



## Press release

Wysing Arts Contemporary presents

### **Solid on our Source Planet**

**Launch: Saturday 29 September, 6-8pm**

**Exhibition open 30 September - 28 October 2012, 12-5pm daily. Admission free.**

**Events listed below.**

*Solid on Our Source Planet* is an exhibition of works by a group of artists who took part in the Escalator Visual Arts retreat *And if it was it can't be is* at Wysing Arts Centre near Cambridge in May 2012. The artists are Annabelle Craven-Jones, Mat Do, Clare Gasson, Claire Hope, Glen Jamieson, Kit Poulson, Kari Rittenbach, Florian Roithmayr and Alan Stanners.

The exhibiting artists in *Solid on Our Source Planet* initially came to Wysing's rural site during the retreat, which was developed in collaboration with artist Mark Titchner, to explore ideas around 'the self'. The title *Solid on Our Source Planet* stems from a line in the poem *Only Alive Now* by the Reiki Master Joy Magezis, who came on the retreat to provide reiki sessions with the artists.

Subsequently, the artists have formed an informal, evolving collective in order to interrogate ideas around alternative educational models. In this exhibition, works by the individual artists, in a range of media including sculpture, moving image and painting, will be presented in a context of discussion and reflection as well as alongside documentary materials of the group's activities and future plans.

#### **Events programme**

*Saturday 6 October 2-4.30pm*

Free drop-in family workshop for the Big Draw. Join us to make a collective artwork

*Thursday 18 October 6.30-8pm*

Join us for a event conceived collaboratively by the artists

Works in *Solid on our Source Planet* can be purchased through Own Art, the interest-free loan scheme, and Wysing Members, Supporters and Patrons can enjoy a 10% discount on purchase price. Also on display in Wysing's reception will be the Eastern Pavilions Print Portfolio; a limited edition of 144 boxed sets by emerging and established artists.

For further information, interviews and images please contact:

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## Notes for editors

**Annabelle Craven-Jones** was born in Gloucestershire and studied Fine Art at Wimbledon School of Art and Chelsea College of Art, London. Her work locates universal thought processes within the wider context of today's increased therapy culture and that of 'emotionalism.' She has exhibited widely and recently received an Arts Council Grant for the Arts award which included the solo show *PROPOSAL FOR MINDSCAPE (neuroAESTHETIC)* at Cruise&Callas, Berlin (2011). She also curates a peripatetic performance event *THE SOCIALISATION PROJECT*. She is represented by Cruise&Callas, Berlin.

**Mat Do** lives and works between Southend-on-Sea and London. Working across a range of media including film and video, digital print and performance, his practice explores ideas of ambition and reinvention at odds with the physical and psychological topography it inhabits. Solo projects include '*Florence Mine*', Egremont, Cumbria (ongoing), '*Grizedale Arts*', Coniston, Cumbria (2011), '*The ties that bind us are stronger than ever*', AND/OR Gallery, London (2010) and '*Incommunicado FM*', Site Gallery, Sheffield (2008). Future collaborations include The National Trust & Petworth House, Sussex and The Grundy Gallery, Blackpool.

**Clare Gasson** lives and works in London. Her practice originates from text; her own and that she finds on the walls of a city or in files in an archive. She works in a variety of ways, using the voice, performance, film, photography, posters, sculpture and city walks or writing scripts and scores. Solo projects and performances include: '*...the traveller walking walking walking through...*' (2010) Late Night Live: Walk, Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK (2012); '*The River*' - Live Art at South London Gallery, London, UK (2011); '*... the traveller walking walking walking through ...*' Media Art Bath commission performed in Bath and at Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol, UK (2010) '*A Little Light Music*', Parker's Box (with The Showroom), New York, USA (2006).

**Claire Hope** is based in Leeds, pursuing a practice-led PhD in Fine Art at the University. She is interested in exploring how ambivalent experiences of the human psyche, shared visual culture and flows of capital, may relate to opposing individual and collective desires to objectify, control and fix human experience. She has exhibited internationally for 12 years; recently showing a LUX commissioned video, being listed as one of '100 Artists to Watch' in Modern Painters magazine, screening work in progress at David Dale Gallery and participating in the retreat on 'The Self' and Open Weekend at Wysing Arts Centre.

**Glen Jamieson** is an artist photographer who lives and works in Norwich. The problem of landscape's reluctance to conform to depiction, and the photograph's unreliability to truthfully depict, is at the core of Jamieson's work. Recent publications and exhibitions include *A Matter of Distance*, (Ordinary Culture, 2012), *Suspicious of a Peninsula Town* (YH485 Press, 2010) and *In Search of the Hometown*, (YH485, Great Yarmouth Seafront TV, 2009). He is a steering committee member at OUTPOST Gallery, Norwich (January 2011 - present).

**Kit Poulson** is interested in conversation, in matter and mutter, in negotiation. Much of his work has been concerned with an exploration of how we use the static as the recognition and apprehension of vitality. He works with a variety of media, particularly painting and installation. He frequently collaborates, and this reflects an interest in thought as a performance and a concrete happening. In these collaborations he has worked at various points with sound, music, sculpture, dance, text. He recently published a book (*The Ice Cream Empire*, Bookworks).

**Kari Rittenbach** is a critic and curator based in New York. She organizes small-scale curatorial projects as primary work surface: [www.primaryworksurface.org.uk](http://www.primaryworksurface.org.uk).

**Florian Roithmayr** lives in London. His work often refers to a particular experience of environments as actualized manifestations or testing-sites for abstract ideas. Past, present and future exhibitions include Vilma Gold Gallery, New Contemporaries, Extra City, The Approach Gallery, Grazer Kunstverein, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein.

**Alan Stanners** trained at Glasgow School of Art. His work poses questions and sets out manifestos, exploring the legacy of surrealism, through bold abstract paintings and texts. He has exhibited widely including solo exhibitions at CCA Glasgow (2012), Outpost, Norwich (2011) and Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art (2010).

**WYSING ARTS CONTEMPORARY** is Wysing Arts Centre's trading arm. It curates selling exhibitions at Wysing's Bourn centre, manages collectives of contemporary art collectors and exhibits work at international art fairs. Proceeds from the sale of directly support Wysing's programme.

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



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