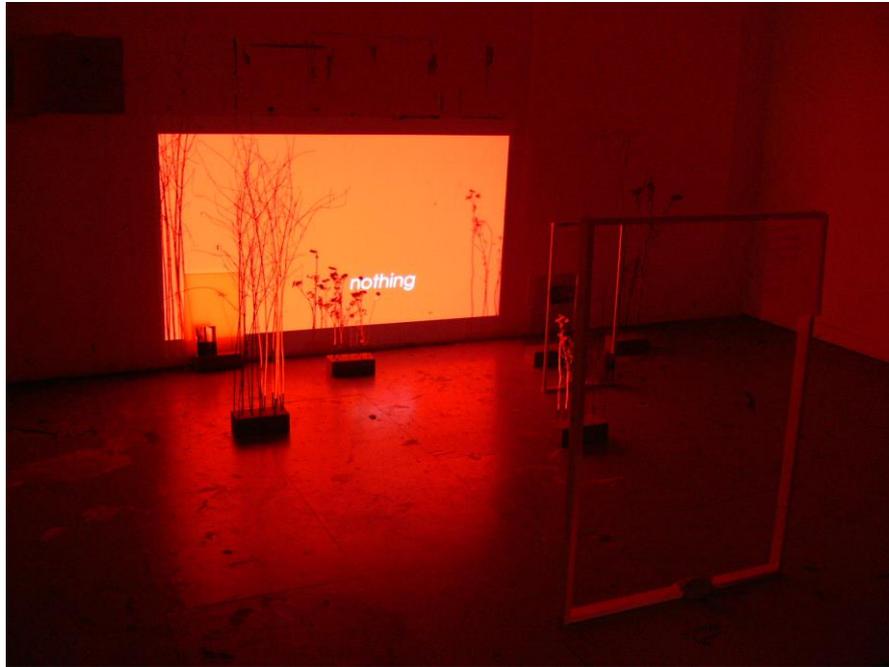


Art for the Environment

New exhibition explores human impact on the environment, following international residencies



Ex Nihilo © Annabel Duggleby

Private View Thursday 25 January 6-9pm

Exhibition 26 January – 18 March 2018

Art for the Environment, curated by Camilla Palestra, presents work from six artists whose practice explores the nature of human impact on our environment. Following the international residency programme Art for the Environment (AER) – set up by acclaimed artist Professor Lucy Orta at the University of the Arts London – the exhibition presents, for the first time, a selection of work created from past residencies, including film, sound and interactive installation.

Established in 2015, the AER programme invites artists and designers to explore concerns that define the twenty-first century – including biodiversity, environmental sustainability, social economy and human rights – and through artistic practice, envision a world of tomorrow. The exhibition sees six past AER residents combine to create a powerful presentation that probes preconceptions and concerns around the environment. The accompanying exhibition event programme includes opportunities for visitors to investigate the possibilities of art for the environment, including hands-on workshops, recording sessions and discussions.



© Matt Parker



Steal Life (still) © Nana Maiolini

Duggleby explores the commodification and objectification of nature, following the historical narratives of Victorian plant-hunters – whose spoils fed Britain’s upper class hot-houses – and seed patenting, the agriculture sector’s way of owning their genetically modified plants. The works of Valerio and Niederhauser investigate our relationship with commercial process and manufacturing. Valerio explores the tension between artisan practice and the frantic pace of modern production, using natural dyes, recycled materials and traditional techniques. Niederhauser, following her residency on Venice’s glass island Murano, traces the journey of sand to glass to object to recycling, probing our use and discard of material.

Hall, Parker and Maiolini channel the power of sound. Hall creates an intimate space for visitors to record their dreams by the elementary themes of earth, air, fire and water. Parker records a soundscape of the protected landscape at Joya: arte + ecología in Spain, whose ‘natural’ sound is disturbed by the electronic interference of a phone searching for signal. Maiolini’s work takes the skeletons of desertification – the crisply dried ‘sculptures’ of nature – and records the crackle of these once lush roots, flowers and leaves, as they are crushed so easily in their lifeless form. The accompanying exhibition event programme includes recycling workshops, recording sessions and discussions, inviting visitors to investigate the possibilities of art for the environment.

Exhibiting artists, followed by their AER residency hosts are: Annabel Duggleby (Hauser & Wirth, Somerset 2017, UK); Magz Hall (Yorkshire Sculpture Park 2015, UK); Nana Maiolini (Joya: arte + ecología 2016, Spain); Noemi Niederhauser (Fondazione Berengo Murano, Venice 2015, Italy); Matt Parker (Joya: arte + ecología 2016, Spain); and Matteo Valerio (Fondazione Zegna 2016, Italy).

UAL and Bow Arts are partnering to present a new nine-week AER residency at their Royal Albert Wharf (RAW) studios on the Thames, east London. *Art for the Environment* has been put together with the support of University of the Arts London, the Centre for Sustainable Fashion and Arts Council England.

ENDS

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Notes to editors

Exhibition: Art for the Environment
Dates: 26 Jan – 18 March 2018
Admission: Free
Opening Hours: Tues to Sun, 10am – 5pm
Address: Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts, 181 Bow Road, London E3 2SJ
Travel: Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR
Contact: 020 8980 7774 / nunnery@bowarts.com

About Bow Arts

Bow Arts Trust was established as an educational arts charity in 1995 and supports a community of over 500 artists with affordable, secure and creative workspaces. Bow Arts also runs the Nunnery Gallery, a contemporary art gallery which supports a diverse range of local, national and international exhibitions and events. www.bowarts.org

About UAL

University of the Arts London is the world’s sixth best University for Art and Design in the QS World University Rankings® 2017. We offer an extensive range of courses in art, design, fashion, communication and performing arts. Our graduates go on to work in and shape creative industries worldwide. The University draws together six renowned colleges, each with its own world-class reputation. Our state of the art facilities include workshops with letterpress machinery, studio theatres, gallery space as well as libraries and archives for research into hundreds of years of the greatest artists and designers. Find out more about the University’s colleges. <http://www.arts.ac.uk>

About CSF

Centre for Sustainable Fashion (CSF) is a Research Centre of the University of the Arts London based at London College of Fashion which was founded in 2007 by Professor Dilys Williams. Their work explores vital elements of Better Lives London College of Fashion's commitment to using fashion to drive change, build a sustainable future and improve the way we live. <http://sustainable-fashion.com>



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