

FILM PROGRAMME

RUNNING ORDER

Rhian Cooke

Traffic Trio

2020–2021

“*Traffic Trio* is a film series inspired by cycling, anxieties on the road and the fragility of the environment. The film reflects my interest in changing urban and natural landscape and our position within it. It explores the effects and communication processes of natural and manmade light. I enjoy seeing how lights perform in the streets from speeding signs to high vis clothing.”

Duration: 10:29 mins

Attiyyah Rahman

Little Glowing Dot

2022

“I consider this film to be a love-letter of sorts, one that discloses metaphysical suggestions of inspiration, obsession and abandonment. My muse has always been an androgynous, fictional epebe [Greek word for a young man]—in this film he is small, vulnerable and easy to love, encased in a low-resolution glow. My practice currently explores the intrusive thoughts of a deeply complicated female psyche, one that exists as a transgressive, abject fantasy.”

Duration: 3:05 mins

K Walker

The Tower

2021

“My work is usually very personal, exploring my experiences, thoughts and feelings and depicting them in whimsical ways. As a child I was always drawn to mythical creatures such as mermaids and fairies, these beings which existed in a middle ground between human and fantasy. Working primarily in sculpture, performance, poetry and fashion, I enjoy building worlds within my work. *Seven Devils and The Tower* [both films shown on this reel] are my first ventures into performance and using my physical self as a visual object.”

Duration: 1:39 mins

Astrid Butt

Bird Diaries

2022

“*Bird Diaries* is a short, surrealist horror film, following a day in the life of a bird-human hybrid, as she laments over her relationships with men, women and her own body. The viewer is given a tour through the mind of the bird-human crossbreed, as she dances across the dreamlike, technicolour landscape of the film. The final product is a macabre tapestry of body horror and earnest emotional turmoil, forcing the audience to linger in the terror and loneliness of womanhood.”

Archive footage from The Prelinger Archives and Pexels.

Voice by Sam Killinen.

Duration: 25:11 mins

Jack Pell

Deep Sea Graffiti

2021

“*Deep Sea Graffiti* is set in the submerged streets of England after a biblical flood, where the country now lies deep at the bottom of the ocean, and human civilization a thing of the distant past. Ichthysey is the sole protagonist & narrator of the film. He’s a fish-like humanoid, who’s evolved to breathe underwater. Throughout the film he studies graffiti left behind by his distant ancestors, as if he were some future inter-species historian and tour guide.”

Duration: 15:22 mins

Zhiming Xing

If we hadn’t seen birds eating the same kind with our eyes, we would have forgotten that they are omnivores

2021

“We have been given cognitive restrictions such as education, ethics and laws, that have meant we have a very sensitive boundary for the independence of the body and the spirit. If spiritually seeking difference is the pursuit of free thought, then the phenomenon of seeking difference guided by our physical differences may be perceived as not so beautiful. Please recall the stories of various traces on your body, and try to think, what is truly unique to us?”

Duration: 7:53 mins

Kp Culver

The Office Choir

2021

“Bringing together text, performance, and music, the work focuses on how karaoke sits within office and popular culture. As an activity that often happens with colleagues, karaoke can enforce further relational tension or unison of workplace politics. The text is activated with a change of colour; in karaoke, this gives the performer cues for the words, alongside how and when to sing them. However, in the film the idea of instruction and performance becomes disrupted.”

Duration: 3:03 mins

David Steans

Animation Monster

2020

“My approach involves narrative, storytelling, and reality/fiction ‘blurring’, working towards something that could be understood as meta-horror. Some of my specific ambitions include conjuring a sense of (genre) horror in and around the technologies and media of cultural production.

Animation Monster is a macabre intervention into the tropes of commercial animation. I commissioned the eponymous company to produce the work, which locates a sense of strangeness in the contemporary ‘creative’ workplace (here emblematised by the studio-office), and in animation as a specific creative process.”

Duration: 3:10 mins

K Walker
Seven Devils
 2020

See text about K Walker's *The Tower* on the other side.

Duration: 4:51 mins

David Steans
Puppy the Goblin ENGLISH SUBS
 2020

Puppy the Goblin ENGLISH SUBS is a narrative moving image work comprised entirely of voice, sound, music and text. A hypnotic exercise in dark, recursive storytelling that explores ideas around scripting, unreliable narration, and collapsed/collapsing subjectivities.

Duration: 14 mins

Hafifa Ahmed
Calligraphyprism
 October 2022

"Using sacred text and moving image, I explore themes of narrative and healing through text. By investigating language on a meta level, I am absorbing the traditions of remembrance art into daily practice. *Calligraphyprism* looks at transforming the traditional into video, constructing and deconstructing images in a dreamlike sequence. Sacred geometry acts as a bridge to the spiritual realm, surrounding the viewer with words of healing."

Duration: 5:21 mins

D'arcy Darilmaz
Say goodbye to the fairies
 2019

"Filmed during a journey on the Isle of Man with my Nan in 2019. She went back after 80 years to search for her Romani Grandparent's café, the Café Royale, and their gravesite. Nan romanticised the café as a very 'British' institution, however, her memories were met with many changes to the surroundings. The film centres on the sharing of stories and themes of memory, nostalgia, loss, and death – all with a pinch of humour. Sadly, Nan never saw this film as she passed away shortly after it was completed."

Duration: 10:20 mins

Edd Carr
 (with sound by Lucy Johnson)
YORKSHIRE DIRT

February 2022

"My work *YORKSHIRE DIRT* features footage of rural practices like farming, animal agriculture, and blood sports, from my home landscape. The film is a comment on structural violence of rural landscapes, and how it feeds into wider issues such as the climate crisis. It is also printed entirely on soil collected from the moorland, using a low-tech process I innovated, linking the materials and the subject."

Duration: 3:15 mins

Hang Zhang
Giant Sam's Tea Party
 2022

"The thread tying together my works is a pursuit of relative equality for all beings through challenging traditionally higher positions of power, including anthropocentrism, Western-centrism, colonisation and the patriarchy. As an artist my responsibility is to speak for the underprivileged who do not yet have enough voice. The focus ranges from a small lab beetle that otherwise would never have received love from humans to domestic animals that serve human needs but are rarely regarded as friends.

After two years having Sam (a beetle) as my companion species, Sam sadly passed away in June 2022. Around that time, I brought the giant inflatable Sam to Nottingham, and it was well-liked by artists from all over the country. Sam is likely to be the most famous red flour beetle in the English art circle, which may be the ultimate success of this project."

Duration: 2:43 mins

Marie Collier
Curry and Chips
 2022

"I am a performance and video artist working under the name of Eira Clare. Eira presents the ambiguity of a world lost between the past and present imagined through her screen persona. The video *Curry and Chips* features a 1960s housewife stuck in the packaged world of fast food and cooking appliances. The scene sets the 'femme fatale' character in the relationship with her kitchen, leading elegantly to setting her microwave meal alight, to end in flames. I experimented with found footage and TV interviews with Andy Warhol and one of his many muses Candy Darling. The camera man and character who helps Eira to light the fire is the artist Dean Considine."

Duration: 4:28 mins

Annie Marie Greenwood
it was one of them weird days between Christmas and erm, New Years
 2022

"The film explores the relationship between time and the family landscape through reconnecting to an autobiographical history. The film is led by a spoken dialogue which revisits the moment I found out about my grandmother's passing. This invites my audience into an intimate memory which, for some, will feed into their own experiences with grief. It features archival family videos that include my grandmother and I around 20 years ago, as well as modern day footage depicting this changing space. This film is about accepting the inevitability that this space [the family home] will continue to change with time, as I recognise that all that remains is recorded footage and our memories."

Duration: 4:46 mins

Thank you to University of Leeds who have kindly supported this exhibition and film screening space by lending audio-visual equipment.