

WYSING ARTS CENTRE

PRESS RELEASE

Wysing launches new digital broadcast programmes for remote global audiences with international artists, musicians, curators and researchers

April – December 2020
www.wysingartscentre.org



Radio Web Macba. Photo credit: Radio Web Macba

Wysing Arts Centre places broadcasting at the centre of its artistic vision for 2020 with pioneering new works created by over forty international artists, musicians, curators and researchers for transmission to remote global audiences, and to build a sense of radical community at this time.

The new programmes will embrace digital and other technologies, privileging listening as much as the transmission of ideas to build, sustain and connect with remote and physically distant communities. Wysing will become an experimental broadcasting space where ideas are explored through residencies, commissioned works, events, new collaborations, podcasts and works that will be cast extensively across digital platforms.

Over forty creative practitioners from the UK, Europe, USA, Egypt, Indonesia, Syria and Uganda will be physically or remotely in residence at Wysing. The residencies will be researching subjects as diverse as English folk music, the gut, connections between workers movements in Yorkshire and Indonesia, rural transness, the history of a banned fertilizer in Guadeloupe and Martinique, audio therapies and treatment, a radio for loneliness, radical self-love and broadcasting hardware. They include groups and collaborations working transnationally to confront barriers around race, gender, sexuality and disability. Artist Adham Faramawy who works with moving image, painting and print will also be in residence working on an ambitious commission for Art Night in London in 2021. His works explore the urban lived experience where technology and its relationship to the body take a central role.

Hannah Wallis has also been appointed Resident Curator at Wysing, as part of DASH's ground-breaking programme to support the career development of D/deaf and Disabled Curators in partnership with Midlands Art Centre (MAC) and Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA). Wallis will provide curatorial support for the 2020 programme, as well as conducting her own independent research. She is an artist-curator, researcher and co-founder of Dyad Creative, an artistic partnership exploring performance, administration, curation and collaboration.

Wysing artists-in-residence: Travis Alabanza; Robin Buckley & Laura Fox; George Clark and Ismal Muntaha; Ruth Angel Edwards and collaborators; Adham Faramawy in partnership with Art Night; Kelechi Anucha and Carl Gent; Jessa Mockridge, Rebecca Jagoe, Maija Timonen, Rosa-Johan Uddoh and Anna Zett; Net//Work in partnership with Digital Arts Studios, Belfast and the British Council; Uma Breakdown; Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley; Nikissi Serumaga and Leyya Tawil, working with Artistic Advisor David Blandy; Christelle Oyiri-K AKA Crystallmess; Radio Web MACBA: Albert Tarrats, Anna Irina and Antonio Gagliano; Sickness Affinity Group: Clay AD, Frances Breden, Fee Grabow, Hang Linton, Laura Lulika, Anisha Muller, Romily Alice Walden and Lauryn Youden; Linda Stupart and Hannah Wallis.

For images, interview requests and further information please contact Janette Scott Arts PR on janette@janettescottartspr.com, or 07966 486156.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Wysing Arts Centre

Wysing Arts Centre was established in 1989 and its large site in rural Cambridgeshire encompasses artist studios, a large gallery, a music recording studio, educational and project spaces, onsite accommodation, ceramics facilities, and outdoor space with sculpture. Through its innovative work, Wysing influences the development of the visual arts sector in the UK. As a respected and well-connected institution operating outside the usual gallery system and urban context, Wysing is uniquely positioned to develop programmes that provide opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and which reflect on the role of art, artists, and arts organisations in society; acting as a testing ground for new ideas. www.wysingartscentre.org

RESIDENCY PROGRAMME ARTISTS

Travis Alabanza will explore queer and trans loneliness, rural transness and radio transmissions, working with producer Alabanza to develop a radio for loneliness that investigates how intimacy can be created across space and time,

Robin Buckley and **Laura Fox** will be creating a new body of collaborative work investigating gender and sexual identities as a continuing dialogue between audience and artists. Buckley will be using the residency to develop a new music album, while collaborating with Fox to develop new visual work. With broadcast technology integral to the duo's subjectivity, they will be addressing erasure and alienation within the music industry from queer and transgender perspectives.

The **West Java West Yorkshire Cooperative Movement (WJWY)** was initiated in 2018 by **George Clark**, **Ismal Muntaha**, **Bunga Saigian** and **Will Rose** as a platform for exchange and collaboration between communities focused around the Jatiwangi Art Factory (JaF) in West Java, Indonesia and Pavilion in West Yorkshire. Clark and Muntaha, will co-ordinate a series of transmissions from across each region, drawing together artists and communities connected with the project.

The focus for these broadcasts will be industrial relations taking as a framework two epochal events – the Luddite uprising in West Yorkshire in 1812 and the mass possession of workers in a new factory in Jatiwangi in 2018. These points of resistance were enabled by the technologies of their time; from female factory workers WhatsApp groups in Jatiwangi to the anonymous missives penned by King Ludd distributed across the textile valleys of West Yorkshire. These instances will act as structures, freeing voices and memories to create speculative broadcasts bringing the past, present and future into dialogue.

Through archival research and collaborative investigations, **Ruth Angel Edwards** will explore the role of broadcast media in community organising and bringing people together, both historically and in the

future. Edwards will work with various collaborators to create new audio works exploring the dissemination of radical and counter cultural material within music subcultures.

Existing at the intersection of the body and technology, **Adham Faramawy's** work spans media including moving image, sculptural installation and print, to discuss issues of materiality, touch, (toxic) embodiment and identity construction. Faramawy will create new work that will be presented as part of his Art Night commission in London in June 2021.

Building on research into English folk song at the Museum of English Rural Life, Vaughan Williams Library and the Seegar/Lloyd archives, **Kelechi Anucha** and **Carl Gent** will spend their time residency developing, recording and broadcasting new recordings. Reworking the form of traditional folk songs, Anucha and Gent will look at themes including rurality, sonic commons, narrative tropes, pagan/Christian integration, low/high cultural forms, the radical duality between oral and broadcast communication, and the ways in which folk songs have contributed to the political landscape and undermined the English imaginary.

Jessa Mockridge, Rebecca Jagoe, Maija Timonen, Rosa-Johan Uddoh and **Anna Zett** will be assembling new sound work on 'the gut': interdependency, analytic fiction, radical self-love, verbal and nonverbal power and resistance and a politics of listening to be broadcast from Wysing later in the year.

Working in partnership with the British Council and Digital Arts Studios, Belfast, **Net/Work** is a programme of residencies that investigate digital technologies. Wysing's residency will be led in collaboration with artist David Blandy and brings together four UK-based and international artists.

Drawing on his knowledge of digital technology within creative practices, Blandy, whose own practice slips between performance and video will be working with Syrian born **Leyya Tawil** and Ugandan based **Nikissi Serumaga**. Tawil is a performance and installation artist working with voice, movement and interactive audio electronics, whilst Serumaga is interested in stretching the limits of the screen, looking at the conjunction between physical objects, 3D space and ephemeral moments. They will work with UK based artists **Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley** who works with video game, animation, sound and performance, using digital technologies to archive Black and Trans experiences, and **Uma Breakdown**, who uses parallels drawn from experimental feminist writing practices, the study of horror cinema and game design to reconfigure art as an encounter with unstable and desirable processes.

Tackling the subjects of club culture, colonial alienation and alternative temporalities, **Christelle Oyiri-K AKA Crystallmess** is a sound artist, writer and DJ from France. She will research and experiment with sound synthesis and field recordings from a research trip to Guadeloupe and Martinique, exploring the intersection of anti-environmentalism, state secrecy and institutional racism.

Radio Web MACBA: Albert Tarrats, Anna Irina and Antonio Gagliano is an online radio project based at MACBA Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona that has been active for thirteen years. As members of Radio Web with their own individual practices, Tarrats, Irina and Gagliano will explore hardware related to broadcasting (sniffers and antenna), building sound libraries, recording with residency artists and testing different methods for sharing embodied knowledge and research.

Sickness Affinity Group (SAG): Clay AD, Frances Breden, Fee Grabow, Hang Linton, Laura Lulika, Anisha Muller, Romily Alice Walden, Lauryn Youden is a group of art workers and activists who work on the topic of sickness/disability and/or are affected by sickness/disability. SAG challenges the competitive and ableist mode of working in the arts by sharing experiences and information. and prioritising the well-being and access needs of its members. They investigate accessibility as both a topic and curatorial method, and aim to celebrate and create room for non-normative bodies, politics, and desires, as well as offering a supportive environment for fragility and wellbeing. As a collective, SAG will explore audio therapies and treatments through a radio broadcast.

Linda Stupart residency will research and develop a new body of work, as well as working with collaborators and fellow artists-in-residence, Carl Gent and Kelechi Anucha.

Hannah Wallis is an artist-curator, researcher and co-founder of Dyad Creative. She has worked with a-n, East Street Arts, National Writer's Centre, Kettle's Yard, and has developed aurally diverse practices with Aural Diversity and Deafroots. She will be in-residence throughout the year conducting research as part of an innovative programme to support the career development of D/deaf and Disabled Curators.

DASH ARTS has been an instigator and initiator of the commissioning of new work by Deaf and Disabled visual artists within mainstream galleries since 2009, supporting talent development by enabling diverse artists to create new work and collaborate with new institutions. DASH is becoming the chosen support hub for change, enabling organisations to create new partnerships, networks and ways of working. DASH became a limited company and registered charity in 2001, and works in partnership with other arts and cultural organisations to develop disability arts practice.
<http://www.dasharts.org>



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