

Press Release: under embargo until Monday 6 April 2020

## Biennial moving image and performance showcase *Visions in the Nunnery* announces second lead artist as technical innovator **Nye Thompson**



Nye Thompson, photo by Nick Hynan, courtesy of BOM

**Exhibition Dates** 24 September – 13 December 2020 (TBC)

**Open Call** 2 March – 21 June 2020

*Announcement of Nye Thompson will be made on Monday 6 April*

Inviting submissions from across the world, [Visions in the Nunnery](#) is Bow Arts' biennial showcase of international moving image and performance art. Three invited artists will lead the exhibition's monthly programmes, and the announcement of **Nye Thompson** follows Jarman award winner **Hetaim Patel** as the first.

Thompson's work is celebrated for its often weird and unsettling effect, as she pushes the boundaries of digital art by creating data-generating artist software systems to explore the often hidden impact of new technologies. The V&A just acquired a data map generated by her recent creation *The Seeker*, a network-based entity that travels the globe virtually, and a 2019 commission for the Barbican created a travelling bird's-eye view of the UK border using satellite and google earth imagery. For *Visions* she will show a new work commissioned by The Lowry's WEEK 53 Festival, */artefact*, which virtually builds a colossal dividing wall on the un-walked territories of Mars.

Sophie Hill, Bow Arts' Director of Arts & Events, says:

*"Nye Thompson's work has the foresight and technology to drive forward Bow Arts' acclaimed Visions programme, at a time when art is sorely needed."*

*She will bring a fresh perspective to one of the gallery's main shows, helping Visions continue to push the boundaries of moving image, as well as showcasing the best of London's artistic talent. Visions brings together artists from all over the world – in 2018 we had submissions from over 30 countries – and that couldn't be more important right now."*



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The role of the *Visions* lead artists is to set the tone and encourage a range of submissions; three lead artists will punctuate the three month-long programmes, with the final artist to be announced on 5 May during the last month of the open call. Currently closed, the Nunnery Gallery hopes to reopen with this flagship staple of its programme, though dates are of course subject to change. *Visions* has been running since 1999 and is highly anticipated for its unique presentation of recent band international moving image and performance, previously exhibited artists include Dryden Goodwin, Susan Hiller, Melanie Manchot, Mikhail Karikis, Tina Keane, Richard Layzell and Bedwyr Williams. *Visions* is supported by Film and Video Umbrella, LUX, University of East London and Queen Mary University of London.

ENDS

#### For more info and images contact

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Web: [www.bowarts.org](http://www.bowarts.org) | [www.twitter.com/BowArts](https://www.twitter.com/BowArts) | [www.facebook.com/bowarts](https://www.facebook.com/bowarts) #VisionsInTheNunnery

#### Notes to editors

Call for entries: 2 March – 21 June 2020

Exhibition: *Visions in the Nunnery*

Exhibition dates: 24 September – 13 December 2020 (TBC)

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](mailto:nunnery@bowarts.com)

#### About *Visions in the Nunnery*

Founded by Chris Meigh-Andrews and Marcel Baettig in 1999 and developed further by Cinzia Cremona and Tessa Garland, *Visions in the Nunnery* invites submissions of moving image and performance art from across the world to present in a unique international showcase. All work must have been completed in the last two years, with the aim of championing innovation and experimentation in moving image practice. Across its ten-year history *Visions* exhibited artists such as Oreet Ashery, Lucy Beech & Edward Thomasson, Heather Phillipson and Matt Stokes at the very early stages of their careers, and supported artists to show their latest exploratory work. Looking towards its 12<sup>th</sup> edition in 2020, *Visions* is now a biennial staple of the Nunnery Gallery programme. [More](#)

#### About Bow Arts

Bow Arts is an arts education charity that provides affordable creative workspaces for over 500 emerging artists. Alongside this, Bow Arts manages one of the country's most exciting education programmes, which takes world-class artists into 90 schools to improve the lives and learning of children and young people. Bow Arts runs the Nunnery Gallery, a public gallery that supports a diverse range of high quality exhibitions and events as well as the delivery of a public arts programme. Established in 1995, Bow Arts holds an important place in east London which is fast becoming known as London's Artist Quarter. [www.bowarts.org](http://www.bowarts.org)