



Press release

Call out for participants: Are you a hobbyist, expert or specialist with an interest in ‘The Forest’ and would you like to take part in Wysing Arts Centre’s internationally acclaimed artist-in-residence series?

Artists in residence and public events programme 4 November – 16 December 2012

For six weeks from 4 November, artists Jonathan Baldock, Edwin Burdis, Emma Hart and Jess Flood-Paddock, alongside musician Luke Abbott, will be resident at Wysing’s rural site near Cambridge, developing new art works that explore the future, nature and transformation in response to the metaphor of The Forest.

Wysing is keen to work with people living close to Wysing’s rural centre in Bourn, Cambridgeshire during a public talks and events programme during the six week residency period. The residency process includes events and public presentations made by individuals and groups living close to Wysing’s Bourn village location and offers new thoughts and tangents on the theme.

Do you have a contribution to make? Perhaps you have a strong interest in woodlands, wild life and conservation, or know about rural planning and environmental development? Or perhaps you have a strong interest in the forest as a place for bewildering, transformation, spirituality, myth and folk history. The Forest aims to explore ideas around the future, nature and transformation so perhaps you are an expert or enthusiastic geographer, wild life conservator, literary researcher in the symbolisms of the forest or a futurologist? We're open to ideas. Please email info@wysingartscentre.org or phone 01954 718881 to discuss further.

Director Donna Lynas says: “*It’s brilliant that our residencies in 2012 have attracted such a wide range of contributions from local individuals and experts, ranging from someone who runs a local observatory and a UFO specialist during our Cosmos residency, to talks and events on medieval alchemy, the use of the mirror in European painting, and obsidian mirrors and objects during The Mirror residency. We are keen to profile people with equally diverse specialisms relating to ideas around The Forest.*”

In addition, and reinforcing the literary influences on the residencies, Escalator artist-in-residence **Patrick Coyle** will document the year long programme of residencies through creative writing that can be accessed via an ongoing blog <http://wysingsongs.tumblr.com/>

The Forest is the third in Wysing’s series of residencies for 2012, preceded by The Cosmos and The Mirror. Each of the residencies draws inspiration from literary references to other worlds and the merging of fact and fiction. Work created by artists during the residency programme, which is funded by Arts Council England and Paul Hamlyn Foundation, is shown at Wysing Arts Centre before being seen by audiences at venues across the UK and beyond.

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For further information, interviews and images please contact:

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Notes for editors

Jonathan Baldock has a BA from Winchester School of Arts and MA in painting from the Royal College of Art, London (2007). Jonathan Baldock makes theatrical and darkly humorous objects, installations and paintings, which are often influenced by traditions of folklore, craft and ritual. He has recently had solo exhibitions *The Blue Epoch*, Colloredo-Mansfeldsk_ Palác, AMoYA, Prague (Czech) (2012), *Pierrot*, PeregrineProgram, Chicago (USA) (2011), *The Fool's Flipside*, Cell Projects, London (UK) (2010). His works have been included in group exhibitions such as *Condensation*, Danielle Arnaud Contemporary, London (2011) and *Jonathan Baldock / Karla Black / Morag Keil / Jonanthan Monk*, MALLORCA Landings (2011). He has been awarded with an Arts Council England Grant, Sichuan Fine Art Institute, Chongqing (China) (2011) and recently he has been awarded with Abbey Fellowship, British School in Rome (Italy) (2013).

Edwin Burdis's practice explores a unique fusion between art, music and sub-cultural references for which he has in the past taken on various artistic personas. Recent performances and solo exhibitions include *MegaDairyPigFarm*, Max Wigram Gallery, London, *P.E.A.R.*, *Handlung events*, the Hackney Bureau, London, *LongMeg*, Milton Keynes Gallery, Milton Keynes (2012), Bruderriegsoundsystem, ICA, London, *Home Service*, Hayward Gallery Project Space, London, (2011), *LongMeg, Be Glad For The Song Has No End*, Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge, (2010), *No Soul for Sale*, Tate Modern, London (2010), *LongMeg*, Golden Zeiten, Haus De Kunst, Munich, Germany, (2010), *LongMeg International Project Space*, Bourneville, Birmingham, (2010).

Emma Hart has presented solo exhibitions and performances at galleries including Cell Project Space, Stanley Picker Gallery and Modern Art Oxford. Her practice is a course of imaginative action for domestic technology, manifesting in videos, sculptures and performances. She is currently researching for her PhD at Kingston University. In 2011 Hart presented *TO DO*, a critically acclaimed solo show at Matt's Gallery, where she is represented. In 2012 her first in the series of Monuments to the Unsaved was exhibited when she was nominated for the Jerwood / Film and Video Umbrella Awards. Hart's forthcoming projects include a new commission at the Whitstable Biennale 2012 and a solo presentation at Camden Arts Centre, London, in 2013.

Jess Flood-Paddock has a BA from the Slade School of Fine Art and an MA from The Royal College of Art. Her work is a multi-disciplined sculptural practice that attempts to retain a sense of impermanence and a relationship with history. Recent UK solo exhibitions have included 'Gangsta's Paradise' at the Hayward Gallery Project Space and 'Island, A regime', a video commission from Frieze Foundation. Her latest international shows have been 'Grid System, A Regime', Malta and 'Recent British Sculpture', Amsterdam, where Jess is represented by Grimm Gallery. She has been awarded funding by the Arts Council, the Henry Moore Foundation, the Elephant Trust, Frieze Foundation and Channel 4. She has an upcoming solo show in September at Tate Britain in the Art Now series.

Luke Abbott originally studied Fine Art at Norwich University College of the Arts specialising in printmaking and photomedia. Following graduation he pursued his interest in electronic music completing a MMus in Electroacoustic Music and Sonic Arts at the University of East Anglia. He came to prominence within the international sonic and electronic music scene in 2010 through his debut album *Holkham Drones* which received significant media exposure and widespread critical acclaim. He currently tours extensively throughout world and makes frequent appearances at international music and sonic art festivals. Luke's residency at Wysing is funded by Escalator.

Patrick Coyle has an MFA in Writing from Goldsmiths College, London (2010). He has recently performed at the launch of *CONCRETE POETRY* at Hayward's Concrete Café, London and at Spike Island, Bristol. He was the inaugural writer-in-residence for Akerman Daly in 2011. Patrick's residency at Wysing is funded by Escalator.

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 17th 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, Turning Point, the Arts Council National Portfolio and Own Art.



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