

For immediate release

**Bcc: | Exhibition | 6- 28 September 2019 | Thursday-Saturday, 12-5pm**

Vivid Projects announces Bcc: an international group exhibition co-presented by Decoy Magazine (Vancouver) and Vivid Projects (Birmingham).

Vivid Projects, 16 Minerva Works, 158 Fazeley St, Birmingham B5 5RS [vividprojects.org.uk](http://vividprojects.org.uk)



The exhibition draws from Decoy Magazine's unique email subscription programme, which commissioned new work by digital artists around the world from 2016 to 2019. The programme used a collective patronage model and endeavoured to protect the rights of artists through an informed, sustainable, and contractual sharing platform. The exhibition at Vivid Projects features an archive of digital works from 19 Bcc: commissioned artists, representing a diverse group of contemporary, international, emerging, and established digital artists whose works contend with the limitations and opportunities of alternative distribution channels.

Bcc: deals with the transformation of media distribution ethics and the conventions around our perception and understanding of the artwork as an object. The affordances of any artwork—its medium, size, price, genre—determine how it is exhibited, distributed, stored, commissioned, and archived. Bcc: is a call to reflect on how everyday and allegedly private networks delimit privacy, through the free circulation of small files and artworks in particular—and how the mode of delivery regulates and shapes the capacities of an artwork. We want to further challenge these ideas by bringing artworks designed for online circulation into a physical exhibition space, in order to expand the works' potential audience from a private screen to a shared public space. Through this exhibition, we consider the complex challenges of distributing digital artwork while acknowledging its insistent materiality and physicality.

Curated by Lauren Marsden for Decoy and produced by Antonio Roberts for Vivid Projects.

Participating artists: Jeremy Bailey (Canada), Scott Benesiinaabandan (Canada), Renick Bell (Japan), Anthony Discenza (USA), Santa France (Latvia), Donato Mancini (Canada), Olivia McGilchrist (Jamaica), Lorna Mills (Canada), Jonathan Monaghan (USA), Nick Montfort (USA), Sabrina Ratté (Canada), Antonio Roberts (UK), Claudia Salamanca (Colombia), Nicolas Sassoon (Canada), Ieva Saudargaitė Douaihi (Lebanon), Sydney Southam (Canada), Alexandra Spence (Australia), Rodell Warner (Trinidad & Tobago), Xuan Ye (Canada)

**Public Preview: Friday 6 September 6-8pm | Curator's Talk: Saturday 7 September, 2pm.**

**ENDS**

**For more details contact Yasmeen Baig-Clifford, Director, Vivid Projects:**

[yasmeen@vividprojects.org.uk](mailto:yasmeen@vividprojects.org.uk)

**Notes to Editors:**

1. Vivid Projects is a non-profit collaborative space dedicated to exploring all forms of media art practice. Founded in 2012, our cultural offer spans moving image and digital, live art, performance and music activities. Since launching in February 2013, the company has produced work of excellence, delivering over 250 performances and 120 new works and reaching audiences of over 42,000 to date. In 2015 we launched a new development programme to support the regional creative community, [Black Hole Club](#), providing a diverse range of West Midlands based artists with resources to develop new work, driven by sharing digital culture and collaboration. Vivid Projects place strong emphasis on socio-cultural histories and identities in our curatorial practice, and are proud to have secured a reputation for successfully creating new access to important regional archives under our stewardship. We are committed to extending our reach to wider communities through effective digital distribution and inclusion, and have established partnerships to develop active resources for artists and to support audiences to learn about the social and historical contexts of media art forms. Vivid Projects is based at 16 Minerva Works, 158 Fazeley Street, Birmingham, B5 5RS.
2. See [www.vividprojects.org.uk](http://www.vividprojects.org.uk) for information on forthcoming events and the project archive.
3. Founded in 2012, *Decoy Magazine* is a publication project based in Vancouver, Canada that engages artists and writers, both locally and abroad. With an emphasis on social and political contexts and the use of publishing as a curatorial platform, our mission is to foster a thoughtful dialogue among arts and culture through the production of artist portfolios, essays, interviews, and digital exhibitions. The name *Decoy* is inspired by our desire to bring attention to alternative and unexpected frameworks for the distribution and critical engagement of contemporary art practices. *Decoy's* curatorial projects have included *The Portfolio Series* (2014-2015), *Happenstance* (2015-ongoing), a series of public and temporary artworks that address particular themes related to artists' investigations of land use narratives in the city of Vancouver, and **Bcc:** (2016-ongoing), a monthly, subscription-based program of newly commissioned digital artworks that are circulated via email and created by a range of international, emerging, and established digital artists. A physical exhibition of selected artists from the **Bcc:** program, called *The Channelers*, which was presented at the EMMEDIA Particle + Wave Festival in Calgary in 2018.
4. We acknowledge the support of Arts Council England and the Canada Council for the Arts for **Bcc:**.
5. Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. It supports a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, Arts Council England will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)
6. The Canada Council for the Arts is Canada's public arts funder, with a mandate to foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in the arts. The Council champions and invests in artistic excellence through a broad range of grants, services, prizes and payments to professional Canadian artists and arts organizations. Its work ensures that excellent, vibrant and diverse art and literature engages Canadians, enriches their communities and reaches markets around the world. The Council also raises public awareness and appreciation of the arts through its communications, research and arts promotion activities. It is responsible for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, which promotes the values and programs of UNESCO in Canada to contribute to a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable future. The Canada Council Art Bank operates art rental programs and helps further public engagement with contemporary arts.
7. Image credit: Rodell Warner, *Family and Friends*, 2017. Still from gif, animation by Rodell Warner, photographs by Gerald Warner.



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