

16 MINERVA WORKS, 158 FAZELEY STREET, BIRMINGHAM, B5 5RS

MEDIAFEST | PART ONE | AUDIO - SLIDE - TAPE
5-6 October | 11-13 October 2018



Featuring work by Sarah M Farmer, Cathy Wade, Monica Ross, Elizabeth Cufley, The Vasulkas

MEDIAFEST is a one month season juxtaposing new media art works by UK artists with innovators from the 1970s-80s. Beginning in the 1970s with the hypnotic click of the slide carousel and ending with open source performance through algorithms, the season demonstrates the impact of accessible, affordable consumer technologies on artist practice. Through new commissions and archive, we delve into the means of production dominating each decade as we explore how the domestic cathode ray tube TV set, video tapes, slide film, the CD and the laptop have driven the aesthetics and politics of media arts. Works from preceding decades developed for cassette, video and tape/slide, will be interrogated through new performance and live digital commissions, culminating in an Algorave on 27/10 for Museums at Night, 2018.

ARCHIVE SPACE

From the VIVID archive, we have selected two videos exploring the experimental processes pioneered by The Vasulkas and their collaborators in the 1980s-90s. The earliest video is ***Cantaloup (1980)***, in which Steina documents image programming with the Digital Image Articulator. In ***Techne & Eros: Art and Science Laboratory (1999)*** held in Santa Fe, New Mexico Woody Vasulka, Steina, composer David Dunn and physicist James Crutchfield began a dialogue on larger conceptual questions regarding the future of electronic and digital art. *Techne & Eros* was one of a series of workshops in experimental and interactive media art. The Laboratory's research aimed at a deeper understanding of the digital, as an exploration of the ways in which digital code and computer tools could determine new types of human perception.

AV ROOM 1

Monica Ross | Stop She Said | 1982/3 | Slide/Tape transferred to u-matic video, sound, colour
5-13 October, 12:00-17:00

Monica Ross (1950 -2013) was influential as an artist active in feminist and collective practices, co-organising the seminal Women's Postal Art Event (Feministo: Representations of the Artist as Housewife, ICA, London, 1977, Kunstlerinnen International 1877-1977, Schloss Charlottenberg, Berlin, 1977) and the touring project Fenix with Kate Walker and Sue Richardson. Ross's early feminist collaborative works included drawings made at Greenham Common in the 80s, posters for the anti-nuclear movement and works relating to the writings of Walter Benjamin. Ross made *Stop She Said*, her first slide-tape work in the context of the miners' strike, the Falklands war and the Thatcher government.

AV ROOM 2

Libby Cufley | Welcome to Coventry | 2018 | Dual slide projection, sound, colour
5-13 October, 12:00-17:00

An experimental, 3D horror B-movie inspired slide-show with digital audio. The piece uses horror film tropes to convey the very real fear Cufley felt navigating the city when she was an adolescent girl and young woman. The work investigates the 'rules', myths and urban legends surrounding women and girls being out at night and how these are reflected in the media we consume.

EVENTS

Sarah M Farmer | Soundwalk (Vivid Projects Artist Bootleg Edition) | FREE

5 October, 18:00-20:00

Farmer responds to Vivid Projects with a process based scored soundwalk; engaging with, capturing, re-articulating, disrupting and archiving on tape throughout the launch of Mediafest. The work will be available to listen to for the remainder of the exhibition.

Audio Playdate | FREE | See website for booking details

6 October, 15:00-18:00

An informal/DIY sound-based workshop led by Marcus Keating that focuses on bringing and sharing sound-making devices with others. Participants are encouraged to bring and demo a piece of equipment for others to learn about and use. The workshop will conclude with MIXXTAPE, a performance by Carol Breen and Maxx Gentleman who will be creating live soundscapes using overlapping loops and samples via a series of cassette players.

Cathy Wade | Carousel

11-13 October, 12:00-17:00

To celebrate the launch of SLIDE TAPE, Wade presents a cumulative community sourced slide work. Carousel will change daily, considering the development and legacy of the slide as memento and educational tool.

SLIDE TAPE Book launch | FREE | See website for booking details

12 October, 18:00-19:30

SLIDE TAPE is a limited edition book drawn from the 2013 series of [exhibitions](#), artist's residency, events and [symposium](#) held at Vivid Projects, Birmingham and Loughborough University Arts. The publication and original exhibition programme emerged from a curatorial collaboration between Yasmeen Baig-Clifford, Director of Vivid Projects and Mo White.

Curated by Yasmeen Baig-Clifford for Vivid Projects. Further info at vividprojects.org.uk

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