

JERWOOD SPACE

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PRESS RELEASE

Un:Place

An exhibition of personal cartographies and urban responses.

Alys Williams / Benjamin Bailey / Seecum Cheung / Ilona Sagar / Dana Macpherson / Inzajeano Latif.

Café Space

Exhibition: Wednesday 3 June – Monday 20 July.

Private view: June 5th 5.30 to 7.30.

Open: Monday – Friday 9 – 5pm, Saturday 11 – 3pm

'A city of dreams, memories, images and traces, mapped and aligned, created and destroyed. Fragments of shadows move to form this place, unknown as to their mastery in this map, unsure as to how they will unite and stand to form geography. This is a city that rises and falls, narrative and sublime, distracted and concrete. We walk this stony labyrinth, unsure as to our path, seeking to find, but finding anything we can cast our eyes to, our map, our place, and a landscape of new form.' (Beatrice Jarvis)



(Image by Beatrice Jarvis)

Un: Place is the first group show in the Café space, guest-curated by Beatrice Jarvis. Six artists have each created a piece of work that responds directly to the landscape of Jerwood Space, an iconic building situated in the heart of bustling Bankside. This reclaimed area between London Bridge and Waterloo is steeped in fragmented traces of lingering history, where passages of time are lost in hidden corners and marked histories are glimpsed on decaying facades. Once again though, it is an area of dynamic interaction and cultural interchange, exemplified by these six emerging artists communicating their response to the city landscape.

The pieces in exhibition use the figurations of the Café space and respond sensitively to its architectural formations and social pathways. It aims to inspire visitors to make a more mindful negotiation of place and to create personal geographies as a result of their interaction with the works displayed. It is designed to re-evaluate the traditional confines of a gallery space and encourage visitors to develop their environmental perceptions in what could be termed a psychogeographical fashion.

More broadly, the exhibition forms an exploration of culture and space, creating the potential for a personal regeneration through refreshed perception and creativity.

This exhibition is curated by Beatrice Jarvis. A free urban seminar will accompany this exhibition on Wednesday 10 June 10am to 6pm. This day-long workshop explores the nature of the city as creative stimulus. For further information contact: beatrice.jarvis@jerwoodspace.co.uk 020 7654 0171 www.jerwoodspace.co.uk www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

Note to editors:

Alys Williams born in 1979, London. She graduated from Camberwell College of Arts in 2002 with a BA in Visual Arts: Sculpture, where she had begun working with video and performance as elements creating Sculpture and Installation. She went on to study a Masters in Scenography at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, graduating in 2004. She has since continued to involve Scenographic concerns and principles in her evolving practise and works across the fields of Art and Design. Alys uses the disciplines of installation and video to explore the convergence of performance, the object, text and image. Her work draws from autobiographical references with particular concern for the relationship of architecture on the narratives that arise from this; She explores the poetic qualities of the places we inhabit and constructs dialogues from her past and present encounters with these surroundings.

Seecum Cheung studied BA Mixed Media Fine Art at the University Of Westminster (2005-2008). Seecum is a visual artist and creative facilitator (T1+2, Maddox Arts). Identity and assumed identities are the central concerns in her body of work. Concepts have developed from her interests in culture versus heritage, the discourse that one may feel when their background differs to the culture of their surroundings. Seecum is interested in the ways that people recognise and determine another's identity based purely on their visual appearance; how we perceive others and what it is that contributes to our reading and understanding of one another. Similarly this relates to the visual identity of a space and the how we respond to a space. In an architectural context, Seecum is concerned with how a space is given its identity, drawn up and designed by a team of people. We give it its exterior skin, but what if the building or place rejects its visual identity?

Ilona Sagar studied BA Fine Art and Critical Studies at Goldsmiths Goldsmith (2005-2008). Ilona is a visual artist and live art performer. Her practice explores a language of performance, film and assemblage that is focused on the intangible fragments of human relations. Ilona is interested in the manipulation of a material language and what it may convey to an audience. The work often uses the processes involved in making, to construct a fractured sense of narrative. Illusion and material [dis]honesty set the stage for works that seek to seduce, alluding to something familiar yet other. This sense of duplicity is apparent in the unexpected use of cheap materials such as plaster, ply wood, spray paint and sand which are used to dramatic effect. These methods are used to develop a transient reality that is mediated through the established forms of institutional communication, such as the museum, the civic space, the church and the theatre. Ilona works with T1+2, Live Art Platform and Colchester Arts Centre.

Inzajeano Latif (Middlesex: Third year BA Photography Student) Inzajeano is a third year photography student at Middlesex University. For Inzajeano photography is his art form, enabling him to capture his thoughts and feelings through carefully composed imagery that not only reflect himself but the Society that we live in today. Previous work has included The Ian Parry at the Getty Gallery. Inzajeano has recently undertaken a series of portrait commissions.

Benjamin Bailey is a cultural arts researcher and interdisciplinary arts technician. His work focuses on the study of processes of manifestation in space and the interconnectivity which exists between the manifestant, the dweller and the different environments in which they are brought to coexist. His interdisciplinary background proves an unusual mixture; in both new media and net.art theory and the different practical art forms of the theatre. Currently Benjamin is developing his independent practices in the perpetuation and participation in collaborative production, curation and avant-garde educational practice.

Dana Macpherson (Dartington College of Arts. Third Year Choreography Student) Dana Macpherson is an artist and choreography student from University College Falmouth. Her previous projects have included dancing from John O'Groats to Land's End. Dana's work focuses on the use of light and movement to form spatial analysing the architecture of urbanity through movement. Climbing deeper into the theme of 'pattern recognition' her work and observances are being informed by common (& geometric) patterns found in the natural world ,which have been echoed/evolved in the architecture that conducts us through modern/ancient space & place. She currently lives and works in Berlin.

Curator:

Beatrice Jarvis - (Dartington College of Arts 2005-8 Choreography and Visual Arts BA honours First Class) Beatrice is an urban space creative facilitator, choreographer and researcher. She utilises key concepts of choreography and visual arts methodologies with the intention to develop, original doctoral research on the connections between choreography and urban cultures. Her practice merges essential techniques in a sociological framework of critical perspectives. Beatrice is currently a visiting lecturer at various town planning and architecture departments in London developing a platform for the conceptual and physical integration of urban planning, sociology and choreography leading to practical social creative implementation. Beatrice is keen to create platforms social interaction using urban wastelands as a creative resource. Currently Beatrice works with T1+2, Jerwood Space, Chisenhale and Balancing Act to develop key arts research projects with social and practical outputs.