



For as Long as You Like

Laure Prouvost, Clunie Reid, James Richards, Tai Shani, John Smith, John Smith & Graeme Miller, Stephen Sutcliffe

Curated By Anne-Sophie Dinant

March 21 - May 3, 2014

This exhibition brings together six artists who through film, video, installation, collage and drawing question the viewer's receptivity to another reading of the everyday. Departing from the mundane to drift into more intimate thoughts and poetical staging, they create a proper language made of images. Often using the found image, objects or sound they associate them to their own footage, photographs, drawings or texts. Familiar to us, these images refer to personal life, to the imaginary or to the overwhelming of the mass-media culture. Despite many differences between them, the works also bear some similitudes. They escape formal narratives and install a specific relation between image and language. Flirting between the absurd and a certain humour, the works in the exhibition are nevertheless tainted with socio-political concerns and generate a reflection about 'the politics of the image'. The artists, most of whom are British or based in Great Britain, play on a balanced construction-deconstruction of the image in the tradition of experimental film-making and more particularly of structural film. To a certain extent, some of the works also echo the films and collages of the artist and filmmaker Jeff Keen or the post-punk art of Linder Sterling. Consciously or not, and with more or less intensity, they offer a reflection on certain aspects of British culture and identity.

Laure Prouvost makes direct performances for the camera and films that are sometimes inserted within large scale installations. *Burrow Me*, 2009 is the first video evoking 'the tunnel', a recurrent element in her work that reveals a constant play between fictive narration and the spectator's implication in her work.

Tai Shani's performances and installations revolve around experimental narrative texts. Taking their inspiration from fairy tales or mythology, they alternate between familiar styles and structures that research construction of subjectivity, the excesses of the epic and feminine realism. The audio installation *The Seven Darknesses*, 2014 is a reinterpretation of the story of 'Bluebeard'.

In her collages, Clunie Reid works with visually strong images cut out from magazines or taken from the Internet that she rephotographs. She associates them with sentences written in black pen that have a direct impact on the spectator. *Cos the Body Goes in and Out*, 2011, explores the themes of sexuality and identity.

Through his video installations, James Richards reveals a certain poetical sensibility. He often uses his own footage mixed with existing images taken from feature films, historical artists' films or the Internet to create a work that has its own history. In some sequences of *The Misty Suite*, 2009, the fragility of internet images is exposed, multiplied and leads to abstraction.

John Smith is a prominent figure of experimental film. His films and videos install a play on language while rendering a personal and intimate interpretation of the everyday, often tainted with humour. For *Lost Sound*, 1998-2001, he collaborated with sound artist Graeme Miller.

Stephen Sutcliffe works with film and video that take their inspiration directly from the technique of collage. He uses scenes taken from TV series, radio programmes or archival films to explore certain aspects of media culture. By including drawings in his videos, like the drawing of a TV frame in *New Numbers*, 2012, he emphasizes the conceptual relation between moving image and object. His drawings are inspired by illustrations taken from books, newspapers or magazines.

In the exhibition space, monitors and projections are presented alongside drawings, collages and installations and invite the spectator to create his own trajectory and to explore the possibilities of the image.

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Laure Prouvost (b. 1978, Lille). Lives in London. Solo exhibitions include: New Museum, New York, 2014; Max Mara Art Prize for Women, Whitechapel Gallery, London, 2013; Laure Prouvost / Adam Chodzko, Tate Britain, London, 2013; The Hepworth, Wakefield, 2012; Spike Island, Bristol, 2011; Flat Time House, London, 2010; Art Now Lightbox, Tate Britain, London, 2010. Group exhibitions include: L'Almanach 14, Le Consortium, Dijon, 2014; Turner Prize 2013 Exhibition, CCA Derry-Londonderry, 2013; Assembly; Painting Show; New Contemporaries, ICA London et A Foundation, Liverpool, 2010. She is the recipient of the Max Mara Art Prize for Women 2012 and the recipient of the Turner Prize 2013.

Clunie Reid (b.1971). Lives in London. Solo exhibitions include: In Pursuit of the Liquid, MOTinternational, London, 2013; Black Light, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, 2012; Art Now, two person show with James Richards, Tate Britain, London, 2010; Dumb Down, Get Dressed, Move Out, Studio Voltaire, London, 2009; Group exhibitions include: ICA Off-Site: A Journey Through London Subculture 1980s to Now, The Old Selfridge Hotel, London, 2013; Sleeping Upright, Nottingham Contemporary and One Thoresby Street, Nottingham, 2012; Free, New Museum, New York, 2010.

James Richards (b.1983, Cardiff). Lives in Berlin. Solo exhibitions include: Cubitt, London, 2014; CCA Kitakyushu, Japon, 2012; Chisenhale Gallery, London, 2011; Rodeo Gallery, Istanbul, 2011; Art Now, two person show with Clunie Reid, Tate Britain, 2010; Tramway, Glasgow, 2009. Group exhibitions include: Frozen Lakes, Artist Space, New York, The Encyclopedic Palace, Venice Biennale, 2013, Younger than Jesus, New Museum, New York, 2009. Richards curated film programs at Serpentine Gallery, London, 2010; BFI, London, 2010, Whitechapel Gallery, London, 2007. He curated Group exhibitions at Spike Island, Bristol, 2013 and Cabinet, London, 2014. He is the recipient of the Jarman Award 2012.

Tai Shani (b.1976, London). Lives in London. Solo exhibitions and projects include: Visions of Frozen Hell III, Gasworks, London, 2013; Silver Fiat Vox, Xero, Kline & Coma, London, 2013; Last Night I Dreamt I was Venus..., Barbican, London 2010; Tai Shani ICA Screentest, ICA, London, 2010. Group exhibitions and projects include: Anthology Live/Film in Space, Camden Arts Centre, London, 2013; Drawing Biennial 2013, The Drawing Room, London, 2013; Revolver, Matt's Gallery, London, 2012; More Soup and Tart, Barbican, London, 2011; Diffusions, Tate Britain, London, 2011, Year of the Ox, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, 2010.

John Smith (b.1952). Lives in London. Solo exhibitions include: Museu Nacional de Arte Contemporanea, Lisbon, 2013; Tanya Leighton Gallery, Berlin, 2013; Weserburg Museum of Modern Art, Bremen, 2012; Espace Croisé, Roubaix, 2011; Walker Art Centre, Minneapolis, 2011; Royal College of Art Galleries, London, 2010. Group exhibitions include: TBA, Lulu, Mexico City, 2014; DLA Piper Series: Constellations, Tate Liverpool, 2013; Locus Solus: Impressions of Raymond Roussel, Serralves Museum, Porto, 2012; Image Counter Image, Haus der Kunst, Munich, 2012; Descriptive Acts, SFMoMA, 2012; The Talent Show, MoMA PS1, New York, 2011. He is the recipient of the Jarman Award 2013.

Stephen Sutcliffe (b. 1968, Harrogate). Lives in Glasgow. Solo exhibitions include: Outwork and Working Out, Tramway, Glasgow, 2013; The Herbivores, Rob Tufnell, London, 2012; Runaway, Success, Stills, Edinburgh, 2011; Cubitt, London, 2009; ICA, London, 2008; Group exhibitions include: Random Acts, Channel 4, London, 2013; Television Delivers People, ICA, London, 2012; Transcendental Empiricism, Rob Tufnell, London, 2011; Against Interpretation, Studio Voltaire, London, 2009; Grin and Bear it, Glucksman Gallery, Cork, 2009; Nought to Sixty, ICA, London, 2008; Medium Cool, Art in General, New York, 2008.