENTS AS PART OF BUILD YOUR OWN FILM NIGHT; AND PLENTY MORE BESIDES. BOX OFFICE ONLY COVERS A SMALL PART OF THIS WORK, AND NONE OF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT OUR SUPPORTERS - IN PARTICULAR ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND, THE BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE AND BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY. FLATPACK IS A CHARITY, AND OUR JOB IS TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER, GROW IDEAS AND MAKE THE WEST MIDLANDS A MORE INTERESTING PLACE TO BE. IF YOU'D LIKE TO COLLABORATE WITH US OR SUPPORT OUR WORK WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

AND NOW, ONWARDS WITH LUCKY NUMBER THIRTEEN...

29 MAY –
15 JUNE

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1 - 5 May, Flatpack Hub (Arch 21, Custard Factory)

The year's festival hub has all the ingredients to make it rather special: KIDS, a computer game exploring group dynamics; Lambda Drive, an immersive sensory roadtrip-pin' installation by Waveformer Laura Irving (p.47); a film poster exhibition by Viscom students from Birmingham City University; brilliant mid-length films perfect for viewing with a cuppa and a slice of cake (see p. 32); a kids breakfast screening (p.25) followed by origami workshops... and let's not forget our 90s party (p.49).

For the first time in Flatpack's history we'll also have a daily happy hour, featuring various drinks offers combined with free short film screenings (16:00 to 17:00, Wednesday to Sunday).

Opening times vary due to certain ticketed events (see below), but there will be ample opportunity over the course of the festival to hang out, pick up a brochure and refuel - your one-stop-shop for all things Flatpack. Find us under the arches on Gibb St, by the Custard Factory.

Opening times

Wednesday	16:00 - 20:30
Thursday	16:00 - 23:00
Friday	13:30 - 17:30 / 21:30 - late
Saturday	14:00 - late
Sunday	12:00 - 17:00

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UPCOMING...

MON 13 MAY ANDREA GIBSON	SUN 02 JUN FAIRPORT CONVENTION
WED 22 MAY CHRIS DIFFORD	TUE 04 JUN JULIA HOLTER
MON 27 MAY ROSS EDGLEY	MON 04 NOV AN EVENING WITH ALAN MCGEE

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MIDLANDS

F I L M



A monthly roundup of film happenings in the middle of the country, brought to you by Film Hub Midlands.

Sign up to get exclusive updates on new releases, special events and film-related opportunities across the Midlands: [WWW.FILMWIRE.CO.UK](#)



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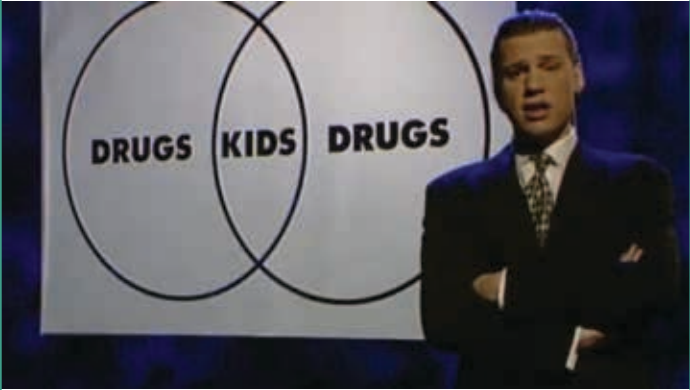
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THIS IS THE PART OF THE PROGRAMME WHERE WE WANDER FURTHEST FROM CINEMA, INTO THE REALM OF THEATRE, MUSIC, WALKING AND SUSHI. IT ALSO INCLUDES A CROSS-MEDIA EXPLORATION OF FATHERHOOD, AND A CELEBRATION OF BLACK COUNTRY POST-PUNK PIONEERS THE NIGHTINGALES.

SPECIAL EVENTS



OXIDE GHOSTS + Q&A

Wednesday 1 May, 18:00 - 19:30

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Michael Cumming, UK 2017, 60 mins
Whether it was risking life and limb asking actual drug dealers for “clarky cat” or persuading an army of celebrities to campaign against the dangers of cake (“a made-up drug”), Chris Morris’ 1997 series Brass Eye turned television on its head. Incurring a deluge of complaints and legal threats, much of the show’s back-ground has since remained shrouded in myth. This fascinating collage of outtakes helps to pull back the veil, pieced together by Brass Eye director Michael Cumming from hundreds of hours of behind-the-scenes material including a never-broadcast phone interview with Reggie Kray. After the screening Cumming will take part in a Q&A hosted by Stewart Lee.



KING ROCKER – Stewart Lee & The Nightingales

Wednesday 1 May, 20:30 - 22:00

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Currently on a breather between stand-up tours, Stewart Lee has resisted the lure of idleness and decided to make a film tribute to the Black Country’s unsung post-punk heroes The Nightingales. *King Rocker* will capture the sights, the sounds, the smells of a hard-working rock band, and ponder on the parallels between frontman Robert Lloyd and Birmingham’s neglected fibreglass icon King Kong. The full film won’t be finished until later this year, but tonight for the first time you can enjoy a 20-minute teaser alongside a short set by Stewart and a discussion with Lloyd, Lee, director Michael Cumming and producer James Nicholls.



JOSEPHINE FOSTER

Thursday 2 May, 19:45 - 22:00

Glee Club · £ 14.00 / £ 12.00

Now Flatpack is not strictly a music festival, but when the stars align and certain performers are available during our dates then we’ll happily flag down the tour bus and see what’s possible. Such is the case with Josephine Foster, a one-of-a-kind singer-songwriter whose creative purple patch has continued with her most recent double album, Faithful Fairy Harmony. Foster’s Colorado background included operatic training and funeral singing, and her otherworldly voice remains the central thread in a zigzag trajectory that has taken in twisted folk, Lorca poetry, old-time ballads and Schubert lieder. This special solo set is one of a handful of UK dates, and will be preceded by an afternoon screening of *Black Moon* chosen especially for the festival and introduced by Foster herself (see p.29).



BERMINGHAM: THE (NOT ENTIRELY) TRUE STORY OF A MISPELT CITY

1 - 11 May, see website for times

Centrala · Free

If whilst undertaking research into a city you misspell its name, does that give you free rein to ride roughshod over its true history? Greg McLeod thinks so. In his first solo exhibition, the BAFTA-award winning animator and illustrator attempts to create 1000 illustrations of Birmingham, the city in which he grew up. But all is not quite what it seems... each image has a corresponding title, but you may want to think twice before taking the labels as gospel. Along with his illustrations adorning the walls in Centrala, a new film will play on a loop in the gallery - an animated documentary charting the [un]true history of the city. The exhibition will run throughout the festival, but a special opening with DJs Matt and McGill providing the soundtrack will take place on Friday 3 May between 18:00 - 22:00.

Running concurrently with the show at Centrala, is the sister exhibition **Bermingham: Remixed** at the Parkside Gallery. Taking inspiration from Greg’s illustrations, the exhibition is made up of works by Viscom students at Birmingham City University. Greg’s BAFTA-nominated short *Marfa* will also be on show.



LET’S MAKE A MOVIE

Friday 3 May, 18:00 - 19:00

Flatpack Hub · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Like many a young teenager, Richard Soames had ambitions to be the next Spielberg, with his remake of *The Matrix* and the slightly more cost-effective version of the Samuel L Jackson vehicle, *Snakes in a Car*. Sadly for him, Soames never made it to Hollywood, but those old films he made with his brother in their salad days have resurfaced and formed the basis for this live show in which he somehow manages to make a movie within an hour. Funny, clever, and with a hint of familial melodrama thrown in, this theatre-performance-cum-standup-show-cum-film-shoot is a total charmer.



FATHERS

Saturday 4 May, 12:00 - 13:45

Flatpack Hub · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

A short film, a live performance piece, and a reading make up this triple bill on the theme of paternity. Celebrated Canadian filmmaker Mike Hoolboom kicks things off with *27 Thoughts About My Father*, a contemplative short film made up of vignettes exploring memories of his late dad. Gareth Courage’s brand new performance piece 469 DOF - Europe Through the Windscreen then gets its world premiere. Using various ephemera from his father’s trips to Europe in the early 1960s in his Austin Mini, the piece uses elements of sound, motion graphics and film to reflect and explore aspects of Birmingham’s social and industrial heritage whilst also revealing timely insights into early European integration. To finish, writer and academic Caleb Klaces reads from his forthcoming debut novel Fatherhood (Prototype Publishing) which follows the tender rhythms of the relationship between a father and an infant daughter. A verse fiction about hamsters, natural disasters and parental love, it is an experiment in rewriting masculinity.



INVISIBLE CINEMA

Sunday 5 May, 10:30 - 12:00

Meet at Victoria Square • £ 8.00 / £ 6.00

Eight years on from its debut outing at Flatpack 2011, this enduringly popular ramble through Birmingham's celluloid past returns in a new iteration. At the peak of filmgoing during the 1940s the city boasted over 100 picturehouses, and Ben Waddington (Still Walking) plots a path through the city centre pointing out some of the architectural remnants of this boom, now half-hidden behind the facade of a shisha lounge, an amusement arcade or a car park. For this specially extended edition, Ben concludes the walk with the newly discovered lost Walk of Stars. Meet by the water-free water feature in the centre of Victoria Square - advance booking only.



BEAUTIFUL BENTO WORKSHOPS

Sunday 5 May, 12:30 - 13:50 & 16:30 - 17:50

Kanteen • £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

We're delighted to welcome to Flatpack bento artist Mari Miyazawa who will be running two workshops demonstrating how to create Character Bento - the art of turning traditional Japanese lunch boxes into fun, edible characters. Originally a creative ploy by parents desperate to get their kids interested in food, the art of animated bento has become something of an obsession in Japan - and we can see why. We'd have traded in our Frubes and Dairylea Dunkers for rice pandas and katsu rabbits any day of the week. Please note that the 12:30 workshop is intended for younger participants (recommended age 7+, and children must be accompanied by an adult), and the 16:30 workshop is intended for adults.



A MOMENT OF MADNESS

Friday 3 May, 17:30 - 19:15, 20:00 - 21:45

Saturday 4 May, 14:00 - 15:45, 17:30 - 19:15, 20:00 - 21:45

Sunday 5 May, 14:00 - 15:45, 17:30 - 19:15, 20:00 - 21:45

Monday 6 May, 14:00 - 15:45, 17:30 - 19:15

Birmingham REP • £ 60.00 per car

The Other Way Works with John Sear and Tim Wright

As the press gather for a big announcement on a new environmental bill, a politician's future hangs in the balance. Thrust into a spy thriller, you'll navigate the political scandal of the decade. Staking out a multi-storey car park, you must use every mode of surveillance to hunt down facts and intercept evidence to expose a complex network of corruption that threatens to destroy the UK's path to environmental progress. A Moment of Madness explodes out of the confines of the theatre into the gritty reality of the city - fusing compelling drama with the excitement of real-time gameplay to create a visceral new live experience.

Supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Presented by Flatpack Festival and Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

Supported by Birmingham Open Media, Sir Barry Jackson Trust, John Feeney Charitable Trust & Unity Theatre Trust.

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COMEDIAN STEWART LEE AND FILMMAKER MICHAEL CUMMING WILL BE AT FLATPACK TO UNVEIL A TEASER OF THEIR NEW DOCUMENTARY ON POST-PUNK LEGENDS THE NIGHTINGALES, AND MICHAEL WILL ALSO SCREEN HIS 2017 FILM OXIDE GHOSTS, ASSEMBLED FROM FOOTAGE HE SHOT DURING THE MAKING OF TV PROVOCATION BRASS EYE. WE TALKED TO THEM ABOUT KONG, CANNOCK AND CULT STATUS.

Below: Robert Lloyd and Stewart Lee during filming; Right: The Nightingales in action.

KING ROCKER AND OXIDE GHOSTS

Wednesday 1 May 20:30 - 22:00

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00



KING ROCKER

How did you end up making a film about The Nightingales?

Stewart Lee: I liked The Nightingales as a teenager, and was thrilled when they reformed in 2004. Rob Lloyd the singer asked me to support them back then and I got to know him. He asked me about making a documentary about the band, and did I think it was a good idea. About two years ago I heard that the director Michael Cumming, who I had worked with on the pilot of Stewart Lee's Comedy Vehicle and a live dvd, was a big Nightingales fan, so I asked him if we should do it together and it went from there. I think I have a plan for the story of the film that I can't quite explain until the footage is there... We don't want it to be just talking heads like all the other rock docs.

Michael Cumming: I found a list of proposed documentary subjects I had written for the BBC in 1988. I was amazed to find that the four subjects were: Ivor Cutler, Ted Chippington, Jake Thackray and...Robert Lloyd & The Nightingales. All rejected, obviously, but it was clearly meant to be.

What happens if the band get belatedly plunged into the mainstream because of King Rocker?

MC: I think the mainstream for The Nightingales is about as likely as me directing Mrs Brown's Boys, but I would love to introduce a wider audience to the band and help them flog some more records.

SL: Maybe they will get some big fees to appear at middle-class outdoor summer festivals, which will be more in one go than they earned in four decades. And at least there will be some evidence of them. Everyone loves them and wants to help. There's no pop music pot of gold any more anyway.

In his interview Frank Skinner reflects on the mutual envy between commercially successful star and cult hero. Are you any clearer on which is best?

SL: I have had it both ways. I am a commercially successful act but most people have never heard of me. Rob Lloyd seems to want recognition but hates all the compromises it would be necessary to make to achieve it. That's sort of what the film is shaping up to deal with.

Nicholas Monroe's Kong statue plays an important role, a totem of Birmingham's inability to value its own cultural treasures. Where do you think this comes from?

SL: I don't know. But it seems insane that there isn't a BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM OF METAL full of Led Zep, Black Sabbath, Napalm Death, Judas Priest, Move, Idle Race, Hard Meat, ELO memorabilia. Metal is a religion in the USA and the basis of much of its popular culture and it all started here. Imagine the tourist revenue.

MC: I notice that Wolverhampton now has a 'Music Wall of Fame' and that some of the people on it have fairly tenuous connections with the town. Are The Nightingales - a band whose lead singer and lyricist was born in Cannock and who are largely now based in Wolverhampton - on that wall? They are not. As Bernard Manning once said... 'It's a fucking disgrace'.

Michael - it's slightly terrifying to realise that Brass Eye is over 20 years old. Why do you think it still resonates?

MC: To be honest, I hadn't realised how much love there still was for Brass Eye out there. Before I embarked on my screening tour with *Oxide Ghosts* in 2017 I used to wake in the early hours of the morning with visions of three people in the audience. What actually happened was that fans spread the word, the cinemas were full and, 18 months later, I'm still getting requests to do screenings. The feeling I get from the Q&As is that there hasn't been anything like it since, coupled with broadcasters' reticence to take risks. Chris Morris is a one-off, so it's not surprising to me that the series was so unique.

Stewart - would it be fair to say that you've become more preoccupied with your own West Midlands roots in recent times?

SL: Maybe. I suppose you get to 50, look back, and wonder how you got to where you are now. Like that Talking Heads song, Once In A Lifetime.

King Rocker and Oxide Ghosts are at the Electric on Weds 1 May (p.10). To donate to the film's production go to www.kingrockermovie.com.

LIVE CINEMA



OPENING NIGHT

A PAGE OF MADNESS + LIVE SCORE

Tuesday 30 April, 20:00 - 22:00

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire · £ 14.00 / £ 12.00

Dir: Teinosuke Kinugasa, Japan 1926, 71 mins
Opening the festival this year is the world premiere of a newly commissioned live score by Sinestro Home Video, a six-piece ensemble pulled together by composers Matt Eaton (Pram) and Gareth Jones (Misty's Big Adventure, Grandmaster Gareth). You may remember the group closing Flatpack 2016 in some style with their multi-textured score to Murnau's *Faust* and tonight they're looking to top that extraordinary performance, accompanying a film which is very close to their hearts. Thought lost for nearly five decades and then rediscovered in the 1970s, *A Page of Madness* is a stunning, surreal exploration of truth, memory and mental illness. Alongside the band vocalist Atsuko Kamura will play the role of live benshi (narrator and storyteller), recounting the tale of a sectioned woman and her husband's doomed attempts to extricate her from the asylum. The film has recently undergone a sumptuous restoration, and with Sinestro Home Video's terrific new accompaniment it should be a festival opener to remember.

AS WELL AS FLATPACK'S CUSTOMARY CROP OF BRILLIANT LIVE SOUNDTRACKS - NOT LEAST A NEWLY COMMISSIONED SCORE TO A JAPANESE MASTERPIECE - HIGHLIGHTS HERE INCLUDE A MASHING-TOGETHER OF YOUTUBE AND DANCE, AND A WITTY REFLECTION ON HOW HORROR MOVIES CAN INFECT OUR LIVES.



FORECASTING

Wednesday 1 May, 18:00 - 18:50 & 20:30 - 21:20

Birmingham REP · £ 12.00 / £ 9.00

Dance meets theatre, meets YouTube mash-up in this amazing one-woman [and her laptop] show. Sublimely choreographed, Barbara Matijević becomes one with her laptop as she assumes 90% of the various characters on her screen - the other 10% remains digital - a hand, a foot, or a face. Careening and gliding around the room, Matijević explores the intersection between performer and the two-dimensional world of odd, self-made films that get put online. The result is a dizzying hybrid experience, shifting from funny to banal, to ingenious to poetic, to occasionally gruesome and violent.



SPACE ODYSSEYS

Saturday 4 May, 12:00 - 13:15

Centrala · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Over the past four years countless young composers and musicians have emerged from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire to work wonders with film at Flatpack, and we can add a host of names to that ever-expanding list after this interstellar audio-visual adventure. 50 years on from the first person walking on the moon, we thought we'd honour that milestone and task this year's crop of RBC composers with the challenge of writing and performing new scores to four short films exploring the theme of 'space'. Featuring classics by Walerian Borowczyk & Chris Marker and Charles & Ray Eames, there's also contemporary fare including winner of the Flatpack 2018 Short Film Award, Réka Bucsi's mind-blowing *Solar Walk*. Expect all manner of sonic approaches to these otherworldly live scores.



FIZZLE: X-X

Sunday 5 May, 14:30 - 15:40

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Our third and final collaboration in a short run of events with experimental/improvised music series Fizzle is a celebration of female filmmakers and musicians. We've teamed up three of the UK's leading improvisers with a selection of early short films made by pioneering female directors such as Mary Ellen Bute (featured in the image above), Claire Parker and Alice Guy Blaché, largely overlooked in the annals of film history compared to their male counterparts. Featuring Hannah Marshall on cello, Alcyona Mick on piano (some may recall her fantastic score to *Sunrise* at Flatpack 2013) and Stella Roberts (Dorcha) on keyboard, the musicians will create brand new live scores to the films, incorporating elements of jazz, improv, contemporary classical, electronica and much more.



SOUNDSCREEN

Sunday 5 May, 19:00 - 20:45

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

In a similar vein to Waveform (see p.47), Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire have joined forces to offer NEXT Music, a year-long training programme for emerging performers of contemporary music. This event sees the NEXT cohort combining live performance with moving image - the films ranging from the surrealist Franco-Spanish 1929 film *Un Chien Andalou* to Nicole Lizée's spellbinding Alfred Hitchcock mashup. The evening will also feature the world premiere of a brand-new piece of music and video specially created for this performance by multi-award winning composer Lara Poe.



DANIEL COCKBURN: HOW NOT TO WATCH A MOVIE

Sunday 5 May, 18:30 - 19:30

Centrala · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Two horror films were released in 1994 which riffed on the power of storytelling: John Carpenter's *In The Mouth of Madness* and Wes Craven's *New Nightmare*. As a child growing up in Canada Daniel Cockburn encountered both and was reshaped forever, and in this deft, funny lecture-performance he explores the discovery of a very special super power: "the ability to turn any film into a horror film simply by watching it." The price of admittance also includes a detailed grammatical analysis of power-ballad lyrics.

A CHANCE TO DELVE INTO THE CREATIVE PROCESS, AS FILMMAKERS AND ARTISTS OPEN UP ABOUT THE JOY AND PAIN OF MAKING NEW WORK. FOR THE FIRST TIME WE’RE ALSO HOSTING A BOOK FAIR WHERE YOU CAN MEET A HOST OF SMALL PUBLISHERS AND ZINE-MAKERS.

UNPACKED



HYPERLINKED

Friday 3 May, 18:30 - 19:45

Centrala · Free

Featuring a renowned group of artists including Heather Phillipson, Rosie Carr, Adham Faramawy and Turner Prize-winners Gillian Wearing and Mark Leckey, this programme of short films explores our current state of hyper-connectivity, 30 years since the advent of the World Wide Web. From a grotesque reimagining of YouTube beauty vlogs to a romantic ode to office stationery, the works deconstruct and reconfigure the detritus of digital culture using collage, appropriation and absurd humour.

‘Hyperlinked’ is curated by Film London Artists’ Moving Image Network (FLAMIN), an artists’ film commissioning department who run the annual Film London Jarman Award, which has celebrated the UK’s most innovative artist filmmakers since 2008. All of the artists screening in this programme are FLAMIN alumni.

Dream English Kid 1964-1999 AD
Dir: Mark Leckey (UK 2016, 24 mins)

The Photocopier who fell in love with me
Dir: Rosie Carr (UK 2014, 4 mins)

WHAT’S THE DAMAGE
Dir: Heather Phillipson (UK 2017, 7 mins)

Your Views (part one)
Dir: Gillian Wearing (UK 2013, 3 mins)

Make Up Tutorial
Adham Faramawy (UK 2018, 3 mins)

Sitting in Darkness
Dir: Graeme Arnfield (UK 2015, 15 mins)

THE DIGITAL DIASPORA

Thursday 2 May, 18:15 - 19:45

Centrala · Free

Centrala and Short Circuit present a programme of curated film screenings and an accompanying discussion addressing key issues of migration, borders, territory, cultural identity, belonging and isolation. Featured artists include Alicja Rogalska, Natalja Vikulina, Natalia Skobeeva, Aron Rossman-Kiss and Kotryna Ula Kiliulyte.

WHO FUNDS WHAT?

Friday 3 May, 17:15 - 18:15

Centrala · Free

This discussion is designed to demystify the boundaries when it comes to funding different types of films. Thinking of making a film but can’t quite decide what category it fits into? Then this discussion is for you. Providing clarity on what certain funders will and won’t fund when it comes to expanded cinema, narrative, experimental and artist film are representatives from Arts Council England, the British Film Institute, Film London Artists’ Moving Image Network (FLAMIN), and Rural Media.

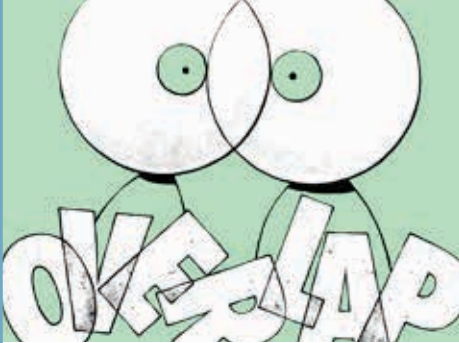


MERCE CUNNINGHAM AT 100: INNOVATIONS IN SCREEN DANCE

Thursday 2 May, 18:30 - 20:00

The Bond · £ 4.00

Continuing Flatpack’s spotlight on screen dance, programmer Sima Gonsai explores the ongoing conversation between dance, film and digital technology. Dance artist and researcher Karen Wood will present a brief history of Merce Cunningham, a pioneering contemporary dancer and an early innovator in splicing performance with projected imagery. This is then followed by a screening of three original films by Channel 4 Random Acts - Sadler’s Wells, with series producer Anne Beresford hosting a panel of screen dance creators talking about the process behind the films. Supported by Sadler’s Wells and Birmingham Dance Network.



OVERLAP

Thursday 2 May, 18:00 - 19:30

Flatpack Hub · Free

A new quarterly animation show & tell night launches at the festival this year. Intended for animators to show their work in an informal setting, share ideas, and meet like-minded folk, each seasonal event will have a prompt - a starting point for those wishing to submit something. For the first edition, the theme is ‘faces’ - submissions are currently open and anything over one second is considered. If you’ve got something you’d like to show and talk about, send it to overlapshowandtell@gmail.com. NB: you don’t need to be an animator to attend. It’s an animation double-bill in the hub this evening with Dots & Loops (see below).



DOTS & LOOPS #7: ELLI VUORINEN

Thursday 2 May, 20:15 - 22:30

Flatpack Hub · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Finnish animator Elli Vuorinen takes on the mantle of guest curator for our seventh Dots & Loops screening. For those new to the D&L format, we invite a filmmaker or animator to come and present some of their own short films (of which Elli’s are all brilliant), with a selection of shorts that have been important to them in some way, whilst also giving us an insight into what makes them tick. Elli’s selection definitely won’t disappoint, and you may even get to see a snippet of her latest short *Still Lives* which will have its UK premiere the following evening (see p.36). Presented in association with Screen Central. This event will follow on from Overlap (see above), the first of a series of events showcasing local and regional animation talent.

DUPLICATE:

ARTIST PUBLISHING FAIR

Friday 3 May, 16:00 - 20:00

Saturday 4 May, 12:00 - 18:00

Eastside Projects · Free

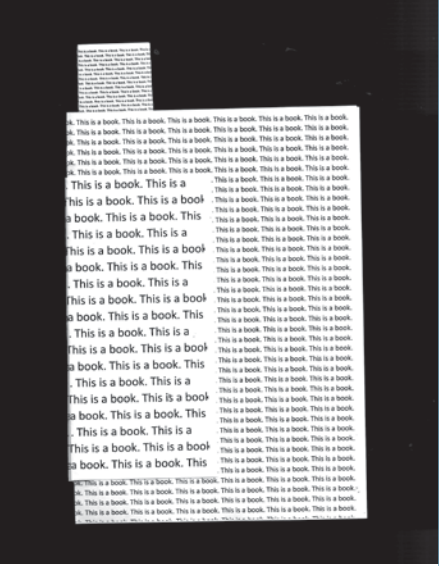
The inaugural Duplicate Artist Publishing Fair welcomes various collective and individual self-publishers from the UK and beyond. The fair will showcase a broad range of independent publications, zines, comics and artists’ books whilst a programme of activity in Eastside Projects’ second gallery space will run alongside it. The full list of stall holders and any workshops and screenings taking place will be added to the website in due course. Presented by Birmingham City University, Rope Press, Eastside Projects, and Flatpack.

SHORT & SUITE

Saturday 4 May, 17:15 - 18:15

Flatpack Hub · Free

Dir: Various, 60 mins
In 2016, Flatpack launched Build Your Own Film Night, a series of workshops designed to give the next generation of film programmers the skills and knowledge to put on their own film events. We were so wowed by the fantastic screenings that took place, that we happily handed over the programming reigns to our Build Your Own Film Night alumni who cooked up an afternoon full of short film fun for Flatpack 2018. It was such a success that we’re doing it again! Short & Suite is back with Gen 2 serving you a wide variety of short films made by young people, complemented by a dash of YouTube classics.



FILM HUB MIDLANDS

ABOUT US

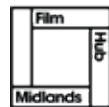
Film Hub Midlands is part of the BFI Film Audience Network, with eight Film Hubs across the UK working in partnership with the Independent Cinema Office, Cinema For All and Into Film. Set up in 2012 using funds from the National Lottery, FAN supports a stronger and more connected approach to growing audiences for British and specialised film on the big screen.

WHAT WE DO

Film Hub Midlands provides funding, training and resources to a range of film exhibitors, as well as working to grow film audiences and help build a more thriving, connected film community in the region. Film Hub Midlands is formed as a partnership between Broadway in Nottingham and Flatpack in Birmingham.

You can keep up to date with all of this and more by signing up to FILMWIRE, our monthly roundup of screenings and opportunities filmwire.co.uk

For more information about Film Hub Midlands visit filmhubmidlands.org



TWISTED TALES + BEWARE THE MOON
17/18 MAY 2019 • 2/3 AUGUST 2019
DUDLEY CASTLE



Tickets on sale in March
flatpackfestival.org.uk / dudleyzoo.org.uk

FILM CAMP

Thursday 2 May, 10:00 - 17:00

The Bond · £ 15.00

At Flatpack 11 we launched Film Camp, a one-day training event exploring the latest innovations in film exhibition. Now in its third year, Film Camp is back to gather together film exhibitors from across the Midlands to share their wealth of experience, and to explore fresh approaches to programming, marketing and audience development. The event is open to everyone from multi-screen venues and festivals to community cinema organisers and student film groups.

Film Camp is produced by Film Hub Midlands, part of the BFI Film Audience Network (FAN). Led by Broadway Cinema (Nottingham) and Flatpack Projects (Birmingham), we are excited to bring more films to more people in more places across the Midlands. For more information contact amy@filmhubmidlands.org

**Ticket includes registration and networking, one morning and one afternoon workshop (first come first serve basis), lunch and drinks reception.*



BFI NETWORK Talent Camp, a one-day training event for new and emerging talent looking to make narrative fiction short films.

The day will cover the roles and responsibilities of writers, producers and directors during the short film development process, career case studies and give insight from festival curators and regional BFI NETWORK Talent Executives.

BFI NETWORK brings together the UK's film agencies to discover, develop and fund new and emerging writers, directors and producers. Places include registration, networking, lunch and drinks reception. For more information contact bfinetwork@filmhubmidlands.org

Friday 3 May, 10:00 - 17:00

The Bond · Free

TALENT CAMP



BAZINGA! FROM THE OCCASIONAL SHORT FILM SCREENING, FLATPACK'S FAMILY PROGRAMME HAS GROWN INTO AN INTERACTIVE PLAYGROUND FULL OF MARVELLOUS CONTRAPTIONS AND EYE-OPENING DISCOVERIES. THIS YEAR'S LINEUP INCLUDES DIY BENTO, TRASH ISLAND, SOUNDPLAY DOME AND A NEW ADAPTATION OF THE MOOMINS.

COLOUR BOX AWARD JURY



SARAH MULLEN



SALA DAVIES

Sarah and Sala run the Busy Parents Network in south Birmingham and are responsible for Bournville Bookfest, Birmingham's only dedicated children's book festival for 0-12s.

DROP-IN ACTIVITIES & WORKSHOPS
SATURDAY 4 MAY, 10:00 - 17:00 - MAC

MEDIA JUNGLE – DELOITTE ROOM

#GREENSCREENTEAM

12:30 - 17:00, Free

Experience life in front of the camera as Colour Box Explorers. We will also be looking for illustrators to create the Colour Box World our Green Screeners inhabit, so if acting isn't for you, we need your creativity behind the scenes.

LE PIANOGRAPHE

12:30 - 17:00, Free

Brothers Romain and Florent Bodart created the Pianographe using the body of a Nektar 49 keyboard, specialist software and a projector. As you play, every note projects a moving image. It's a piano, but not as you know it...

BASECAMP - THE FOYER

BASECAMP CRAFTZ

10:00 - 17:00, Free

Find the Colour Box Craft Crew in the Foyer. Create and customise everything from goggles, binoculars and adventure flags for your journey around MAC. Grab a map and spot the giant Colour Boxes. Stick a flag in each one and get your Colour Box Passport stamped.

GIANT KALEIDOSCOPE

11:00 - 17:00, Free

Get to grips with a giant kaleidoscope and bring it to life as you create your own colourful patterns and objects with Laura Kloss.

Also, look out for our roaming Colour Box Explorer Reporters and their camera crew who will be conducting interviews throughout the day.

TRASH ISLAND - PM2

ISLE OF DOGS WITH TIM ALLEN

10:30 - 12:00, 13:00 - 14:30, 15:30 - 17:00, £ 5.00

Tim is a stop motion animator who has worked on Wes Anderson's *Isle of Dogs* and *Fantastic Mr. Fox* as well as Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride*, and he knows Postman Pat and Fireman Sam personally! Tim will be running three 90 minute *Isle of Dogs* workshops where you can create and animate canine characters and explore 'Trash Island,' a floating garbage dump.

Book online in advance to avoid disappointment. Places are limited.

Age Recommendation: 7+

BEAUTIFUL BENTO WORKSHOP 1

(7+, all children must be accompanied by an adult)

Sunday 5 May, 12:30 - 13:50

Kanteen - £ 10.00 / £ 8.00



For years, the Japanese tradition of beautiful, well balanced bento lunch boxes has been putting our ham sandwich and crisp combos to shame. Crafted with care and an attention to detail that balances a variety of tastes, textures, and food groups, bento already scores highly within the lunchables game.

Enter Kyaraben.

Kyaraben (or "Character Bento") is the practice of shaping rice and other bento foods (meat, fish, pickled vegetables etc.) to look like animals, nature and popular characters from manga, anime and video games to bring a bit of excitement to a lunch box and encourage kids to eat foods they might normally turn their noses up at. The result has been one of cultural phenomena as Character Bento has become a status symbol both in cafeterias and parenting circles with parents getting up at the crack of dawn to build these lunchtime masterpieces for their kids and even entering into national tournaments to show off their parenting skills.

We are delighted to welcome bento artist Mari Miyazawa to the festival this year. We'll be screening some of her adorable animated short films in the Colour Box programme (p.25) as well as running two special workshops where you can learn to flex your very own bento skills and create lunches that are too cute to eat!

Well, almost.

TOO CUTE TO EAT?



SOUNDPLAY DOME

Saturday 4 May · 10:00 - 17:00

MAC Performance Studio · Free



**MUSIC.
MOVEMENT.
PLAY.**

That's the name of the game in Ewan Sinclair and Bal Cooke's unique interactive musical installation, Soundplay Dome.

Inspired by years spent combining digital art and music to stimulate creativity in youngsters, this inventive pair have partnered with Creative Scotland to build a multi-sensory, audio-visual pop up playground where sound, animation and interactive technology collide. Suitable for children of all ages, this magical sensory space invites visitors to create soothing musical landscapes using objects and tactile materials.

Play, roll, drum, move or sing, the Soundplay Dome want you to experiment and have some fun with music and sound!

We are thrilled to welcome Ewan Sinclair, Bal Cooke and Soundplay Dome to Colour Box at MAC on Saturday 4 May where they will be running 15 minute sessions throughout the day. We invite you and your family to come along and see what you can discover in the Dome as it lands in Brum for the very first time.

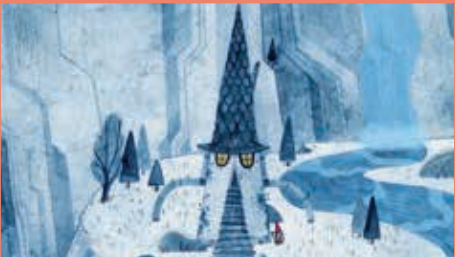


TRAILBLAZERS (4+)

Saturday 4 May, 10:30 - 11:40

MAC · £ 6.00 / £ 3.00

Fortune favours the brave in this collection of animated shorts from around the world. The little girl from *Cycle* learns to overcome her fears. *White Crow* discovers a wonderful land far from home. Mr Gnome climbs mountains to chase the clouds away (*Cloudy*). And our special guest, Japanese artist Mari Miyazawa, takes playing with food to a whole new level in her two new bento animations, that should get you inspired for her Beautiful Bento workshop on Sunday. (see p.23)



6:1

Dir: Sergei Ryabov (Russia 2018, 3 mins)

CLOUDY

Dir: Filip Diviak
(Czech Republic 2018, 5 mins)

CYCLE

Dir: Sophie Olga de Jong & Sytske Kok
(Netherlands 2017, 2 mins)

FLIPPED

Dir: Hend Esmat & Lamiaa Diab
(UK 2018, 5 mins)

KONIGIRI-KUN MUSIC BOX

Dir: Mari Miyazawa (Japan 2018, 5 mins)

KONIGIRI-KUN SHOPPING

Dir: Mari Miyazawa (Japan 2018, 5 mins)

MOGUL & PEROL

Dir: Tsuneo Goda (Japan 2018, 8 mins)

THE OPPOSITE DAY

Dir: Fabian Friedrich
(Germany 2017, 2 mins)

WHITE CROW

Dir: Miran Miošić (Croatia 2018, 9 mins)

WORKOUT

Dir: Joe Wood (UK 2018, 2 mins)

OUTSIDE THE BOX (7+)

Saturday 4 May, 14:00 - 15:15

MAC · £ 6.00 / £ 3.00

In the second shorts programme of the day, the exploration continues as we go on holidays to *Cat Lake City*, follow the sun's journey in *The Theory of Sunset*, and realise that there is a joyous and colourful world waiting for us if we dare to step outside the box (*Whiteland*). But sometimes things don't go as planned, and that can be just as enjoyable to watch, as we'll see in the hilarious slapstick adventures of *The Green Bird* and *Hors Piste*.

CAT LAKE CITY

Dir: Antje Heyn (Germany 2018, 7 mins)

THE GREEN BIRD

Dir: P. Perveyrie, M. Bougeois,
M. Goillard, I. Nguyen-Duc & Q. Dubois
(France 2018, 7 mins)

HORS PISTE

Dir: L. Brunel, L. Cavalier, C. Jalabert, O. Malet (France 2018, 6 mins)

KUAP

Dir: Nils Hedinger
(Switzerland 2018, 7 mins)

MY BEST FRIEND EXPLODES

Dir: Will Anderson, Ainslie Henderson
(UK 2018, 1 min)

MY BEST FRIEND REWINDS

Dir: Will Anderson, Ainslie Henderson
(UK 2018, 1 min)

THE PIG ON THE HILL

Dir: Jamy Wheless, John Helms
(USA 2018, 6 mins)

SATURDAY'S APARTMENT

Dir: Jeon Seung-Bae
(South Korea 2018, 7 min)

THEORY OF SUNSET

Dir: Roman Sokolov
(Russia 2018, 8 mins)

WHITELAND

Dir: Ira Elshansky (Russia 2018, 7 mins)



MOOMINVALLEY + Q&A

Saturday 4 May, 16:00 - 17:15

MAC · £ 6.00 / £ 3.00

Dir: Steve Box,
UK / Finland 2019, 50 mins
When we got wind that there was a new Moomins TV series hitting screens on Sky this spring, we thought we ought to track it down. Moominvalley is the latest version of Tove Jansson's much loved Moomins, and has had rave reviews in its preview screenings. We'll be showing two of the 25 minute episodes, including "Hattifattener Island", in which Snork Maiden encourages Moomintroll to take her on a voyage to a mysterious island where Moominpappa once encountered the bizarre, storm-chasing Hattifatteners. We'll be joined by one of the editors, Andy Goodman (who makes our brilliant trailers), for a Q&A after the screening.



A TOWN CALLED PANIC

BREAKFAST SCREENING

Sunday 5 May, 11:00 - 12:00

Flatpack Hub · £ 6.00 / £ 3.00

Dir: Stéphane Aubier & Vincent Patar,
Belgium / France 2019, 52 mins
Breakfast tastes better when you eat it with family, so what better way to start the day than with cereal and shorts? Along with a range of tasty breakfast fare, we'll be serving you two giggle-inducing episodes the whole family can enjoy! Let us transport you to *A Town Called Panic*, a quirky puppetoon series following the everyday adventures of Cowboy and Indian, as Horse cleans up the mess of their harebrained schemes. A brand new installment called *The Agricultural Fair* will be screened alongside *Back to School*, where the mischievous pair are determined to win a trip to the moon at all costs.

27-29 JUNE

Birmingham Repertory Theatre & BE FESTIVAL present the Forman Brothers' Theatre production of

DEAD TOWN

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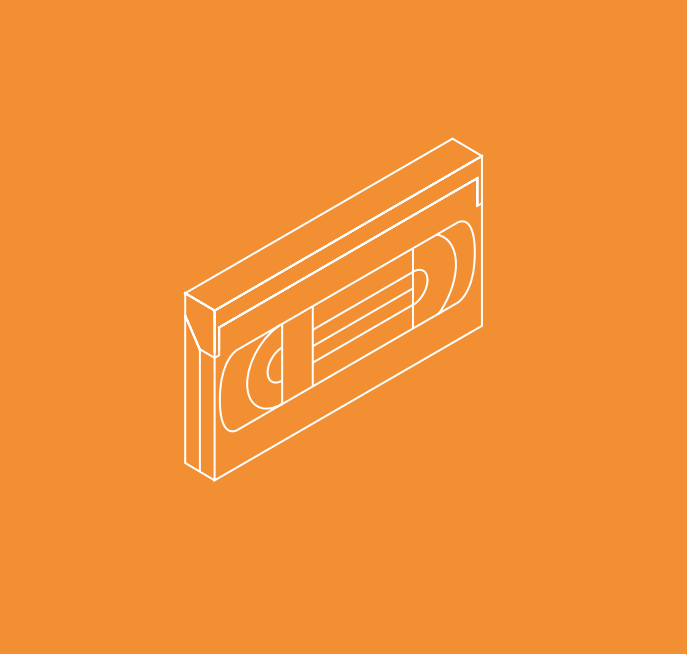
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WHETHER IT BE ODEON BUS TOURS OR BIRMINGHAM 68, FLATPACK HAS ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN CONNECTING THE PAST WITH THE WORLD WE LIVE IN TODAY. NEW STRAND TIME MACHINE WILL PROVIDE A FOCUS FOR THIS, FROM COMMUNITY VIDEO ARCHAEOLOGY TO SPARKLING NEW FEATURE FILM RESTORATIONS.



TRADE UNION RESOURCE CENTRE
+ KAMARA PRODUCTIONS

From the early 1980s TURC acted as a production company and print studio for the trade unions, supported by the local council to train budding filmmakers and make campaigning work about employment rights, identity and immigration which still resonates today. Marian Hall, a vital cog in Birmingham's film scene for many years, will talk about her work at TURC and share some highlights. Also joining us will be Sue Brown and Tina Hamilton, who ran Kamara Productions in Handsworth during the 1990s and made a range of work on cultural and political subjects.



MACE curators Sue Winn and Phil Leach will be screening highlights from other community video collections currently being catalogued through their Rewind Playback project, including unseen materials from Black Country-based Jubilee Arts. While at MAC do check out **Handsworth Self-Portrait** in the main gallery (p.53). This event is supported by the BFI's Film Hub Midlands and Film Hub North and MACE's Rewind Playback project is funded by The National Archives and the Pilgrim Trust.

TIME MACHINE

VIDEO TALES

Saturday 4 May, 11:00 - 15:30
MAC Hexagon • £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

The obsolescence of the videotape format means that they are an urgent priority for archives, and in some cases these videotapes contain voices that you wouldn't have heard anywhere else. The community video movement which exploded during the 70s and 80s offered an expressive outlet for groups that were often marginalised by mainstream broadcasters.

The Media Archive for Central England (MACE) are cataloguing and digitising a range of videotape collections from across the Midlands and today's event is a chance to see rarely-screened material and hear the inspiring stories behind it. Curators from MACE will also be hosting a Roadshow and will be on hand to give advice on storing, looking after or depositing your own video (and film) collections in the archive. Other sessions will include...

ORIENTAL STAR AGENCIES

In 2017 Oriental Star's shop in Balsall Heath closed, marking the end of nearly fifty decades of trading. As well as a record shop OSA acted as a booking agency, bringing some of Asia's biggest stars to the UK including qawwali singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, whose first performance outside Pakistan was at the Luxor in Balsall Heath forty years ago. Artist Faisal Hussain (True Form Projects) has taken on a sizeable portion of the OSA archive, from concert videos to camcorders, and today will be exploring the story it tells us about diasporic culture.

BRING OUT YOUR TAPES!

TAPE BAKE WILL BE IN RESIDENCE AT MAC THROUGHOUT THE DAY, CONVERTING OLD HOME MOVIES FROM VIDEO TO DIGITAL FILES. BRING ALONG YOUR VHS, HI8 OR MINIDV TAPES AND A USB STICK SO YOU CAN TAKE AWAY THE FILES.

EVENTS



LOVING COUPLES + RICHARD DYER IN CONVERSATION

Thursday 2 May, 18:30 - 21:15

MAC • £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Mai Zetterling, Sweden 1964, 118 mins
It is fifty years since Richard Dyer first arrived in Birmingham, embarking on an MA at the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies. His experiences at CCCS and with the Gay Liberation Front would prove crucial to his subsequent work as an academic, developing influential ideas around whiteness, stars and queer identity. Dyer is back to reflect on this journey with Jose Arroyo (University of Warwick), followed by a rare screening of Mai Zetterling's debut film *Loving Couples* - first experienced by our guest at the Birmingham Arts Lab, and a landmark exploration of female sexuality. Presented in association with SHOUT Festival.



OH DEAR VIDEO DIARY

Friday 3 May, 20:00 - 21:30

Flatpack Hub • £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

For the last few months we've been asking you to explore your attics and seek out those old videos you made when you were a teenager; you know the ones - the remake of Titanic where you play Rose and your brother plays Jack, or those episodes of Heartbreak High you 'reinterpreted' and then forgot about. Well some of you were prepared to admit such things exist, and amazingly some of you were even happy to share them with an audience! We salute you, and we'll be laughing along with you on the night. Compering this evening's nostalgia trip is Richard Soames whose show Let's Make a Movie (see p.11) was the inspiration for this event. Co-presented by Oh Dear Diary.



INVISIBLE WOMEN

Saturday 4 May, 16:00 - 17:30

MAC Hexagon • £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Newcastle/Mexico City-based archive activists Invisible Women seek out and champion the work of female filmmakers who have been overlooked, un-credited or left out of the history of cinema. By drawing attention to fascinating films and the forgotten stories behind them, we aim to reinsert female voices into the canon. For Flatpack 2019 Invisible Women present a new programme of boundary-pushing animation spanning the 20th century. From art school experimentation to feminist workshops, these shorts reveal a revolutionary vein of playful, subversive filmmaking using this most versatile of forms to interrogate gender politics, sexual identity and social dynamics. Full programme details online. Image from *Interview* (dir: Caroline Leaf & Veronika Soul, 1979) courtesy of the National Film Board of Canada.



BIRMINGHAM 68 REVISITED

Saturday 4 May, 18:00 - 19:30

MAC Hexagon • £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

If you came along to last year's festival you may remember an exhibition of Richard Rogers' photographs, an in-depth study which followed young couple Frank and Val Cook from Ladywood back-to-backs to the MAC and on to London. We've since discovered that Frank and Val are now living in France, and we're happy to welcome them back to Birmingham to talk about this pivotal (and extremely well-documented!) moment in their lives. Another treasure which came to light during our 1968 investigations is a reel of ATV footage from a Victoria Square protest held in the wake of Enoch Powell's 'Rivers of Blood' speech. The march organiser was Avtar Singh Jouhl of the Indian Worker's Association, and he will also be joining us to introduce the film. Birmingham 68 is a Flatpack research project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, culminating in a book which we will launch in summer 2019.

SCREENINGS



BURDEN OF DREAMS

Wednesday 1 May, 18:00 - 20:00

The Mockingbird • £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Les Blank, USA 1982, 95 mins
In 1981, Les Blank was commissioned to chronicle the notorious and near disastrous filming process for Werner Herzog's Amazon epic *Fitzcarraldo*. The result is a captivating, darkly comic portrait of obsession and a project riddled with obstacles including, and not limited to, loss of the original star, moving a 320 tonne ship over a small mountain without special effects, an indigenous border war and actual deaths. Chosen by Hew Locke to complement his current Ikon exhibition (p.5), and showing on 16mm with Blank's short *Werner Herzog Eats His Shoe* (1980).



BLACK MOON

Thursday 2 May, 15:45 - 17:30

The Electric • £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Louis Malle, France / West Germany 1975, 95 mins
By way of warm-up for her solo performance at the Glee Club this evening (p.10), Josephine Foster has selected a film which thrums with the same untamed energy you can find in her music. Made in the wake of his acclaimed war drama *Lacombe, Lucien*, Louis Malle pulled an abrupt U-turn with *Black Moon*, a surreal fever dream shot at his house in the Dordogne. Rex Harrison's granddaughter Cathryn is an Alice-like figure exploring a realm of unicorns, talking rats and psychosexual intrigue, against the backdrop of an apocalyptic near-future where men and women are at war. Barmy and beguiling.



TRAVELLING WITH CHAPLIN

Sunday 5 May, 17:00 - 19:00

MAC • £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Charlie Chaplin, USA 1921, 68 mins
Filmmaker Surjit Simplay has been a Charlie Chaplin fan since she was a kid, and when evidence emerged that Chaplin was born in a caravan in Smethwick's Black Patch Park, cogs began to turn. The result was *Gypsy Boy*, a short film she made in the park itself with Chaplin's son Michael in the lead role. As well as sharing her film today, Simplay will be exploring the historic importance of the park for the traveller community with special guests Ron Collins (Chair, Friends of Black Patch Park) and John Loveridge, a descendant of Queen Henty who owned the caravan in question. The event will close with a screening of Chaplin's 1921 breakthrough classic *The Kid*. Presented in association with Screen Central.

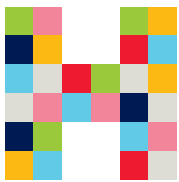


BOMBIN' + Q&A

Sunday 5 May, 19:30 - 21:00

The Mockingbird • £ 5.00

Dir: Dick Fontaine, UK 1987, 60 mins
This is arguably the first documentary about the UK hip hop scene, and massively influential when it first screened on Channel 4. Amongst the beats, breaking and bombing you can find fresh-faced tracksuited youths including Goldie and Massive Attack's 3D working on a spray-can mural in Manzoni Gardens. This screening is presented in partnership with B-Side Hip Hop Festival, and will be followed by a Q&A with Hanifa McQueen Hudson - aka B-Girl Bubbles - who features in the film. 1985 image of Goldie in Manzoni Gardens courtesy of Martin Jones.



REMODELLING THE HAPPINESS MACHINE

Sunday 5 May, 16:30 - 18:00

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire • £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Dir: Various, 60 mins
Following on from Fizzle's all female lineup (see p.17), this selection of shorts continues to celebrate female creativity with a programme of films that saw 10 animators collaborating with 10 composers from across Europe. The starting point for the commissioned works was Austrian economist Christian Felber's theory 'The Economy for the Common Good'. The films delve into the subject in varied ways, and ultimately animate a conversation about the future of the world. The films screening include *Bloomers* by Samantha Moore made with Swedish composer Malin Bång, and *The Flounder* by Elizabeth Hobbs, made with German composer Carola Bauckholt. Following the screening, there will be a discussion about the collaborative process and the themes of the films.



SHORTS & HOPS

Sunday 5 May, 16:00 - 18:00

Kilder • See website for price info

Dir: Various, 60 mins
What better way to celebrate the end of Flatpack 2019 and the fact that you don't have work tomorrow than a short film / craft beer pairing? The kind folks over at Kilder are joining forces with our shorts programmers to offer a menu of specially matched short films and craft beers to round off your Flatpack with an afternoon of synaesthetic, cinematic bliss (try saying that five times fast after a few).

FEATURES TEND TO GET ALL THE GLORY AND KUDOS, BUT THE SHORT FILM WORLD REMAINS A RELIABLE SOURCE OF NEW TALENT AND HEAD-SCRATCHING MOMENTS OF WONDER. WE'VE ALSO FINALLY REALISED A LONG-HELD AMBITION AND DEVELOPED A TASTING MENU OF BEERS AND SHORTS. PROST!

SHORTS



PICK'N'MIX

Wednesday 1 May, 18:00 - 19:30

Flatpack Hub • Free

Dir: Various, 80 mins
We're kicking things off in our festival hub on Wednesday evening with this non-competition screening, gathering some of the best short films we've received this year. On the menu: heart-felt documentaries and animated treats, including the story of a 106-year-old serial record breaker, an eye-opening visit to The Coffin Works in the Jewellery Quarter, the portrait of East-London artist and photographer PNK MOON, and the winner of this year's BAFTA for Best British Short Film, 73 Cows.



LONGER SHORTS



SNOWY BING BONGS ACROSS THE NORTH STAR COMBAT ZONE + THE PASSAGE

Saturday 4 May, 15:00 - 16:05

Flatpack Hub · Free

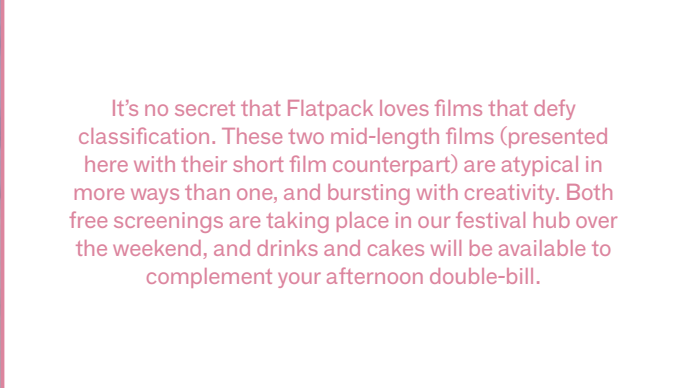
Tallie Medel, Sunita Mani and Eleanore Pienta are the three creative minds behind Cocoon Central Dance Team. Known on the New York comedy scene for their silly and joyous performances, they have turned their show into a 40-minute film, combining grotesque dance routines, satirical sketches and psychedelic costumes to create a musical of a very different kind. The film will be preceded by another lesson in absurd comedy, *The Passage*, written by and starring Phil Burgers (aka Doctor Brown).

THE PASSAGE

Dir: Kitao Sakurai (USA 2018, 22 mins)

SNOWY BING BONGS ACROSS THE NORTH STAR COMBAT ZONE

Dir: Alex Huston Fischer & Rachel Wolther (USA 2017, 40 mins)



It's no secret that Flatpack loves films that defy classification. These two mid-length films (presented here with their short film counterpart) are atypical in more ways than one, and bursting with creativity. Both free screenings are taking place in our festival hub over the weekend, and drinks and cakes will be available to complement your afternoon double-bill.



THIS MAGNIFICENT CAKE! + OH WILLY...

Sunday 5 May, 15:00 - 16:05

Flatpack Hub · Free

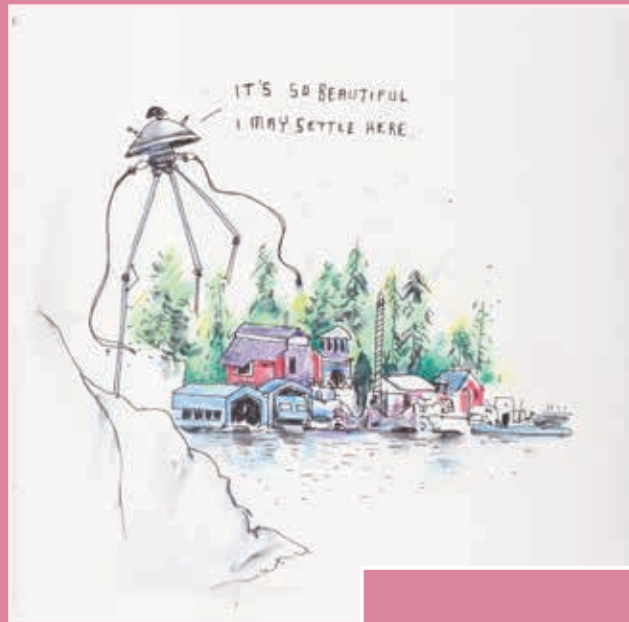
Emma De Swaef and Marc James Roels, the brilliant Belgian duo behind the short film *Oh Willy...* (one of our all-time favourites, screening as a preamble) are back this year with an even more ambitious work: *This Magnificent Cake!* This 45-minute stop-motion anthology film follows five characters in 19th century colonial Africa. A study of power that confronts Europe with its taboos and contradictions, the film is also a dark comedy and a surreal reverie, masterfully written and crafted.

OH WILLY...

Dir: Emma De Swaef & Marc Roels
(Belgium / France / Netherlands 2012, 17 mins)

THIS MAGNIFICENT CAKE!

Dir: Emma De Swaef & Marc Roels
(Belgium / France / Netherlands 2018, 45 mins)



BERMINGHAM: THE (NOT ENTIRELY) TRUE STORY OF A MISSPELT CITY

see p.11 for details

GREG MCLEOD

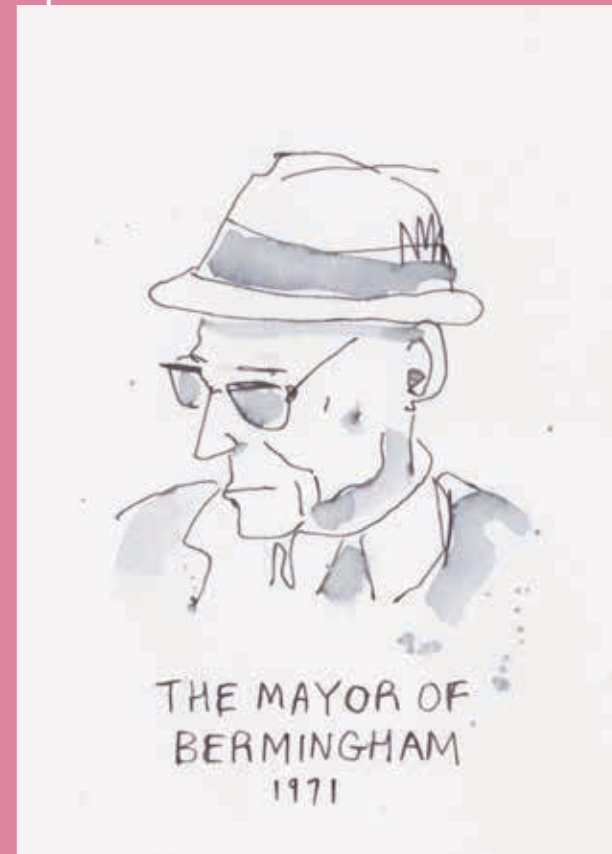
In the constellation of artists that Flatpack has followed over the years, local boy Greg McLeod holds a special place. As half of the animation studio The Brothers McLeod, he's directed and produced with his brother Myles an impressive run of shorts, five of which have screened at the festival over the years.

Their latest, *Marfa*, had its world premiere at Sundance, followed by over thirty selections at festivals around the world – a notable achievement that recently culminated with a BAFTA nomination for Best British Short animation.

A year after receiving our WTF award for this film, Greg is back at Flatpack to designate his successor, having accepted to step through the looking glass and sit on the jury of our short film competition.

But that is not the only thing bringing him here in May. *Birmingham: The (not entirely) True Story of a Misspelt City* is an ambitious project, both exhibition and animation film, for which he's making a thousand drawings of the city, depicting its iconic buildings and familiar street corners, in a series of mislabelled sketches that play on the viewer's sense of familiarity... This new creation draws on the animator and illustrator's taste for challenge, sense of observation and unique, interpretive perspective, already at work in his short films.

The exhibition is on for the duration of the festival at Centrala. Pop in throughout the week and get lost in the streets of Birmingham, and appreciate the prolific creativity of your guide (see p.11).



SHORTS COMPETITION

WITH ITS SIX PROGRAMMES SCREENING OVER FOUR DAYS, THE SHORT FILM COMPETITION CELEBRATES INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS, BRINGS TO LIGHT EMERGING TALENTS AND GIVES PRIDE OF PLACE TO BOLD AND ORIGINAL VOICES. WE’RE BACK AT THE MOCKINGBIRD THIS YEAR, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME WE’LL BE REPEATING SCREENINGS: MORE CHANCES FOR YOU TO CATCH THE 49 WONDERFUL FILMS IN THE SELECTION.

SEE ALL SIX COMPETITION PROGRAMMES FOR £ 35.00 / £ 30.00 WITH THE SHORT FILM PASS, AVAILABLE ONLINE.



AWARDS SCREENING

Saturday 4 May, 19:00 - 20:00

Flatpack Hub · Free

Find out who will go home with one of our famous allen key trophies (designed by The Dual Works) and join us in our hub for a special award winners screening, the perfect warm up before the 90s party (see p.49)

BEST SHORT & WTF AWARDS JURY



EMILIA MAZIK

Emilia Mazik is a project coordinator at Ad Arte Foundation of Cultural Education in Poznan, Poland. In 2019 she became Festival Director of Short Waves Festival, whose 12th edition will take in Poznan in March 2020.



GREG MCLEOD

Greg is an award winning animator, director and illustrator. As half of animation studio The Brothers McLeod, Greg has worked with companies such as Aardman, Disney, BBC and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

JURY

OPTICAL SOUND AWARD JURY



BOBBIE-JANE GARDNER

Bobbie is a composer, pianist, arranger, producer and music leader, based in Birmingham.



JANI LEHTO

Jani is a composer and sound designer from Finland. He has worked on award-winning short films including *Sore Eyes for Infinity*, selected at over 80 festivals in 2016.

WHERE I BELONG

Wednesday 1 May, 20:30 - 21:50

Thursday 2 May, 15:30 - 16:50

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

If you want to know what has been happening in the animation world over the past few months, this programme is a good place to start. Award winning films (including *Roughhouse*, which recently won the BAFTA for Best British Short Animation, and *Bloeistraat 11*, winner of the Cristal in Annecy) stand alongside festival hits. With their powerful narratives, these sensitive films talk about the relationships that shape us - some of which we need to let go in order to grow up. Family issues, fond childhood memories and bitter betrayals of friendship are on the menu, served by the crème de la crème of international animators.



ROUGHHOUSE

Dir: Jonathan Hodgson
(UK / France 2018, 15 mins)

CAT DAYS

Dir: Jon Frickey
(Germany / Japan 2018, 11 mins)

MOM’S CLOTHES*

Dir: Jordan Wong (US 2018, 5 mins)

SISTER

Dir: Siqi Song (China / US 2018, 8 mins)

FACING IT

Dir: Sam Gainsborough
(UK 2018, 8 mins)

BLOEISTRAAT 11

Dir: Nienke Deutz
(Belgium / Netherlands 2018, 10 mins)

EMBERS*

Dir: Estelle Gattlen & Sarah Rothenberger
(Switzerland, 2018, 7 mins)

I’M GOING OUT FOR CIGARETTES

Dir: Osman Cerfon
(France 2018, 14 mins)

*UK premieres

STRANGE BIRDS

Thursday 2 May, 18:00 - 19:30

Friday 3 May, 13:30 - 15:00

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

These documentaries with a twist offer a reflection on people’s natural habitats and curious habits. The result? A programme bursting with very human comedy that leaves the spectator both amused and perplexed. *All Inclusive*, a surreal immersion on a cruise ship, doesn’t need words to make its point about mass tourism. On the other side of the planet, *The Traffic Separating Device* causes chaos in the streets of a Swedish city, to the delight of passers-by. *Shooting Star* challenges the viewer to interpret the meaning of a strange gathering on the streets of Berlin, while *Nobu* is the heartwarming tale of a Japanese man who flew to the Netherlands on a whim, never to look back.



ALL INCLUSIVE

Dir: Corina Schwingruber Illic
(Switzerland 2018, 10 mins)

JUST AGREE THEN

Dir: Duncan Cowles & Ross Hogg
(UK 2018, 9 mins)

THE TRAFFIC SEPARATING DEVICE

Dir: Johan Palmgren
(Sweden 2018, 14 mins)

EREBETA*

Dir: François Vogel (France 2018, 4 mins)

WINNERS BITCH

Dir: Sam Gurry (US 2018, 7 mins)

IT’S GOING TO BE BEAUTIFUL*

Dir: Luis Gutierrez Arias, John Henry Theisen (US / Mexico 2018, 9 mins)

LIFE IN MINIATURE

Dir: Ellen Evans (UK 2018, 5 mins)

SHOOTING STAR*

Dir: Magdalena Jaroszewicz
(Germany / Poland 2019, 17 mins)

NOBU*

Dir: Sarah Blok
(Netherlands 2018, 9 mins)

*UK premieres

SOMETHING HAPPENED

Thursday 2 May, 20:00 - 21:25

Friday 3 May, 16:00 - 17:25

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

These intimate stories hold a mirror up to the world we live in, and what at first look like very personal accounts ultimately open to wider issues. Flatpack regular Charlie Lyne, in his newest piece *Lasting Marks*, looks back on an old scandal; giving a voice to men put on trial for sadomasochism in 80s Britain. Set against the backdrop of Mexico’s macho culture, *Shout at Me! (Me vas a gritar?)* documents the routine of student and Lucha Libre wrestler Melissa. In these films, as in the haunting filmic essay *Hearths* and the experimental documentary *The Ghost Behind*, the violence remains offscreen, but the sense of an impending threat surreptitiously infiltrates the programme.



THE LAST DAY OF THE EMPIRE

Dir: Julia Halász & Anna Rubi
(Hungary 2017, 13 mins)

THE GHOST BEHIND*

Dir: Caroline Rumley
(US 2018, 12 mins)

LASTING MARKS

Dir: Charlie Lyne
(UK 2018, 15 mins)

FORECLOSED HOME MOVIE*

Dir: Lisa Danker(US 2018, 8 mins)

SHOUT AT ME!*

Dir: Laura Herrero Garvin
(Mexico 2018, 12 mins)

HEARTHS*

Dir: Paul Heintz
(France 2018, 18 mins)

*UK premieres

METAMORPHOSIS

Friday 3 May, 18:00 - 19:45

Saturday 4 May, 10:00 - 11:20

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Animation is by nature the art of the metamorphosis, of turning an image into another to create a world out of nothing. This idea is used to its full potential in these twelve films which play with forms, shapes and movements, for a mesmerising result. Two years after presenting *Rhizome* at Flatpack, Boris Labbé is back with *The Fall*, an epic work inspired by Bosch and Dante. Michael Frei (*Plug and Play*) presents the UK premiere of *Kids*, conceived as a film and a video game (come and try it in the hub!). Also screening for the first time in the UK is *Still Lives* by Elli Vuorinen, who will be sharing her influences at Dots & Loops on Thursday night (see p.19).

GRANDS CANONS

Dir: Alain Biet
(France 2018, 11 mins)

KIDS*

Dir: Michael Frei
(Switzerland 2019, 9 mins)

FEST

Dir: Nikita Diakur
(Germany 2018, 3 mins)

HERE*

Dir: Loïc Kreyden
(Switzerland 2018, 4 mins)

BLESS YOU!

Dir: Paulina Ziolkowska
(Poland 2018, 5 mins)

STILL LIVES*

Dir: Elli Vuorinen
(Finland 2019, 6 mins)

TAMED*

Dir: Ekaterina Mikheeva
(Russia 2018, 4 mins)

A TABLE GAME*

Dir: Nicolás Petelski Meson
(Spain / Estonia 2017, 4 mins)

MEDIUM RARE

Dir: Luca Cioci
(Italy 2018, 5 mins)

HEART CHAKRA

Dir: Angela Stempel
(US 2017, 7 mins)

HEDGE*

Dir: Amanda Bonaiuto
(US 2018, 6 mins)

THE FALL

Dir: Boris Labbé
(France 2018, 14 mins)

*UK premieres

UNDER YOUR SPELL

Friday 3 May, 20:15 - 21:40

Saturday 4 May, 12:00 - 13:20

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Strange phenomena and obscure forces take over this programme, summoning witches and ghosts and putting the spotlight on powerful women, both behind and in front of the camera. Coming from Sweden is the all-female dance group Juck, empowering crowds with their signature moves and unapologetic attitude. Gabriel Harel pays a mischievous homage to Romero in his *Night of the Plastic Bags*, a multi-layered tale of love in a time of ecological apocalypse which makes its UK debut at Flatpack. In *Little Lower than the Angels*, Neozone delve once more into the wonderful and terrifying realm of YouTube to expose the radical face of American Christianity.



JUCK

Dir: Olivia Kastebring, Julia Gumpert & Ulrika Bandeira (Sweden 2018, 17 mins)

GOOD INTENTIONS

Dir: Anna Mantzaris
(UK 2018, 9 mins)

HALF ASLEEP

Dir: Caibei Cai
(UK 2018, 5 mins)

LA RIVIÈRE TANIER*

Dir: June Balthazard
(France 2017, 17 mins)

LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS*

Dir: Neozone
(Germany 2019, 13 mins)

THE NIGHT OF THE PLASTIC BAGS*

Dir: Gabriel Harel
(France 2018, 18 mins)

*UK premieres

SOUND BITE

Saturday 4 May, 14:00 - 15:30

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Our annual roundup of phonic-themed short films approaches the subject of audio and music in multifaceted ways. Some are straight-up promos like the mind-warping *Faceshopping* by SOPHIE, while others such as *Arr. for a Scene* explore the world of Foley. The locally-made *Resonance* is a documentary about artists' connections with audio, and *Getting in a Van Again* is the tale of an 'emotional engineer' helping to create the perfect music track. All of the films in this selection are eligible for the Optical Sound Short Film Award which will be awarded on Saturday evening (see p.34). Please note that this screening contains flashing imagery.



ARR. FOR A SCENE

Dir: Jonna Kina (Finland 2017, 5 mins)

RESONANCE

Dir: Joe Georgiou (UK 2018, 6 mins)

FLAME

Dir: Sami van Ingen
(Finland 2018, 15 mins)

FRAGMENTS*

Dir: Neozone
(France / Germany 2019, 4 mins)

SOUNDS GOOD

Dir: Sander Joon (Estonia 2018, 11 mins)

FACESHOPPING

Dir: Aaron Chan & SOPHIE
(US 2018, 2018 mins)

BIRD MILK

Dir: Christopher Strickler
(Canada 2018, 4 mins)

DON'T KNOW WHAT*

Dir: Thomas Renoldner
(Austria 2018, 8 mins)

GETTING IN A VAN AGAIN

Dir: Jonny Look (US 2018, 12 mins)

*UK premieres

THE JACKSONS

BURT BACHARACH

THE BRAND NEW HEAVIES

KHRUANGBIN

CRAIG BRIAN IBIBIO

CHARLES JACKSON SOUND MACHINE

JP BIMENI & THE BLACK BELTS

JURASSIC 5^s SOUP PRESENTS THE FULLEE LOVE COLLECTIVE

OSCAR RENEGADE SMOOVE &

JEROME BRASS BAND TURRELL

NEUE GRAFIK ISHMAEL JAMES TINA

ENSEMBLE ENSEMBLE & BLACK EDWARDS

DAYTONER THE ATLANTIC PLAYERS NECKTR SAM REDMORE
NOTEBENDERS BIG COMMUNITY BAND DELTA AUTUMN: MULTIPLAYER MODE
ODD SOUL YOUNG PILGRIMS BOCA 45 PONYLAND NICK CORBIN ALICE AVER
ASHLEY ALLEN QUINTET FORJ JAZZLINES ENSEMBLE CAROL BREWSTER BAND AADAE

MOSELEY PARK – BIRMINGHAM

12TH–14TH JULY 2019

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AS ALWAYS, OUR CANTER THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL FILM SCENE IS NOTHING IF NOT ECLECTIC, FROM ICELANDIC ECO-WARRIORS AND LENINGRAD PUNKS TO SCOTTISH RAVERS AND HAUNTED DRESSES. FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR'S SCREENING PROGRAMME ALSO INCLUDES A SURPRISE FILM, AND IT'S QUITE A TRIP...

FEATURES



WOMAN AT WAR

Thursday 2 May, 18:15 - 20:05

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Benedikt Erlingsson, Iceland / France / Ukraine 2018, 101 mins
Choirmaster by day, Halla spends her free time fighting the aluminium industry that pollutes Iceland. Armed with her bow and her determination, she brings down power lines one by one until one day she finds her crusade jeopardised by some life-changing news. This second feature by Benedikt Erlingsson (*Of Horses and Men*) is a clever environmentalist fable; mixing comedy with suspense to paint the portrait of a strong and compelling middle-aged female character (the kind we would like to see more of on the big screen). A generous crowd-pleaser with substance and style – what more could you ask for?



DIAMANTINO

Thursday 2 May, 20:30 - 22:10

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Gabriel Abrantes & Daniel Schmidt, Portugal 2018, 95 mins
Diamantino is a simple-minded and big-hearted football star, the pride of his family and his country. The day he realises there is a world beyond the pitch, the self-obsessed prodigy loses his magic, fails to score during a crucial match and incurs the wrath of his greedy twin sisters. It's hard to describe such an unclassifiable debut, one that borrows from fairy tales as well as sci-fi, while tackling subjects as varied as the entertainment industry and the cult of celebrity, nationalism and Europe's political crisis... not forgetting cloning and gender fluidity! Never preachy, always playful, this satirical comedy is a tour de force in which grotesque comes close to sublime.



SUMMER

Friday 3 May, 20:30 - 22:40

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Kirill Serebrennikov, Russia 2018, 126 mins
Summer is Kirill Serebrennikov's ode to youth, change, and the underground rock scene of pre-perestroika Leningrad. This stylised, partly fictionalised biopic documents the emergence of Viktor Tsoi (frontman of 80s rock group Kino), as well as the love triangle budding between him, mentor Mike Nauhenko and his girlfriend Natasha. The three of them attempt to navigate romantic complexity while also finding ingenious ways to work around Soviet censorship, to a soundtrack which features staples like Bowie, T Rex and Iggy Pop as well as homegrown post-punk. A wry, wistful reverie of skinny-dipping, camaraderie and rock and roll.



ROJO

Friday 3 May, 22:15 - 00:10

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Benjamin Naishtat, Argentina 2018, 109 mins
A chance encounter with a random man in a restaurant is the catalyst for respected lawyer Claudio to get himself mixed up in a web of bad decisions. And when a Columbo-esque Z-list celebrity detective comes into town to get to the bottom of a missing person case, Claudio finds himself under increasing scrutiny which has the potential to end disastrously. This 70s set tragicomic noir-like thriller is a compelling trip, full of intensity, superb performances (notably Dario Grandinetti and Alfredo Castro), and gorgeous cinematography (thanks to Brazilian cinematographer, Pedro Sotero).



EIGHTH GRADE

Saturday 4 May, 16:00 - 17:40

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Bo Burnham, USA 2018, 93 mins
It turns out that eighth grade is still the worst, but what sets Burnham's first film apart from the myriad of coming-of-age cringe-fests is its low-key, lived-in attitude towards teen insecurity. Gone are the melodramatic tropes of cafeteria cruelty, mean girls and humiliation and in their place lies an examination of social media as a contradictory weapon against shyness and loneliness. By depicting an audience of peers that are far too self-absorbed to be proactively cruel or even notice each other, this comedy finds its laughs in the familiar and real paradox of teenage social politics.

BIRDS OF PASSAGE

Saturday 4 May, 18:15 - 20:25

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Cristina Gallego & Ciro Guerra, Colombia / Mexico 2018, 125 mins
A beautifully crafted, thoroughly original narcos epic, *Birds of Passage* charts the rise of the Colombian drug trade through the lives and traditions of the Wayuu people. Every bit as mesmerizing as Guerra's last offering *Embrace of the Serpent*, the films' five chapters begin with matrimony and end in massacre, and the road between is paved with greed and double-crossing, resulting in glory and ruin for one man and his family.



BEATS

Saturday 4 May, 18:45 - 20:30

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Brian Welsh, UK 2019, 96 mins
Livingston, 1994. Long-term pals Spanner and Johnno are planning one last weekend of fun at an illegal rave before Johnno moves away, but when the police crack down on the party things get more than complicated... A universal story of friendship and rebellion set against the backdrop of the Criminal Justice Act and blessed with a joyous, hands-in-the-air soundtrack, *Beats* has the potential to become a Scottish classic in the vein of *Trainspotting*. Followed by a 90s party in the Flatpack hub (see p.49).

IN FABRIC

Saturday 4 May, 21:00 - 23:05

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Peter Strickland, UK 2018, 118 mins
Sheila (Marianne Jean-Baptiste) is at her local department store, on the hunt for something special. Her new red dress is soon working its own particular magic, perhaps connected with the late-night rituals performed by the shop's staff... Riffing on *giallo* and Eurotrash like his previous *The Duke of Burgundy*, Peter Strickland's new oddity is funny, unsettling and deeply sensual. You will never shop in quite the same way again.

PIG

Saturday 4 May, 21:00 - 22:55

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Mani Haghighi, Iran 2018, 108 mins
After fellow filmmakers are bumped off one by one a blacklisted Iranian director wonders why a serial killer isn't after him. Censored for months, dropped by his favourite actress, and reduced to directing ads for bug spray, he is on the verge of a breakdown but there is a way to get back into the limelight: "I'd be respected if he killed me." Mani Haghighi's bonkers black comedy is a gripping satire on the quest for fame and glory at any cost.



THE WOLF HOUSE

Sunday 5 May, 17:45 - 19:05

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Joaquín Cociña & Cristóbal León, Chile / Germany 2018, 73 mins
A young girl is exiled from a remote community in Patagonia and sets up home with two pigs who gradually morph into her human children, Pedro and Ana. All the while a mysterious wolf is making his presence felt outside the door... Continually shifting and unravelling, this debut feature from a Chilean animation collective recalls the work of Svankmajer and Lynch while conjuring up its own poetic, nightmarish world.

FLATPACK 2019 SURPRISE FILM

Sunday 5 May, 18:00 - 20:00

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00



For the first time this year's festival lineup includes a surprise film, an exclusive chance to catch a new feature before it arrives in UK cinemas. The Flatpack programming team is sworn to secrecy so don't try and extract any clues, but trust us - this is a mind-bending ride which you won't want to miss.

NARCISSISTER



NARCISSISTER ORGAN PLAYER

Friday 3 May, 18:00 - 19:40

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

*Dir: Narcissister,
US 2018, 91 mins*



"Why my body, why erotics, why the mask?"

Against the backdrop of her colourful performances, acclaimed mixed media and performance artist, Narcissister, reflects upon the impact her mother's life, illness and death has had on her work in *Narcissister Organ Player*, an intimate scrapbook of a documentary. Through pointed and provocative set pieces, animation and calming, heartfelt home videos, the masked artist keeps her face under its shroud and yet bares her soul, tangling her identity with that of her mother and producing her most emotionally vulnerable work yet.

Freed by the versatility and anonymity of the mask, Narcissister has been pushing boundaries and avoiding labels for many years. Some may be unfamiliar with her work outside of her viral audition on America's Got Talent and outing with Marilyn Manson in 2011, yet many will recognise this name from within the experimental art scene for her spectacle-rich approach to explorations of gender, racial identity, and sexuality. Referred to by The New York Times as 'avant-porn' her shows are both extremely exhibitionist but also slyly anonymous, using her body as a vessel to perform a reverse strip-tease yet denying the audience the resolution of seeing her face. By donning the mask and splicing the words 'Narcissist' and 'Sister', her act toys with identity and the act of representation as well as connoting sisterhood and concerns beyond the self.

We are delighted to present the UK premiere of *Narcissister Organ Player* in partnership with Fierce Festival, who had the pleasure of showing her work to Birmingham audiences back in 2014. For the already converted, this film delicately opens a window into the life (and lives) that inspired the art. For newcomers, a gentle and captivating introduction to an already fascinating performer.



SHUT UP AND PLAY THE PIANO

Saturday 4 May, 16:30 - 18:00

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Philipp Jedicke, Germany / UK / France 2018, 82 mins
Welcome to the world of Chilly Gonzales. From Canada to Berlin to Paris, this career-spanning documentary follows the Grammy-winning, genre-juggling provocateur through his playful tale of outrageous underground punk rap, mesmeric piano in the greatest philharmonic halls and collaborations with the likes of Jarvis Cocker, Daft Punk and Drake. Blurring fact with fiction and bursting with swagger and attitude, Philipp Jedicke's film is just as over-the-top and eccentric as the self-proclaimed musical genius himself. A brilliantly preposterous ride.



DOOZY + Q&A

Saturday 4 May, 18:00 - 19:45

VIVID Projects · £ 7.00 / £ 4.00

Dir: Richard Squires, UK 2018, 70 mins
What makes a villain?...

Older viewers will be familiar with the Hanna-Barbera cartoon *The Perils of Penelope Pitstop*, in which the eponymous heroine endured the nefarious schemes of moustache-twirling baddie the Hooded Claw. Richard Squire's debut feature *Doozy* uses animated antihero Clovis to reenact the career of Paul Lynde - the snarky, unforgettable voice behind said villain. Through a mixture of original animation and live action, this experimental doc explores the relationship between villainy and sexual ambiguity, actor and character. Followed by a Q&A with the director. Presented in partnership with VIVID Projects.

ALTHOUGH YOU MIGHT BE FORGIVEN FOR IMMERSING YOURSELF IN FANTASY GIVEN THE CURRENT STATE OF THINGS, THIS EXCELLENT CROP OF NON-FICTION OFFERS A STRONG CASE FOR DOCUMENTARY AS A TOOL FOR MAKING SENSE OF THE WORLD. FROM SUNKEN ISLANDS TO ECCENTRIC PIANISTS, ALL HUMAN LIFE IS HERE.

DOCS



ENOUGH WITH CATCALLING

Sunday 5 May, 11:00 - 13:00

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Fernanda Frazão, Amanda Kamanchek & Lucas Kendy da Silva Kakuda, Brazil 2018, 90 mins

This powerful documentary (more poetically titled *Chega de Fiu Fiu* in Portuguese) originated in a crowd-funded campaign of the same name which encouraged Brazilian women to tag a map with their experiences of sexual harassment in public spaces. The response was phenomenal and the resulting film follows three women including skateboarding trans artist Rosa and nursing student Raquel through their daily commute, using hidden camera footage to show how urban planning and transport policy can help to compound a feeling of powerlessness and constant jeopardy. The screening will be followed by a Q&A exploring the issues raised by the film.



PRESENT.PERFECT.

Sunday 5 May, 13:00 - 15:10

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Zhu Shengze, US / Hong Kong 2019, 124 mins
A meditation on live-streaming's function of broadcasting the present and connecting the lives of Chinese people whose gender, physical ability, or financial status prevents them from doing so in real, offline life. Pieced together from over 800 hours of found footage, *Present.Perfect.* is a collage of showrooms and portraits of the netizens who use them to share moments that are banal, humorous, and at times uncomfortable. Zhu Shengze offers us a revealing insight into China's current political and socioeconomic landscape, tasking us to find meaning in this two hour snapshot of online exchanges.



THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN + Q&A

Sunday 5 May, 15:30 - 17:00

The Mockingbird · £ 7.00 / £ 4.00

Dir: Barney Snow, UK 2019, 60 mins
Tucked away in the woods is a labyrinthine junkyard wonderland known as the Hereford Alternative Arts Centre, boasting such delights as a kettle tree, a canoe hotel and a geodesic dome made of bed-frames. This is all the singular creation of Black Country visionary Paul 'Rick' Jones, a work-in-progress since 1974 and documented over the course of one summer by Barney Snow (at Flatpack 2014 with Mario Lanza beermat film *Some Day I'll Find You*). Knockabout and affectionate in equal measure, *The Glory of the Garden* also has an undertow of sadness - as Rick puts it, "unless you believe in magic, you'm on your own." This UK premiere will be followed by a Q&A with the director.



ANOTE'S ARK

Sunday 5 May, 13:30 - 14:55

The Mockingbird · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Matthieu Rytz, Canada 2018, 77 mins
"Kiribati is in the centre of the world... so isolated, we thought it would be immune from the tribulations of this world." What would you do if your home was on the brink of disappearing into the Pacific? Many of us couldn't even begin to fathom this question, yet the people of Kiribati must live with this encroaching reality everyday. The reality that their whole nation could vanish, not just a single home. Matthieu Rytz's documentary offers a window into what it's like to live on Kiribati, a low-lying atoll on the receiving end of climate change's most devastating effects.



MEETING GORBACHEV

Sunday 5 May, 15:40 - 17:20

The Electric · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Dir: Werner Herzog, UK / US / Germany 2018, 92 mins
Having tackled volcanoes, albino crocodiles and death-row in his recent documentary work, Werner Herzog finally meets his match in the form of the eighth and final leader of the Soviet Union. Suffering from poor health and well into his eighties, Mikhail Gorbachev remains a sharp operator and carefully undercuts Herzog's apocalyptic tendencies at every turn. What emerges instead is an engagingly tender portrait of a man who brought a unique blend of pragmatism and idealism to his premiership, and almost inadvertently helped to dismantle an empire.

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GRAND UNION

Cooking Sections
June – August

Ego Ahaiwe and
Rehana Zaman
September – December

Plus in various locations:

*Little by little
we arrive*

September – October

María Agustina
Fernández Raggio
Paola Monzillo
Joaquín Aras

Curated by
Louise Hobson

*American
Export*

October – December

Jen Liu
Hetain Patel
Emma Smith
Tito & Tita

Curated by
Christina Millare

Grand Union Gallery & Studios
19 Minerva Works, Fazeley Street
Birmingham B5 5RS

See website for all event details and
exhibition opening times:

grand-union.org.uk

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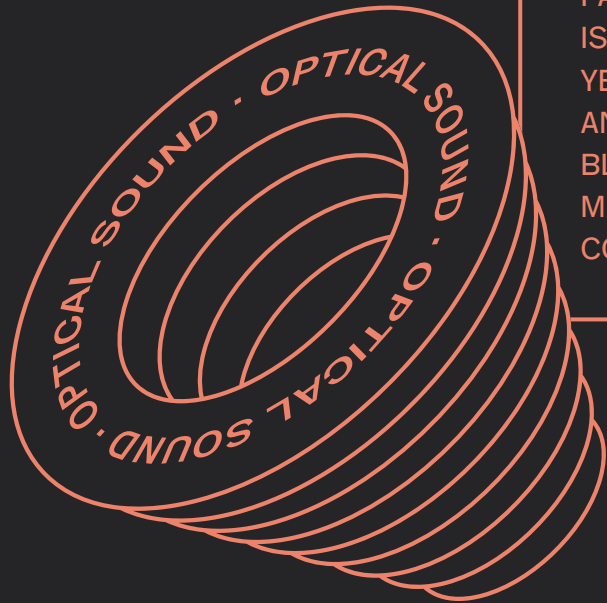
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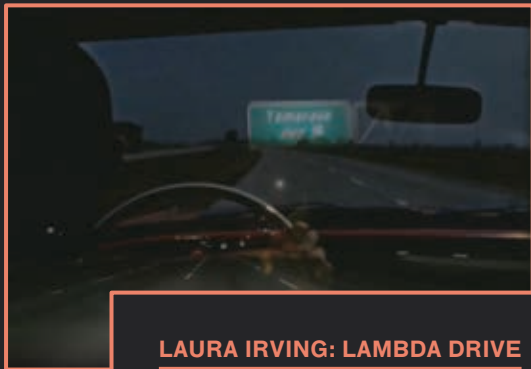
PART CINEMA AND PART MUSIC GIG, OPTICAL SOUND IS ALL ABOUT LIVE AUDIOVISUAL PERFORMANCE. THIS YEAR'S LINEUP SEES ARTISTS MIXING DIGITAL AND ANALOGUE TECHNOLOGIES TO CREATE A UNIQUE BLEND OF UNUSUAL SOUNDS AND IMAGES. EXPECT MICROSCOPIC CAMERAS, SEWING MACHINES, LASER CONTRAPTIONS AND SMOKE MACHINES.

LONE TAXIDERMIST: BODYVICE

Friday 3 May, 20:15 - 21:00

Centrala · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

This new hypermedia performance by Waveform artist Lone Taxidermist (aka Natalie Sharp) explores chronic pain, and investigates how it can be communicated through elements including sound art, wearable and playable body sculptures, interactive video and performance. Sharp's stellar support team includes flautist Tida Bradshaw, filmmaker Matt Watkins and sound artist Tara Pattenden (Phantom Chips) who has helped her to create a battery of electronic micro-controller "skinstruments". The sum of these (body) parts is a visceral, compelling whole.



LAURA IRVING: LAMBDA DRIVE

1 - 5 May · Flatpack Hub · Free

Parking up in our hub this year is Laura Irving's new interactive installation Lambda Drive. Strap in to the front seat, don your headphones and immerse yourself in this short sensory road trip. Inspired to recreate the hypnotic experience of listening to patchy American radio on long journeys through the middle of nowhere, Irving has created a space in which your imagination can take the wheel and experience "all the fun and weird characters of a road trip, without the need for creepy rest-stops and burning tonnes of fossil fuel." Refer to hub opening times for access (p.9), and see overleaf for more background on the piece.



BEEF: VITREOUS HUMOUR

Saturday 4 May, 19:00 - 23:00

Centrala · £ 10.00 / £ 8.00

Making the trip up the M5 are various members of Bristol Experimental Expanded Film (BEEF), a vibrant collective with a predilection for 16mm and analogue technologies. Taking over Centrala's upstairs for the entire evening, their back-to-back programme of performance, film and sound will be designed to ignite your retinas and vibrate your tectorial membranes. BEEF's performers will bring with them all manner of beamers and AV contraptions, and among other things you can expect salt evaporating on projectors, sewing machines combined with tap-dancing and an OHP postcard show.

See the full list of performances online.



KLANKVORM A-V DOUBLE BILL

Sunday 5 May, 12:30 - 14:00

Centrale · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

HYPERPLANAR

Featuring an inventive new laser system, Matthijs Munnik's performance piece Hyperplanar is a live audiovisual exploration of three-dimensional volumes sliced into two-dimensional planes of light. Sounds complicated, right? Well it is, and the results are spectacular - the system has several precision controlled lasers that scan around at high speeds creating hologram like shapes. This new tool becomes the starting point for compositions and live improvisations developed on and for the system itself.

This performance is presented by Klankvorm with the support of Creative Industries Fund NL.

TERRAFORMING M

Fascinated by the concept of interplanetary life, Rotor's AV performance "Terraforming-M" follows the journey of humanity bidding farewell to earth to become an intergalactic species.

Whilst the expanded cinema performance is conceptually based on space travel, the composition of the piece follows a very abstract line. Going from non figurative visual patterns to images of planetary landscapes accompanied by synthetic layers of sound, the piece evolves into an immersive field of smoke, light and abstract phonic structures.

Rotor is an experimental audiovisual project by Joris Stribos & Eelco Ottenhof and Terraforming-M is a Klankvorm commission made possible with the support of Creative Industries Fund NL and the City of Rotterdam.

KINOMANUAL

Sunday 5 May, 19:00 - 20:00

Flatpack Hub · See Dorcha's Takeover (p.49)

kinoMANUAL are Polish duo Maciek Bączyk and Aga Jarząb, makers of nifty, intricate animations, deliverers of hands-on celluloid workshops and audiovisual performers. Tonight they will be creating live visuals from their own work alongside regular collaborators Pin Park, another duo made up of Bączyk and fellow keyboard obsessive Maciek Polak who use EMS synthesisers to make a lovely, motorik sound heavily influenced by 70s German electronica. Please note that KinoMANUAL are performing as part of Dorcha's Takeover (see p.49),

WAVEFORM

THIS YEAR WE'RE PRESENTING THE WORLD PREMIERE OF A BRAND NEW WORK BY LAURA IRVING WHO HAS RECENTLY BEEN PART OF OUR ARTIST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, WAVEFORM. AHEAD OF THE FESTIVAL, WE CAUGHT UP WITH LAURA ABOUT HER TIME WITH US AND HER WONDERFUL NEW AV WORK.

JERWOOD
ARTS

Your new work is the result of participation on the Waveform programme that we ran over the last 12 months, can you tell us about your Waveform experience and the impact it had on the work you've made for the festival?

LI: The impact is really easy to describe - the work wouldn't exist without Waveform! Partly because of the practicalities of funding etc, but mostly because I didn't consider the stuff I liked to potter about with as being 'art'. I think I had a notion (or prejudice) of 'artists' being strange and mythical creatures with whom I'd have little in common. Meeting the other Waveformers dispelled this entirely, and being part of a group of such talented, supportive and down to earth people has given me an entirely different perspective and sense of belonging.

Tell us about the work itself and what audiences can expect to experience?

LI: Lambda Drive is an AV installation - a solo, head-phone experience staged in a car-like space. Using a mish-mash of found reel-to-reel tape diaries, mid-century home video and shortwave radio recordings, it hopes to take the imagination on an overnight road trip. Expect highway hypnosis and hallucinogenic head cinema.

Can you tell us where the sound recordings came from?

LI: It's a bit of a pick 'n' mix! Some of the audio is stuff that I've found from home-recorded cassettes in charity shops (seeking this stuff is a kind of weird hobby of mine). You'll also hear parts of a conversation that I had with a guy who I found on my doorstep one day after work, got chatting to, and who asked me to record the story of his life (I've no idea where he came from, why he was there, and I've never seen him since). A lot of the radio and car ambience you hear I recorded whilst driving around Colorado a few years ago. Most of the narrations are from reel-to-reel audio letters or short wave radio recordings that other audio nerds like myself have recovered from attics or garage sales, and informally archived on enthusiast sites like WFMU's now defunct 'Beware of the Blog' or the Shortwave Radio Archive. There's usually little known about who the speakers are, but for me there's something fascinating about having a small window into these lives and voices from another time.



The audience goes on something of a sensory roadtrip. Was this born out of having spent many hours on the road yourself?

LI: Yes! I love that description! I've been fortunate to have taken a few really long solo road trips in the States, and that's certainly what sowed the seed of this piece.

The US still has a really strong culture of analogue and amateur radio, and when you get out into remote areas, you also reach a kind of radio hinterland, where the signals become erratic - and weird snippets of voices and conversations start to collage together in the ether. It seems fitting too, because after a few days of driving by yourself, the subconscious starts to do something similar, throwing up all kinds of memories and fragments because there's not much else to do but reflect.

I wanted to try and recreate that sense in this piece, by making an intimate, hypnotic environment where there's enough happening to keep you somewhat engaged, but enough space for your imagination to take the wheel and lead you somewhere else. So, all the fun and weird characters of a road trip, without the need for creepy rest-stops and burning tonnes of fossil fuel.



Your background is primarily sound and radio, so how challenging was it to create a piece which combined visuals with sound?

LI: Yeah - I'm usually trying to create images with sound - so it's odd to have real pictures to work with!

I'm a complete noobie to working with film and image, so that's not an insignificant challenge to creating an AV piece. It's not that the images in this piece are unimportant, but they are designed to be in service to the sound; in fact many of the abstract images are Cymatics - patterns created when you set a liquid on top a speaker and play a bunch of different frequency sounds.

But, there's also a really nice ignorance-is-bliss feeling to not knowing an approach, or what the tools really do - there's space to be playful in a way that is perhaps more challenging when you know a field well. So it's been fun experimenting and trying things out.

The piece uses a kind of pepper's ghost effect - was that difficult to achieve? Was this something you'd seen used elsewhere and took inspiration from?

LI: When I first started thinking about this piece, I was reading a lot about VR and immersive digital experiences. At first the creative potential of the technology seemed really exciting - but when my husband wanted to spend the majority of our rent money on a VR console, I started to question why we'd need to invest in a plastic box to immerse us in someone else's version of another world, when given the right situation and stimulus, we do this for free using our mind's eye.

So, I started hunting around for ways that an immersive and interactive experience might be achieved using relatively basic kit and people's imaginations. That's when I stumbled on a Wired article about how digital tech companies were using variants of Pepper's Ghost to recreate 'holograms' of dead celebrities. It's essentially a Victorian VFX technique that is incredibly simple to achieve - but I'm not going to tell you how it works, because I love seeing people walking round the installation after they've experienced it, trying to figure it out!

YOU CAN SEE
LAURA IRVING'S PIECE

LAMBDA DRIVE

AT THE FLATPACK HUB (P.44)

PARTIES

90S PARTY

Saturday 4 May, 21:00 - late

Flatpack Hub · Free



Following on from the crowd-pleasing 90s-set rave-romp *Beats* (p.39), this year's Saturday night shindig sees us rewinding the clock a couple of decades and celebrating all things 90s (well, not all things 90s - you won't hear anything from the Gallagher brothers). So tuck that jumper into those trousers, get those mood rings out of the jewellery box, and don that neon shell suit jacket you got from COW. If you're still struggling for inspiration, Cher Horowitz, the Fresh Prince, and Zack Morris can all offer some guidance. On the ones and twos is one of Birmingham's finest, Sam Redmore, collaborating with his brother, Manchester-based Jethro Redmore.

PRAM VIDEO PARTY

Friday 3 May, 21:30 - late

Flatpack Hub · Free

Birmingham's pioneering experimental band Pram premiere two new films to accompany tracks from their latest album *Across the Meridian* on Domino Records. *Doll's Eyes* is a faux-1982 vintage Super 8mm 'Monster Kid Home Movie' by long-time Pram collaborator Scott Johnston, and in *Shadow in Twilight* the constellations take human form in a specially choreographed piece by professional dance company, Danzia. The screening will be followed by a DJ set from members of the band, featuring far-out tunes from the world of soundtracks, off-beat electronics, crazed instrumentals, birdsong and exotica set to immersive multi-screen visuals from Film Ficciones.



DORCHA TAKEOVER

Sunday 5 May, 19:00 - late

Flatpack Hub · £ 6.00 / £ 4.00

Birmingham's very own weird and wonderful alternative pop group Dorcha take over the Flatpack hub for an evening of music, improv, storytelling and visuals. Fresh off the back of their 2-week tour in Italy, the band will perform a one-off stripped-back set full of tales of wonder and woe from life on the road, complete with projections. Invitees will include local musicians and visual artists with improv sets and a BYOB-amer vibe to take us through the bank holiday night. Kicking things off are Polish live animation and electronica duo KinoMANUAL (read more about them on p.46). See website for set times. Keep an eye out for Dorcha's basement party series coming soon - a DIY bi-monthly night aimed at celebrating the peculiarities the city has to offer.



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GENERAL INFORMATION

BOOKING

Advance tickets can be purchased online at: flatpackfestival.org.uk

Full terms and conditions can be found on the ticketing page of the Flatpack website: flatpackfestival.org.uk/terms-and-conditions

Customers with access requirements can refer to individual event listings on the Flatpack website.

Film certificates are listed on the Flatpack website.

DISCOUNT DEALS

Buy 4, Get 1 Free
(applies to standard-priced screenings only)

Short Film Pass £ 35.00 / £ 30.00
(covers all six competition programmes)
Only available online.

FLATPASS + FLATMATES

The excellent Flatpass is back.

For just £85 you can get into everything in the festival programme (except specified events). Only a limited number are available so grab yours quick.

Flatmates is a year-round friends scheme for those who love film and/or love Flatpack (we hope both), which offers you access to special previews, discount deals and a coveted pin-badge.

For more info on both, see our website: flatpackfestival.org.uk

CONTACT INFORMATION

General enquiries
info@flatpackfestival.org.uk

Ticketing enquiries
booking@flatpackfestival.org.uk

Festival office
Flatpack Projects, 304 Scott House,
The Custard Factory, Gibb Street,
Birmingham, B9 4AA.

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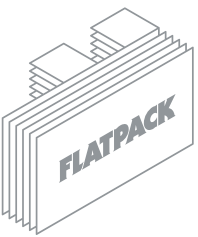
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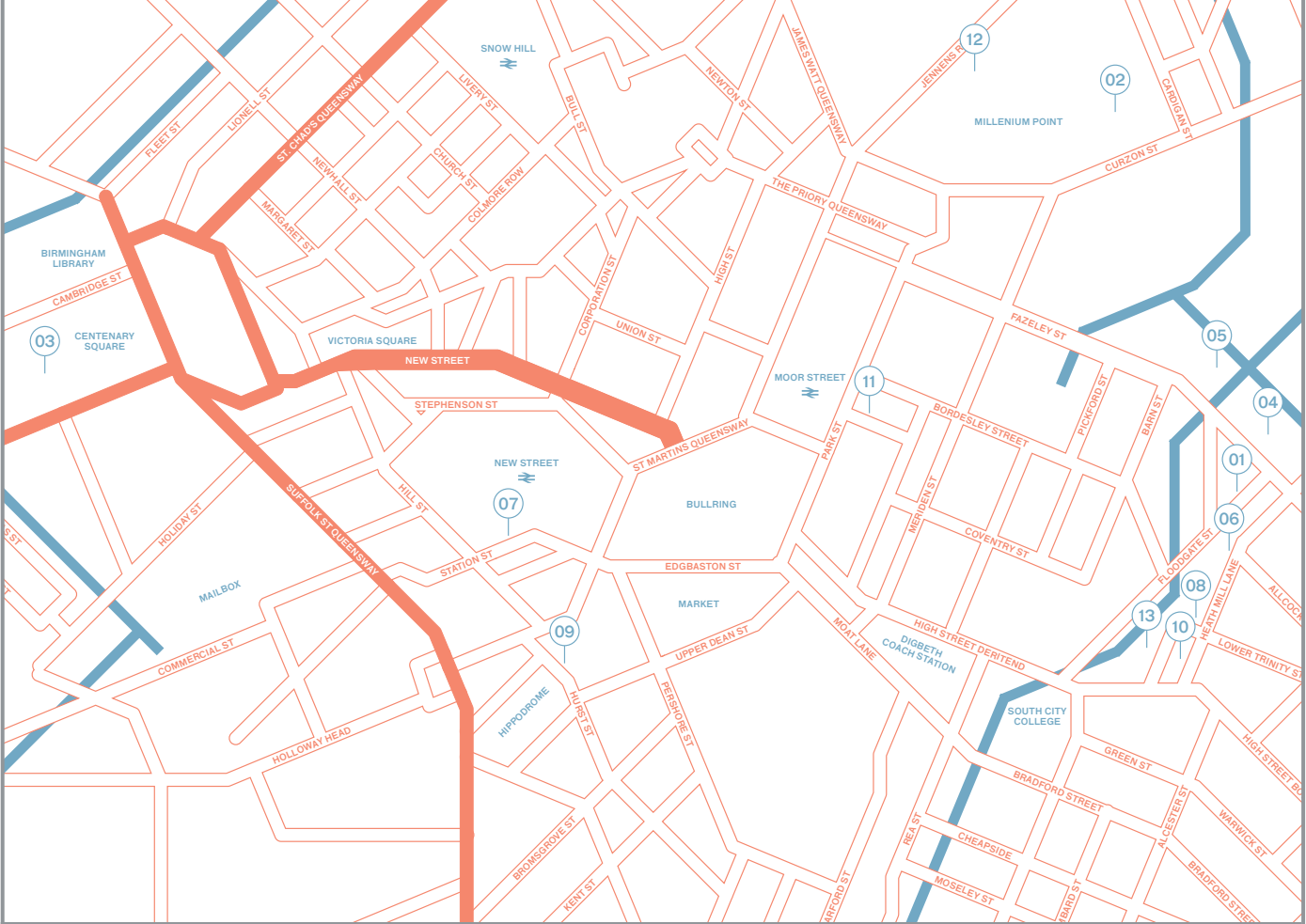
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01. **BCU PARKSIDE GALLERY**

The Parkside Building, Curzon St, B4 7XG

02. **THE REP**

Broad St, Birmingham B1 2EP

03. **THE BOND**

180-182 Fazeley St, B5 5SE

04. **CENTRALA**

4 Minerva Works, 158 Fazeley St, B5 5RT

05. **EASTSIDE PROJECTS**

86 Heath Mill Ln, B9 4AR

06. **THE ELECTRIC CINEMA**

47-49 Station St, B5 4DY

07. **FESTIVAL HUB**

Arch 21 Gibb Street, B9 4AA

08. **THE GLEE CLUB**

The Arcadian, 70 Hurst St, B5 4TD

09. **KANTEEN**

The Custard Factory, Gibb Street, B9 4AA

10. **KILDER**

5 Shaw's Passage, B5 5JG

11. **THE MOCKINGBIRD**

The Custard Factory, Gibb ST, B9 4AA

12. **ROYAL BHAM CONSERVATOIRE**

Birmingham City University,
200 Jennens Rd, B4 7XR

13. **VIVID PROJECTS**

16 Minerva Works, 158 Fazeley St, B5 5RT

OUTSIDE THE MAP

MIDLANDS ARTS CENTRE (MAC)

Cannon Hill Park, B12 9QH

VENUES

BIRMINGHAM GUIDE

FOOD AND DRINK

DIGBETH

THE OLD CROWN

188 High St, Deritend, B12 0LD

— theoldcrown.com

A community pub that's reportedly been around since 1368, The Old Crown claims to be the oldest secular building in Brum. Whether you're popping in for a coffee or chowing down some pub grub, this authentic gem is a great place to unwind.

ORIGINAL PATTY MEN

9 Shaw's Passage, B5 5JG

— originalpattymen.com

The self-proclaimed 'patty pimps and purveyors of filth' deliver exactly that - think burgers bursting with sauce-drip-ping, finger-licking goodness, loaded fries and sides to die for.

KANTEEN

Custard Factory, B9 4AA

— kanteen-life.com

Kanteen is the place for breakfast, brunch and lunch if you want to eat healthy food with no hassle. Inspired by world street food, Kanteen have a hot box menu for each day of the week (complete with vegan-friendly options so everyone can enjoy!)

DIGBETH WORKS

79A Digbeth, B5 6DY

— digbethworks.co.uk

The new kid on the block (AKA Digbeth High St), Digbeth Works is an independent eatery and lounge bar with the cosiest vibes. Fill your stomach with some Asian-inspired nosh, catch up with mates over a fresh brew, or keep the 2 4 1 cocktails all to yourself.

THE SPOTTED DOG

104 Warwick St, B12 0NH

— spotteddog.co.uk

Enjoy live music at this traditional red-brick boozier. With a lovely covered garden, you can enjoy their wide range of beers while staying warm and dry - even when Digbeth isn't!

DIGBETH DINING CLUB

Lower Trinity St, B9 4AG

— digbethdiningclub.com

Description: Open every Thursday-Sunday night, DDC offers a wide variety of street grub all under the quirky roof of Spotlight. In the mood for Caribbean or Asian food? Want to have your Urban Cheesecake and eat it too? DDC has you covered! With regular No Bones Thursdays, vegans and veggies will have a place at the table too.

CITY CENTRE

CAFE ARTUM

177 Corporation St, B4 6RG

— cafeartum.co.uk

Love records and a good cuppa? You'll feel right at home at Cafe Artum, a vibrant creative hub plus cafe plus record store nestled amongst the terracotta buildings of Methodist Central Hall and the Law Courts.

MEDICINE BAKERY AND GALLERY

69a New Street, B2 4DU

— medicinebakery.co.uk

If you find comfort in art and artisan pastries, Medicine Bakery and Gallery gives you a healthy dose of both worlds. With regular exhibitions, there's almost always new work you can admire in their white airy space - cronut, coffee, or ciabatta in hand.

SOUTHSIDE

CHERRY RED'S

88-92 John Bright St, B1 1BN

— cherryreds.com

A stone's throw away from New Street, this indie bar and cafe is a home away from home, serving up simple food at low prices without compromising on quality or portion size.

TOPOKKI

1C Hurst St, B5 4TD

— topokki.has.restaurant

Topokki is well worth a visit if you're looking for hearty Korean food for the soul. Relaxed surroundings, authentic flavours and a vast menu full of mouthwatering options.

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

TOO CUTE! SWEET IS ABOUT TO GET SINISTER

(26 Jan - 22 May 2019)

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

Curated by artist and filmmaker Rachel Maclean, this exhibition explores the delicate line between sweet and sinister.

HEW LOCKE: HERE'S THE THING

(8 March - 2 June 2019)

IKON Gallery

The most comprehensive exhibition to date of work by British artist Hew Locke, as he explores the languages of colonial and post-colonial power, and the symbols through which different cultures assume and assert identity.

HANDSWORTH SELF-PORTRAIT - 40 YEARS ON

(29 March - 2 June 2019)

MAC

In 1979, three Handsworth-based photographers set up a pop-up photography studio in Grove Lane, inviting passers-by to photograph their own image. 40 years on, this exhibition presents a unique archive of images providing a snapshot of a vibrant, multicultural community at the moment it first became visible.

EXHIBITION ON SCREEN - SEASON 6

(9 April, 4 June)

Mockingbird Cinema & Kitchen

The pioneering series of exhibition-based art films returns for a sixth season, featuring a new feature film about Van Gogh and Japan and an encore screening of audience favorite Rembrandt.

HOME OF METAL PRESENTS BLACK SABBATH - 50 YEARS

(22 June - 29 September 2019)

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

A blockbuster exhibition devoted to the music that was born in and around Birmingham, exploring the legacy of Black Sabbath from the perspective of their fans.

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WISE CHILDREN

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*Ticket prices include a £1.50 booking fee. No booking fee applies if booked online.

EVENT NAME	VENUE	TIME	PRICE	P
EXHIBITIONS				
<u>BERMINGHAM: REMIXED</u>	PARKSIDE GALLERY	01/05/2019 – 04/05/2019	FREE	11
<u>BERMINGHAM: THE (NOT ENTIRELY) TRUE STORY OF A MISSELT CITY</u>	CENTRALA	01/05/2019 – 11/05/2019	FREE	11
<u>FILM POSTER EXHIBITION</u>	FLATPACK HUB	01/05/2019 – 05/05/2019	FREE	9
<u>LAMBDA DRIVE</u>	FLATPACK HUB	01/05/2019 – 05/05/2019	FREE	44
TUESDAY 30 APRIL				
<u>A PAGE OF MADNESS</u>	ROYAL BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE	20:00 - 22:00	£ 14 / £ 12	16
WEDNESDAY 1 MAY				
<u>BURDEN OF DREAMS</u>	THE MOCKINGBIRD	18:00 - 20:00	£ 10 / £ 8	29
<u>FORECASTING</u>	THE REP - THE DOOR	18:00 - 18:50	£ 12 / £ 9	16
<u>OXIDE GHOSTS + Q&A</u>	THE ELECTRIC	18:00 - 19:30	£ 10 / £ 8	10
<u>PICK'N'MIX</u>	FLATPACK HUB	18:00 - 19:30	FREE	31
<u>FORECASTING</u>	THE REP - THE DOOR	20:30 - 21:20	£ 12 / £ 9	16
<u>KING ROCKER: STEWART LEE AND THE NIGHTINGALES</u>	THE ELECTRIC	20:30 - 22:00	£ 10 / £ 8	10
<u>WHERE I BELONG</u>	THE MOCKINGBIRD	20:30 - 21:50	£ 10 / £ 8	35
THURSDAY 2 MAY				
<u>FILM CAMP</u>	THE BOND	10:00 - 17:00	£ 15	21
<u>WHERE I BELONG (REPEAT)</u>	THE MOCKINGBIRD	15:30 - 16:50	£ 10 / £ 8	35
<u>BLACK MOON</u>	THE ELECTRIC	15:45 - 17:30	£ 10 / £ 8	29
<u>THE DIGITAL DIASPORA</u>	CENTRALA	18:15 - 19:45	FREE	18
<u>OVERLAP</u>	FLATPACK HUB	18:00 - 19:30	FREE	19
<u>STRANGE BIRDS</u>	THE MOCKINGBIRD	18:00 - 19:30	£ 10 / £ 8	35
<u>WOMAN AT WAR</u>	THE ELECTRIC	18:15 - 20:05	£ 10 / £ 8	38
<u>LOVING COUPLES + RICHARD DYER IN CONVERSATION</u>	MAC	18:30 - 21:15	£ 10 / £ 8	28
<u>MERCE CUNNINGHAM AT 100: INNOVATIONS IN SCREEN DANCE</u>	THE BOND	18:30 - 20:00	£ 4	19

CALENDAR

EVENT NAME	VENUE	TIME	PRICE	P
JOSEPHINE FOSTER	GLEE CLUB	19:45 - 22:00	£ 14 / £ 12	10
SOMETHING HAPPENED	THE MOCKINGBIRD	20:00 - 21:25	£ 10 / £ 8	35
DOTS & LOOPS #7: ELLI VUORINEN	FLATPACK HUB	20:15 - 22:30	£ 6 / £ 4	19
DIAMANTINO	THE ELECTRIC	20:30 - 22:10	£ 10 / £ 8	38
FRIDAY 3 MAY				
TALENT CAMP	THE BOND	10:00 - 17:00	FREE	21
STRANGE BIRDS (REPEAT)	THE MOCKINGBIRD	13:30 - 15:00	£ 10 / £ 8	35
DUPLICATE: ARTIST PUBLISHING FAIR DAY 1	EASTSIDE PROJECTS	16:00 - 20:00	FREE	19
SOMETHING HAPPENED (REPEAT)	THE MOCKINGBIRD	16:00 - 17:25	£ 10 / £ 8	35
WHO FUNDS WHAT?	CENTRALA	17:15 - 18:15	FREE	18
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	17:30 - 19:15	£ 60 PER CAR	12
BERMINGHAM: THE (NOT ENTIRELY) TRUE STORY	CENTRALA	18:00 - 22:00	FREE	11
OF A MISSPELT CITY OPENING				
LET'S MAKE A MOVIE	FLATPACK HUB	18:00 - 19:00	£ 6 / £ 4	11
METAMORPHOSIS	THE MOCKINGBIRD	18:00 - 19:45	£ 10 / £ 8	36
NARCISSISTER ORGAN PLAYER	THE ELECTRIC	18:00 - 19:40	£ 10 / £ 8	40
HYPERLINKED	CENTRALA	18:30 - 19:45	FREE	18
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	20:00 - 21:45	£ 60 PER CAR	12
OH DEAR VIDEO DIARY	FLATPACK HUB	20:00 - 21:30	£ 6 / £ 4	28
LONE TAXIDERMIST: BODYVICE	CENTRALA	20:15 - 21:00	£ 6 / £ 4	44
UNDER YOUR SPELL	THE MOCKINGBIRD	20:15 - 21:40	£ 10 / £ 8	36
SUMMER	THE ELECTRIC	20:30 - 22:40	£ 10 / £ 8	38
PRAM VIDEO PARTY	FLATPACK HUB	21:30 - LATE	FREE	49
ROJO	THE MOCKINGBIRD	22:15 - 00:10	£ 10 / £ 8	39

SATURDAY 4 MAY

COLOUR BOX DROP-IN ACTIVITIES	MAC	10:00 - 17:00	FREE	22
SOUNDPLAY DOME	MAC	10:00 - 17:00	FREE	24
METAMORPHOSIS (REPEAT)	THE MOCKINGBIRD	10:00 - 11:20	£ 10 / £ 8	36
TIM ALLEN TRASH ISLAND WORKSHOP 1	MAC	10:30 - 12:00	£ 5	22
TRAILBLAZERS (4+)	MAC	10:30 - 11:40	£ 6 / £ 3	25
VIDEO TALES	MAC	11:00 - 15:30	£ 6 / £ 4	27
DUPLICATE: ARTIST PUBLISHING FAIR DAY 2	EASTSIDE PROJECTS	12:00 - 18:00	FREE	19
FATHERS	FLATPACK HUB	12:00 - 13:45	£ 6 / £ 4	11
SPACE ODYSSEYS	CENTRALA	12:00 - 13:15	£ 6 / £ 4	17
UNDER YOUR SPELL (REPEAT)	THE MOCKINGBIRD	12:00 - 13:20	£ 10 / £ 8	36
TIM ALLEN TRASH ISLAND WORKSHOP 2	MAC	13:00 - 14:30	£ 5	22
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	14:00 - 15:45	£ 60 PER CAR	12
OUTSIDE THE BOX (7+)	MAC	14:00 - 15:15	£ 6 / £ 3	25
SOUND BITE	THE MOCKINGBIRD	14:00 - 15:30	£ 10 / £ 8	36
SNOWY BING BONGS + THE PASSAGE	FLATPACK HUB	15:00 - 16:05	FREE	32

EVENT NAME	VENUE	TIME	PRICE	P
TIM ALLEN TRASH ISLAND WORKSHOP 3	MAC	15:30 - 17:00	£ 5	22
EIGHTH GRADE	THE ELECTRIC	16:00 - 17:40	£ 10 / £ 8	39
INVISIBLE WOMEN	MAC	16:00 - 17:30	£ 6 / £ 4	28
MOOMINVALLEY	MAC	16:00 - 17:15	£ 6 / £ 3	25
SHUT UP AND PLAY THE PIANO	THE MOCKINGBIRD	16:30 - 18:00	£ 10 / £ 8	41
SHORT & SUITE	FLATPACK HUB	17:15 - 18:15	FREE	19
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	17:30 - 19:15	£ 60 PER CAR	12
BIRMINGHAM 68 REVISITED	MAC	18:00 - 19:30	£ 6 / £ 4	28
DOOZY + Q&A	VIVID PROJECTS	18:00 - 19:45	£ 7 / £ 4	41
BIRDS OF PASSAGE	THE ELECTRIC	18:15 - 20:25	£ 10 / £ 8	39
BEATS	THE MOCKINGBIRD	18:45 - 20:30	£ 10 / £ 8	39
AWARDS SCREENING	FLATPACK HUB	19:00 - 20:00	FREE	34
BEEF: VITREOUS HUMOUR	CENTRALA	19:00 - 23:00	£ 10 / £ 8	45
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	20:00 - 21:45	£ 60 PER CAR	12
IN FABRIC	THE ELECTRIC	21:00 - 23:05	£ 10 / £ 8	39
PIG	THE MOCKINGBIRD	21:00 - 22:55	£ 10 / £ 8	39
90S PARTY	FLATPACK HUB	21:00 - LATE	FREE	49

SUNDAY 5 MAY

INVISIBLE CINEMA	MEET AT VICTORIA SQUARE	10:30 - 12:00	£ 8 / £ 6	12
ENOUGH WITH CATCALLING	THE MOCKINGBIRD	11:00 - 13:00	£ 10 / £ 8	41
A TOWN CALLED PANIC: BREAKFAST SCREENING	FLATPACK HUB	11:00 - 12:00	£ 6 / £ 3	25
BEAUTIFUL BENTO WORKSHOP 1	KANTEEN	12:30 - 13:50	£ 10 / £ 8	12
TERRAFORMING M + HYPERPLANAR	CENTRALA	12:30 - 14:00	£ 6 / £ 4	46
PRESENT.PERFECT.	THE ELECTRIC	13:00 - 15:10	£ 10 / £ 8	42
ANOTE'S ARK	THE MOCKINGBIRD	13:30 - 14:55	£ 10 / £ 8	42
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	14:00 - 15:45	£ 60 PER CAR	12
FIZZLE: X-X	ROYAL BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE	14:30 - 15:40	£ 10 / £ 8	17
THIS MAGNIFICENT CAKE! + OH WILLY...	FLATPACK HUB	15:00 - 16:05	FREE	32
THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN + Q&A	THE MOCKINGBIRD	15:30 - 17:00	£ 7 / £ 4	42
MEETING GORBACHEV	THE ELECTRIC	15:40 - 17:20	£ 10 / £ 8	42
SHORTS & HOPS	KILDER	16:00 - 18:00	SEE WEBSITE	31
BEAUTIFUL BENTO WORKSHOP 2	KANTEEN	16:30 - 17:50	£ 10 / £ 8	12
REMODELLING THE HAPPINESS MACHINE + Q&A	ROYAL BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE	16:30 - 18:00	£ 6 / £ 4	31
TRAVELLING WITH CHAPLIN	MAC	17:00 - 19:00	£ 10 / £ 8	29
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	17:30 - 19:15	£ 60 PER CAR	12
THE WOLF HOUSE	THE MOCKINGBIRD	17:45 - 19:05	£ 10 / £ 8	39
FLATPACK 2019 SURPRISE FILM	THE ELECTRIC	18:00 - 20:00	£ 10 / £ 8	39
DANIEL COCKBURN: HOW NOT TO WATCH A MOVIE	CENTRALA	18:30 - 19:30	£ 6 / £ 4	17
DORCHA TAKEOVER FEAT. KINOMANUAL	FLATPACK HUB	19:00 - LATE	£ 6 / £ 4	49
SOUNDSCREEN	ROYAL BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE	19:00 - 20:45	£ 10 / £ 8	17
BOMBIN' + Q&A	THE MOCKINGBIRD	19:30 - 21:00	£ 5	29
A MOMENT OF MADNESS	THE REP	20:00 - 21:45	£ 60 PER CAR	12

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