

B-SIDE ASSEMBLIES: NO 1

SATURDAY 17 JUNE 2017

SPEAKERS



CHAIR, GORDON DALTON

Gordon Dalton is Network Manager for Visual Arts South West (VASW) and Interim Director of the Contemporary Visual Arts Network (CVAN). VASW work collaboratively to make the South West a resilient and connected visual arts ecology that inspires more engaged and diverse audiences to value, take part and advocate for the visual arts. VASW promote and support contemporary visual artists and organisations in order to produce internationally regarded, critically engaged work and mobilise and campaign on behalf of the visual arts sector in the South West.



PAUL SOULELLIS SHOW US WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE

What is the gesture of resistance? From call and response to printed tweets to carrying a message in public, Paul will discuss the politics of protest and publishing — physical acts of circulationism and "making public" that occur at the scale of the body. A special Crisis Edition of the Printed Web will also be presented, as Paul considers artistic practice and the role of the graphic designer as an agent of change in a post-Trump world.



KATY BAUER HOW DOES AN ACTIVIST EAT POTATOES?

I work on lots of things at once. I mean, in lots of different mediums - pottery, painting, filmmaking, writing, music - otherwise I go crazy. I go crazy anyway, but when I do the activist work I feel like my madness finds a context that forces it to focus with a sense of enthusiasm that I hope turns out to be useful. The activist work should function. It should draw people towards it rather than enrage or repel or divide. That's the challenge for me: how to get people to reconsider their position, or at least start to consider things more broadly. Democracy is a numbers game after all, and until we've moved on to something better than democracy (can't wait!) we'd better engage with it or we're *****.



NICKY CHILDS ARTSADMIN

Underpinning much of Artsadmin's work is a desire to work collaboratively with artists and other partners, supporting them to experiment and take risks, to communicate and take practical action against issues around climate change, social and political injustice in order to change perceptions and build a more positive future. Nicky will be talking about some of the work the organisation does - from supporting artists' grass roots activity, commissioning and producing particular projects to the steps we have taken to work more sustainably and to respond to current world issues.



ART FROM EXILE FARHAD BERAMAN

I will be talking about my previous work as a photographer and how moving to the UK has changed my approach to making work. I will be talking about my recent project 'Uncertain' and 'Shahre Farang' both inspired by and made with the help of asylum seekers and my own personal story of displacement and memories of home.



PAULA CRUTCHLOW

Museum of Contemporary Commodities (MoCC) is a series of slow moving conversations between people and digital things that explores our production and experience of the 'prolific present'. How, what and where we trade, exchange and consume affects the worlds we live in, and those we dream of making. Central to this are performances of data construction that condition our daily lives into milieus of consumption - with socially and environmentally damaging consequences.



TOM GREEN

How artists are responding to the situation facing refugees and migrants to the UK. From political polemics to highly personal responses, an introduction to artistic strategies and a consideration of their impact. Tom has managed Platforma at Counterpoints Arts since 2011 and produced the Platforma festival in London, Manchester and Leicester. Previously he has worked for organisations including the Refugee Council, the Writers' Guild and Youthnet, primarily in editorial and online communications. Tom has written plays for theatre and BBC Radio 4. His latest theatre project is about boxing and migration.