

**Press release**

**Wysing Arts Centre's final set of artists' residencies within its 2013 programme, Convention T starts at the end of this month.**

James Beckett, Cécile B. Evans, Michael Dean and Seb Patane and maker-in residence Rupert Norfolk will be re-locating to Wysing for seven weeks from 21 September.

The artists will live and work at Wysing's Cambridgeshire centre, making new work in response to the theme, Convention T, and through input from a series of experts and enthusiasts who will be participating in a lively talks and events programme.

Convention T refers to logician, mathematician and philosopher Alfred Tarski, who applied logic to sentence structure in order to make the truth visible through language. Tarski created a structure – a meta-language – that could be applied to everyday language in order to generate true statements. These were known as T sentences.

The artists, like those who featured in the successful Spring residencies, will use Tarski's thinking as a starting point to explore how systems and structures, both visible and hidden, can be applied to uncover meaning, narrative and paradox.

A public programme of events takes place during the residencies, where invited local experts and specialists give presentations at Wysing to offer new ideas around the theme, including a forthcoming series of talks on logic, historical linguistics and structures in music, a discussion on past understandings of the world through witchcraft a meditation event with a Reiki Master. Family and schools activity will also take place during the residency.

The work developed during Wysing's 2013 programme will be brought together in an ambitious group exhibition in early 2014. A special closing event for the autumn residencies will be held on Saturday 9 November, 2-6pm.

Donna Lynas, Director of Wysing Arts Centre, said: "We've had a busy year at Wysing so far in 2013, with a range of residencies, retreats, events and exhibitions across the year exploring hidden systems and structures in various ways. We're looking forward to seeing what work emerges from our final residency of 2013 with such a brilliant group of artists and an inspiring range of speakers taking part in our talks and events programme."

Antonia Byatt, Director, South East, Arts Council England, said: "It is really important that artists have the opportunity and space to explore their creative concepts. Wysing's residency programme is a really good example of how this can be achieved, both for burgeoning talent

and more established artists. We are delighted to be able to support Wysing as they provide a forum for artist development.”

Spring’s residency programme featured Anna Barham, David Osbaldeston, Charlotte Prodger and Florian Roithmayr. Gustav Metzger and Keren Cytter and were both in-residence over the summer with new work by Cytter being premiered at our recent annual art and music festival, Space-Time on 31 August, before being performed at ICA, London.

Wysing Arts Centre’s residency programme is funded by Arts Council England and Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

For further information please contact:

**Matt Gaw, External Relations Manager, Wysing Arts Centre**

01954 717108 or 07854643125 [matthew.gaw@wysingartscentre.org](mailto:matthew.gaw@wysingartscentre.org)

#### **Notes for editors**

**James Beckett** adapts found objects and items from museum storage to create sculptural arrangements and installations. His work questions the status of artefacts and the nature of collections, becoming an exploration of diverse historical themes, such as those of industrial heritage or the origins of ethnicities. Beckett was born in Zimbabwe and lives and works in Amsterdam. He has had solo exhibitions internationally, including Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Belgium and South Africa, and has been in group exhibitions at venues such as the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Wattis, San Francisco, *Dak’art* - African Biennale, Dakar, GAM, Turin and The Kitchen NYC.

**Michael Dean** was born in Newcastle upon Tyne. Writing and the delivery of this writing into states of typographical physicality centre Dean’s research into the political properties of language, pertaining to authorship and autonomy. Taking the form of writing, reading, drawing, photography, video, sculpture, installation and publication, solo exhibitions include Cubitt, London, The Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, Supportico Lopez, Berlin, Herald St, London; Nomas Foundation, Rome and Kunstverein Freiburg, Germany.

**Cécile B. Evans** is a Belgian-American artist who lives and works in Berlin. Her work focuses on how contemporary society values emotion: its production, hierarchy and representation within culture. She often sources material from science, film or the internet, and is interested in building structures with no hierarchy. She is the 2012 recipient of the Emdash Award, which resulted in a commissioned work for the Frieze Art Fair in London. Recent exhibitions have included a solo performance at Palais de Tokyo Contemporary Art Museum, Paris, *How to Eclipse the Light* at Wilkinson Gallery, London, Spencer Brownstone Gallery, New York and Bergen Art Museum, Norway. She has a degree from New York University’s BFA Theatre program.

**Seb Patane** was born in Italy and lives and works in London. His work includes drawings and adapted found imagery and objects, as well as sound, video and performance. He is interested in ideas of history, particularly the visual outputs of political endeavours and ideas of protest. A recent focus has been on collective gatherings. He has had solo exhibitions at China Art Objects, Los Angeles, La Kunsthalle Mulhouse, Mulhouse, Maureen Paley, London, Art Statements at Art Basel, and Art Now, Tate Britain, London. Group exhibitions include *No New Thing Under The Sun*, Royal Academy of Art, London, *Compass in Hand: Selections from the Judith Rothschild Foundation Contemporary Drawing Collection*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, and Beck’s Futures, ICA London and touring.

**Rupert Norfolk** utilises a wide range of processes, such as drawing, tapestry weaving, stone carving, airbrushing, casting and computer aided technologies. His work involves investigations into the perceptual and conceptual possibilities of concrete and depicted things. He lives and works in London and has exhibited at venues including: Museo di Santa Giulia, Brescia, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, CAPC Musée d'art Contemporain, Bordeaux, Eastside Projects, Birmingham, The Saatchi Gallery, London, The Drawing Room, London, Transmission Gallery, Glasgow, Kunstwerke, Berlin, and PS1, New York.

#### **Events:**

##### **Saturday 28 September, Launch Event, 2-7pm**

A day of presentations exploring hidden systems and structures with academics from the University of Cambridge: Dr Torsten Meißner, Senior Lecturer in Classics will discuss his specialism in historical linguistics; Prof. Michael Potter from the Faculty of Philosophy will explain semantic theory of truth and logic; Mark Gotham, Director of Music Making, will talk about tonal and metrical structures in music. The day will be interspersed with a selection of artists' films.

##### **Thursday 3 October, Evening Talk, 6.30-8pm**

Join Liz Davies, Curator at St Neots Museum, for a talk on how local people in the past tried to understand the world around them through witchcraft and the magical powers of moles and hares.

##### **Saturday 26 October, Big Draw Workshop, 10am-4pm and Book Launch 4-6pm**

Join artist Caroline Wendling for a family drawing workshop on the theme of the harvest feast. Then join artist Giles Round, and Jo and Mark Proud of Bourn's Manor Farm, for a feast to launch the third edition of the Bourn Cookery Book compiled from local and artist contributions.

##### **Saturday 2 November, Meditation Event, 5-7pm**

Reiki Master Joy Magezis will introduce her practice on mindfulness, meditation and art before hosting a guided group meditation session. The session will be followed by a screening of *Be Not Content*, 2011 by artist Mark Titchner. No previous experience of meditation needed.

##### **Saturday 9 November, Closing Event, 2-6pm**

To mark the end of their residencies we are hosting a closing event with James Beckett, Cécile B. Evans, Michael Dean, Seb Patane and Rupert Norfolk.

All events are free but some require booking. Please check on our website.

**WYSING ARTS CENTRE** is a working campus providing alternative environments and structures for artistic production, learning and knowledge exchange. Wysing's large rural site near Cambridge comprises artists' studios, education and new media facilities, a gallery and project spaces, a 17<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse and outdoor structures. Wysing offers a unique environment for art to be developed and presented; with an ongoing and innovative artistic programme of events, exhibitions, retreats and residencies; and a unique programme for young artists, Wysing is delivering a rich programme that is accessible on many levels to a range of people. Art developed at Wysing is shown at significant venues around the world, and Wysing is part of national networks including Plus Tate, Contemporary Visual Arts Network, and Arts Council England's National Portfolio.

**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND** champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2011 and 2015, we will invest £1.4 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**phf** Paul Hamlyn  
Foundation