

New Webb-Ellis film imagines young people as seers and prophets, guiding us through our turbulent times, presented as part of moving image festival *Visions in the Nunnery*



Webb-Ellis *This place is a message* (2022) installation image, courtesy Nunnery Gallery, photo Rob Harris

Visions in the Nunnery, Programme 2 Dates 11 November – 18 December 2022 | [Press image Dropbox](#)

Bow Arts' renowned festival of film *Visions* continues with Webb-Ellis's Programme 2, presenting their new film *This place is a message* (2022), which imagines a world in which young people are seers and prophets, guiding us through our turbulent times.

British/Canadian filmmakers Caitlin and Anj Webb-Ellis are known for their unique and boundary-pushing methods of collaboration and working, and their latest film is no exception. In the film they co-create an imaginary world with young people from Gravesend, presenting an alternative environment for learning that pushes the limits of human expression and communication, making space for the body to speak, protest and disobey.

The film is presented in the Nunnery Gallery flanked by banners made by the young people in the film, with the furniture used in the apocalyptic forest setting of the film providing seating for visitors.

Drawing on the themes of youth, elemental power and ritual in their work, Webb-Ellis selected 22 other artist's films and digital installations from across the world to create the rest of the programme. Visitors are invited to explore generational traumas, passed on superstitions and ritualistic practices, and the idea of womanhood in different cultures; to reimagine a Soviet-era diving board as an antenna to signal other life forms and to manifest long-held childhood fantasies.

The 2022 *Visions* open call drew 448 submissions from 48 countries and collectively presents 42 artists hailing from 20 different countries across the globe, including China, Finland, Iran, Singapore and Ukraine. A much-anticipated exhibition in the Nunnery Gallery's calendar, *Visions* gives visitors the unique experience of a curated conversation of filmmakers from across the world.



Visions in the Nunnery installation images, courtesy Nunnery Gallery, photo Rob Harris



In a coming together of film and creativity from artists at all stages of their career, *Visions* is activated by a dynamic events programme featuring workshops, walks, live performance and poetry, and exclusive screenings of Vivek Vadoliya's *Dear Bradford* and new student films from the University of East London. All programme films will also be available online for the duration of the exhibition on Bow Arts' YouTube channel.

Programme 2 Exhibiting Artists: Amrita Chandradas; Andrew Demirjian; Tessa Garland; Michael Gurhy; Dan Guthrie; Sarah Lasley; Robin Leverton; Olana Light; Stuart Moore & Kayla Parker; Yannick Mosimann; Simon Olmetti; Bella Riza; Niyaz Saghari; Zara Sands; collectif_fact, Annelore Schneider & Claude Piguet; Maxima Smith; Vilma Tihilä; Enni-Kukka Tuomala; Janelle VanderKelen; Sam Williams & Victoria Gray; Yuetong Yang; Madalina Zaharia.

For interviews, more info and images contact

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Notes to editors

Exhibition: [Visions in the Nunnery](#) | Exhibition dates: 7 October – 18 December 2022

Admission: Free | Opening Hours: Tues to Sun, 10am – 4pm

Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts, 181 Bow Road, London E3 2SJ | Travel: Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR

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About Webb-Ellis

British Canadian artist filmmakers Webb-Ellis use film, dance, music and installation to create their unique works, completing a First Class BA (Hons) in Photography at The Arts University Bournemouth. Awards include Jerwood Film and Video Umbrella Award (2019), Canada Council for the Arts, Research and Development (2018) and several Arts Council England Grants for the Arts awards. Selected exhibitions include: Whitstable Biennale, 2022; 'Body Vessel Clay', including collaborative work made with Jade Montserrat, Two Temple Place, London, 2022; 'Clay, Peat, Cage', York Art Gallery, 2022; 'Drink in the Beauty', Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, Scotland, 2022; 'Dislocations', Hunterian Gallery, Glasgow, Scotland, 2021; Estuary Festival, UK 2021; Birmingham International Dance Festival, 2021; Essex Road Programme, Tintype Gallery, London 2020; 'Phoenix', Leicester 2019; 'SALT', Istanbul 2019; Jerwood Film and Video Umbrella Awards, London 2019; Alchemy Film and Moving Image Festival, UK, 2019; Aesthetica Art Prize 2017, York Art Gallery 2017; 'Visions in the Nunnery', Nunnery Gallery, London 2016.

About *Visions in the Nunnery*

Visions in the Nunnery is Bow Arts' renowned biennial showcase of moving image, digital and performance art, selected from an international open call. *Visions* offers an informed overview of the provocative and quick-changing mediums of moving image and performance, presenting works from across the world. Established in 1999, *Visions* has exhibited artists including Oreet Ashery, Tacita Dean, Ori Gersht, Dryden Goodwin, Susan Hiller, Mikhail Karikis, Tina Keane, Lawrence Lek, Uriel Orlow, Hetain Patel, Heather Phillipson and Nye Thompson, many at the very early stages of their careers. *Visions* is curated by artist and selector Tessa Garland, Sophie Hill, Director of Arts and Events at Bow Arts together with invited lead artists.

About Bow Arts

We create inspirational, supportive environments where artists and communities interact, learn and flourish. Since 1994, Bow Arts has nurtured London's diverse creativity and talent. We've provided artists and creative practitioners with affordable workspace, connecting them with local communities and supporting their professional development. We give communities throughout London greater access to and interaction with the arts, through our schools programme, workshops, exhibitions and events. Housed in a former 19th-century convent building, surrounded by our artist studios, the Nunnery Gallery is our not-

Press Release: 14 November 2022



for-profit art space. Our programme pushes boundaries with an original and creative approach that explores the stories of east London and celebrates today's artistic talent.