

VISIONS

in the nunnery

Celebrating 10 years of Visions
Special Exhibition Programme

Programme 1 of *Visions in the Nunnery* includes artists **Uriel Orlow** and **Mikhail Karikis** and launches with new and experimental performances, including opera, selfies and a peephole hut

Programme 1 Launch Event: Thursday 17 November, 6-9pm

The Programme Launch will feature live interactive and experiential performances from Calum F Kerr, Philip Lee & Cally Trench, Jacek Ludwig Scars with works from Unnoticed Art Festival.

Programme 1 17-23 November, Free Entry

Visions in the Nunnery: 5 October – 18 December 2016 [See full list of exhibition programmes](#)

Presenting Jan Adriaans, Anneke Bosma, Cristine Brache, Rob Crosse, Shona Davies, Dave Monaghan & Jon Klein (DMK), Jamila Johnson-Small, Mikhail Karikis, Alyona, Larionova, Arijana Lekić-Fridrih, Jacek Ludwig, Scarso, Amy Lunn, Ulf Lundin, Ruth Novaczek, Uriel Orlow, Eeva Siivonen, Tanya Syed, Maryam Tafakory, Fiona Walsh.



Still from *Letters to Edna*, Uriel Orlow, courtesy the artist.

Visions in the Nunnery's Programme 1 explores the themes of identity, narrative and the creation of special

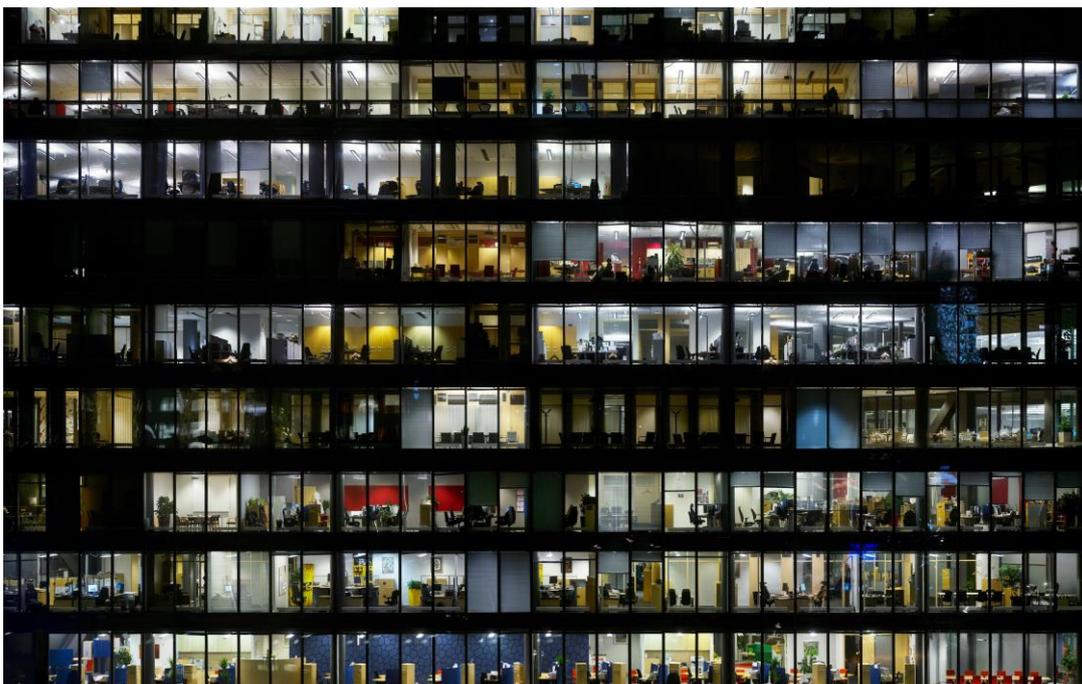
Press Release | 27 October 2016

characters in this extraordinary insight into ways of interpreting the world and it's social codes. The films and performances in **Programme 1** use re-enactment, documentary and fictionalisation to address ideas about the 'everyday' and our perception of self.

Mikhail Karikis' *Ain't Got No Fear* reveals a way in which industrial sites may be reimagined by youths through the logic of friendship and play, as well as the thrill of subverting authority and evading adult surveillance. A reimagining of the militarised industrial marshland of the Isle of Grain in south east England, the film is a collaboration with 11-13 year olds who use the structure of a music video to create a surreal portrait of their past present and future.

Uriel Orlow's film, *Letters to Edna*, shows the enactment of the character Edna Walthorpe – playwright and author Joe Orton's fictional alter ego – conjured up by performance artists Adam Christensen and Marcia Farquhar. Orton used Edna's letters to goad authority into revealing their own innate idiocy and double standards. Filmed on the doorstep of Joe Orton's house, Edna's letters to the Ritz Hotel, church halls, the council and companies feel oddly familiar and contemporary.

Ed Atkins describes **Alyona Larionova's** *Across Lips* (2016) as attempting "communication across such vast distances and between such vastly differing objects, cultures, times, that it arrives at a kind of perpetual calm: things seem related, even if that's only through their elegant ranging". **Ulf Ludin** presents a voyeuristic portrait of an office and its workers after dark, creating an alternative reflection on the everyday.



Still from 5 – 9 Ulf Ludin, courtesy the artist.

Press Release | 27 October 2016

Rob Crosse's *Land Cruiser* is the result of a month long study into the rituals of camel racing as part of a residency at the Katara Art Center in Doha, Qatar. A seemingly fantastical hobby, Crosse creates an insight into an alternative 'everyday' and exemplifies his continued interest in social groups.

Programme 1 Launch Event Thursday 17 Nov 6-10pm

Philip Lee & Cally Trench present *Peephole Hut* where viewers will be presented with a hut with small holes and chinks in all four walls from which bright light will show. They will see Cally Trench and Philip Lee enter the hut dressed in formal clothes, and shut the door... In an exercise in looking and voyeurism, viewers will be invited to use the peepholes.

Calum F Kerr creates a fictional future, inspired by Ray Bradbury's 'Fahrenheit 451', set in a time when self-portrait photographic images (known as 'Selfies') are forbidden by The Outerness; a mysterious force controlling humankind. This performance delineates the inner rebellion of an anti-Selfie policeman. After he confiscates five analogue photographs, he sees them as a possible escape from the anti-selfie law.

The nave and the Nunnery will be transformed with candles and sound in this video and durational installation/performance by **Jacek Ludwig Scarso**, elaborating on the iconic image of the Pieta and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, sung with soprano Maya Sapone.

A selection of works from the **Unnoticed Art Festival** will also feature, questioning social norms, behaviour and gesture. Created by **Frans van Lent** in Rotterdam, the festival showcases performances that hide themselves in everyday life. Work is explored that blends in with acceptable social and public behaviour, often because of the language used, and therefore sometimes goes unnoticed by passers-by. The concept and its actual performance are separated; the ideas are put into action by a group of volunteers.

Established in 1999, *Visions in the Nunnery* offers an informed overview of the provocative and quick-changing mediums of moving image and performance. The 2016 exhibition, celebrating the show's tenth edition, showcases over 100 artists' work through an innovative six-part programme, punctuated by 12 events featuring live performances in the gallery and its unique Victorian enclosed courtyard. The show was selected from over 1,500 international submissions by curators Cinzia Cremona and Tessa Garland.

Remaining Programmes

[Visions Programme 2](#) 24-30 November

[Visions Programme 3](#) 1-18 December



Press Release | 27 October 2016

For press information and further images please contact:

Georgina Walters, Marketing and Communications Assistant
020 8980 7774 | media@bowarts.com

Sophie Hill, Gallery Co-Director
020 8980 7774 (op.3) | shill@bowarts.com

www.bowarts.org | www.twitter.com/BowArts | www.facebook.com/bowarts #VisionsBow

Notes to editors

Exhibition: Visions in the Nunnery

Dates: 5 October – 18 December 2016

Address: Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts, 181 Bow Road, London E3 2SJ

Telephone: +44 (0)20 8980 7774

Opening Hours: Tues – Sun, 10am – 5pm

Admission: Free

Travel: Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR

About *Visions in the Nunnery*

Established in 1999, the open submission exhibition *Visions in the Nunnery* was pioneering in its championing of emerging and experimental moving image practice, exhibiting artists such as Oreet Ashery, Lucy Beech & Edward Thomasson, Heather Phillipson and Matt Stokes at the very early stages of their careers. With all work having to be made in the last two years, *Visions* has drawn submissions from over 15 countries and attracted leading artists to showcase their latest exploratory work. The last *Visions in the Nunnery* was in 2012; the 2016 show is the tenth edition.

About Bow Arts

Bow Arts Trust was established as an educational arts charity in 1995 and supports a community of over 400 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