

Institute of Contemporary Arts

PRESS RELEASE

In formation III

21 August – 16 September 2018



Camille Barton, *SanQtuary*, curated by Camille Barton of
The Collective Liberation Project

The Institute of Contemporary Arts presents *In formation III*, the third iteration of a discursive platform emphasising collective production and learning, and forms of sociality. This expansive series of presentations, workshops, performances and participatory events is collaboratively organised by the ICA curatorial team and staff members.

In formation reimagines the spaces of the Institute of Contemporary Arts, considering how they are utilised and activated by public discourse, and questioning notions of the ‘civic’ institution. Where the *In formation* programmes in August 2017 and January 2018 took the interrogation of institutional forms and socio-political structures as a basis for discussion and production, *In formation III* is galvanised by considerations of humanity and the psyche. The programme spans critical questions around the science of the mind and its fixing of notions of humanity, experiences of individual and collective care, and explorations beyond the ‘rational’ mind.

This platform considers how agency and psychic life overlap and connect, moving from the address of highly formalised systems towards considering how their logics might be internalised, resisted and entrenched by the individual and collective psyche. Exploratory discussion, sound, performance, images and oral history provide channels to map how lived experience and intersubjective consciousness impact and inform societal hierarchies and priorities.

In formation III foregrounds emergent fields of research that offer points of entry into oppositional modes of thought and learning, co-creation and intergenerational work. Scrutinising capitalism through psychoanalysis, approaching historical visibility through the space of disability poetics, and interrogating the ways race and gender are policed through sound, the programme sheds light on how artists, activists and their interlocutors draw on energies that sustain counter-normative ways of organising social life.

PROGRAMME

Workshop: *ALOK, Beyond Gender*, 17 August, 1.30pm, Studio

A discursive workshop with ALOK, gender-nonconforming performance artist, writer and educator, who proposes an intersectional transfeminist approach to move beyond gender binaries and to better understand the root causes of gender-based violence.

Installation: *Annah: Nomenclature*, 22–26 August, 12–9pm, Upper Gallery

Indonesian writer, poet and artist Khairani Barokka presents a new performance installation, touching on subjects of race, sexuality, disability, and ownership.

Performance: *Annah: Nomenclature*, 23 August, 7pm, Upper Gallery

Khairani Barokka presents a live performance followed by a Q&A with the audience.

Screening: *Madame X: An Absolute Ruler*, 22 August, 6pm, Cinema 1

Ulrike Ottinger's rarely seen first feature from 1977 shown on 16mm, is a highly aesthetised adventure of self-transformation.

Talk: Denise Ferreira da Silva, 25 August, 5pm, Lower Gallery

Denise Ferreira da Silva's influential academic writing and artistic practice have highlighted how conceptions of humanity privileged within modern thought underpin forms of violence and dispossession experienced daily. Her thinking forms a vital stimulus for questions active in *In formation III* around conceptions of the mind, and implicit and explicit constraints imposed on the psyche.

Screening: *Braguino* and a conversation with director Clément Cogitore, 25 August, 7pm, Cinema 1

Braguino is a film concerned with subsistence and documenting life outside of the pressures of capitalism, social inequality and forced migration, by French artist, filmmaker and photographer Clément Cogitore.

Study group: Denise Ferreira da Silva, 26 August, 2–5pm, Upper Gallery

Writer and artist Denise Ferreira da Silva leads a study group focused on black aesthetics.

Screening: *Symbiopsychotaxiplasm: Take One*, 29 August, 7pm, Cinema 1

A one of a kind meta-documentary by the late documentarian William Greaves.

Discussion: Rahila Gupta and Kongreya Star, 30 August, 6pm, Studio

Writer and journalist Rahila Gupta leads a discussion on the women's revolution in Rojava, followed by an interactive Q&A with members of the Kongreya Star, the confederation of women's organizations in Rojava.

Workshop: *What's Love Got to Do with It?*, 2 September, 1–4pm, Lower Gallery

A participatory roundtable event brings together practitioners to discuss working from and with precarity towards collective ownership and a practical sense of care.

Screening: Claude Faraldo's *Themroc*, 5 September, 6.45pm, Cinema 1

Claude Faraldo's *Themroc* is a rarely screened French feature film about a man who rejects society and reverts to a caveman-like existence.

Workshop: *Boris Mitić on how to film nothing, in open air*, 7 September, 4.30pm, The park on Carlton House Terrace

Director of satirical documentary *In Praise of Nothing*, Boris Mitić, offers a quirky overview of the creative and production challenges of creating a narrative from thousands of hours of footage shot by filmmakers across the globe.

Screening: *In Praise of Nothing* and Q&A with director Boris Mitić, 7 September, 6.30pm, Cinema 1

An offbeat, satirical film about Nothing, in which Nothing, tired of being misunderstood, runs away from home and begins to reveal thoughts subjects from life and death to love and politics. Shot over eight years by 62 cinematographers in 70 countries, this essay-film is narrated in verse by Iggy Pop and scored by cabaret grandmasters Pascal Comelade and the Tiger Lillies. The screening is followed by a Q&A with director Boris Mitić.

Workshop: *Scratch #1 with sorryyoufeeluncomfortable*, 8 September, 2pm, Upper Gallery

A community driven conversation with artists and creative activists SYFU, using a co-creation process called Scratch to explore themes of identity, race and gender, co-creating new ways of thinking rooted in lived experience in collaboration with workshop participants.

Screening: UK Premiere of *National Narrative* and conversation with director Grégoire Beil, 9 September, 7pm, Cinema 1

Entirely constructed using Periscope exchanges, *National Narrative* probes the exhibitionist norm of the enhanced selfie. The screening will be followed by a conversation on co-creation and intergenerational discourse with director Grégoire Beil.

Installation: Mitchell Akiyama, 11–16 September, 12–9pm, Studio

Toronto-based artist Mitchell Akiyama presents a site-specific installation exploring space as a sounding object.

Workshop: *GUAP Social Work*, 13 September, 2pm, Upper Gallery

GUAP Magazine presents GUAP Social Work (a free, monthly co-work space for under 25s) including a photography skills workshop.

Talk: Mitchell Akiyama, 14 September, 7–9pm, Studio

Toronto-based artist Mitchell Akiyama gives a talk in relation to his site-specific installation in the Studio.

Workshop: *Neither Voice, No(i)r – Scratch #2* with Tristram Adams, 15 September, 2pm, Upper Gallery

Community driven conversation with academic and author Tristram Adams, ICA Curator Carey Robinson and audience, using a co-creation process called Scratch to explore how human voice, identity and power intersect to drive cultural assumptions rooted in a colonial philosophy.

Workshop: *Haul & Pull-up*, 15 September, 5pm, Lower Gallery

Vinyl DJ mixing workshop for women led by the UK's longest running all female sound system, Nzinga Soundz, active since 1980s.

Performance: YaYa Bones and Mina Rose, 15 September, 8pm, Lower Gallery

Music by YaYa Bones and Mina Rose (headliner) followed by DJ's until late.

Screening: Discussion and reading with Oleksiy Radynski, 16 September, 2pm, ICA Cinema

Ukrainian artist and filmmaker Oleksiy Radynski joins for a screening and discussion around his ongoing investigations into the geographies of Eastern Europe.

In formation III presents contributions from filmmakers, artists, writers, scholars, choreographers and musicians, including Tristram Adams, Mitchell Akiyama, ALOK, Khairani Barokka, Camille Barton, YaYa Bones, Grégoire Beil, Clément Cogitore, Crip research group (formed by Leah Clements with Rebecca Bligh, Uma Breakdown, Elena Colman, Alice Hattrick, and Lizzy Rose), Claude Faraldo, William Greaves, Rahila Gupta, Zethu Maseko, Boris Mitić, Ulrike Ottinger, Denise Ferreira da Silva, sorryyoufeeluncomfortable, Nzinga Soundz, Kongreya Star, Oleksiy Radynski and Mina Rose.

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