

## PRESS RELEASE

New artists' Film Festival 51Zero launches in North Kent

# The other side of here

51zero 2014 presents 'The other side of here', a groundbreaking new festival of artists' film, moving image and digital art taking place over one long weekend in October. Venues are spread between three neighbouring Kent towns, Chatham, Rochester and Strood, beside the river Medway about thirty miles downstream from London.

This biennial festival, 10th - 12th October 2014, is a collaboration between arts organisations in the UK and Northern France and showcases acclaimed international artists alongside emerging talents over the three days. It has a carefully honed programme encompassing work by British and French artist filmmakers, and has a mission to create out-of-the-ordinary cinematic experiences of the kind you won't find in traditional cinema.



Photo: Alix Delmas, Lalala, 2011

The festival launches on the night of Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of October at Rochester's Guildhall Museum with a newly curated film programme accompanied by the world premiere of a new musical composition especially composed by James Taylor, performed live by the acclaimed James Taylor Quartet and Choristers from Rochester Cathedral Choir. Turner Prize winner and Jarman Award nominee Laure Prouvost presents three films, one of which won the Principal Oberhausen Prize.

2014 marks the 20th anniversary of the death of Derek Jarman and 51zero Festival joins this national commemoration of his work through the presentation of a programme of Film London Jarman Award Film Commissions (2009-2013). The short films of up to three minutes in duration, were commissioned for Channel 4's 3 Minute Wonder and Random Acts strands as a result of the annual Film London Jarman Award. Artists include: Anja Kirschner & David Panos, Brad Butler & Karen Mirza, Emily Wardill, Lindsay Seers, Luke Fowler, Nathaniel Mellors and Shezad Dawood.

Artistic Director Margherita Gramegna says: "51zero festival extends the moving-image experience across Medway and its communities by showing work in non-traditional art spaces such as museums, empty shops and churches, closing the gap between art and its audiences. What excites me about the project is that it enables the introduction of a form of art virtually absent in the area, connecting Medway and the artists from here to national and international arts programmes."

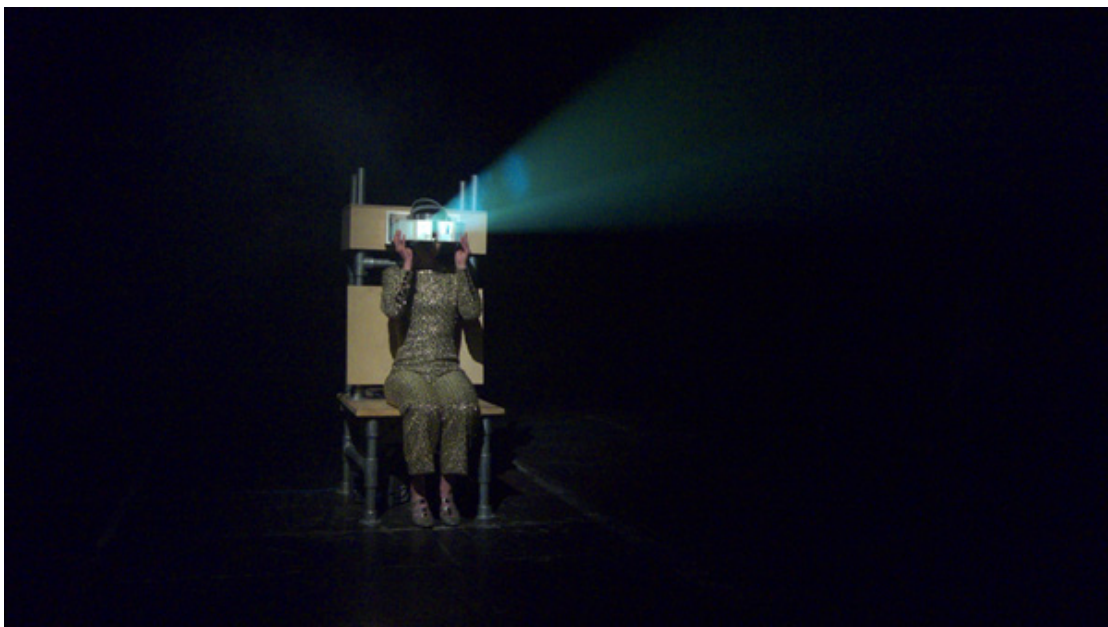


Photo: Lindsay Seers *The Projectionist*, Film London Jarman Award 2010

Collaborations are reflected through a programme of single screen work, performance, and quirky installations by students, alumni and lecturers from University of the Creative Arts, University of Kent and L'École Supérieure d'Art et Design Le Havre-Rouen, including TEA and Jamie Jenkinson, together with established and emerging artists from France, Medway and further afield, such as Catherine Linton.

Chatham's Sun Pier House and POP Creative Space, hubs of the new Medway Creative Quarter, host work by prominent visiting French artist filmmakers Alix Delmas and Thibault Jadenne, as well as a participatory performance by Stéphane Trois Carrés. Bertrand Gadenne animates POP with the startling street-level installation *Le Poisson*, while at Sun Pier, Cine Boat, a two-seater Orkney Spinner transformed into a mobile cinema by two

recent UCA graduates, Loren Beven and Katryn Saqui, presents Michael Tyburski's award winning film *Angelfish*.

Beven and Saqui also host Salon, an informal gathering at Sun Pier House Tea Room, which along with the *Walk and Talk* event, a tour of the festival venues, presents visitors with an opportunity to meet the artists involved in the festival.

Live events extend to St Nicholas Church in Strood, where Edwin Burdis presents a new video work accompanied by a live organ soundtrack performed by in-house organist Ken Reynolds.

A host of shorts and documentaries at Princes Hall, further highlights the French presence which graces much of the festival programme including a humorous animation for young people at Medway Little Theatre. Amy Dickson's 'Film and Stitch' workshop also welcomes a young audience and invites participants to combine textile and filmstrip to create their own moving-image work, in the spirit of experimental animator Len Lye.

Lastly, the public is invited to curate the closing strand of the festival with 'Open Projector', an evening of films brought in by audiences and screened live during the festivals closing Sunday event.

The festival, made in part possible by European funds (Interreg - Recreate, ICR have all contributed) and by lottery fund from Arts Council England (Grants for the Arts), brings contemporary moving image to new audiences and provides a fertile ground for dialogue between British and French artists, making 51zero a truly cross-border event.

Contact:  
Simon Steven



## Notes for Editors:

### *Information about funders and partners*

Selected under the European Cross-border cooperation programme INTERREG IVA France (Channel) England, co-funded by the ERDF. The European Union, investing in your future.

RECREATE is a partnership of local authorities, other public bodies and the third sector situated in small and medium sized urban areas in the East and South East of England and across France, which are suffering the adverse effects of the economic crisis. RECREATE will boost economic prosperity and job creation in our town centres by growing new business clusters from the

creative industries and unlocking social and physical regeneration through creative enterprise and public facing initiatives.

## About

**Laure Prouvost** (born 1978) won Turner Prize in 2013. She was born in Lille, France and now lives and works in London. Prouvost's work combines installation, collage and film. In 2011 she was a Jarman Award nominee and was also awarded the MaxMara Art Prize for Women in collaboration with the Whitechapel Art Gallery. Her films and videos are distributed by LUX and she is represented by MOT International.

### **About Film London Artists' Moving Image Network (FLAMIN)**

Film London is the capital's screen industries agency, connecting ideas, talent and finance to develop a pioneering creative culture in the city that delivers success in film, television, animation, games and beyond. It works to sustain, promote and develop London as a global content production hub, supports the development of the city's new and emerging filmmaking talent and invests in a diverse and rich film culture. Funded by the Mayor of London and the National Lottery through the BFI, Film London also receives significant support from Arts Council England and Creative Skillset.

[www.filmlondon.org.uk](http://www.filmlondon.org.uk)

Film London, with funding from Arts Council England (ACE), is a major supporter of artists' film-making, through the Film London Artists' Moving Image Network (FLAMIN). FLAMIN was launched by Film London in 2005 as a one-stop resource to provide London-based artists working in the moving image with access to funding, guidance and development opportunities. Through unique commissioning funds, FLAMIN has commissioned over 100 productions, and supported the careers of countless other artists with programmes of one-to-one advice sessions, residencies and workshops. FLAMIN Productions launched in 2009 commissioning longer form works which draw on the legacy of both fine art and film. Works commissioned and completed to date include the debut feature from artist Ben Rivers, *Two Years At Sea*, which won an award at the 68th Venice Film Festival and was released theatrically in the UK. The previous year saw the completion and premiere screening or exhibition of *Wine & Spirits*, by Rachel Reupke, *The Toxic Camera*, by Jane & Louise Wilson, and *The Chimera of M*, by Sebastian Buerkner.

### **About Film London Jarman Award**

Launched in 2008, the Film London Jarman Award gives recognition and support to artists working with moving image, whose work resists conventional definition, encompassing innovation and excellence. The Award is inspired by Derek Jarman, one of the most esteemed and controversial artists of the late 20th Century.

The winner of the annual Award receives a £10,000 cash prize and a commission – to produce a short film for Channel 4's arts strand – Random Acts. Three further artists will also be selected for Random Acts commissions. Previous winners: Luke Fowler (2008), Lindsay Seers (2009), Emily Wardill (2010), Anya Kirschner & David Panos (2011), James Richards (2012) and John Smith (2013)

The Film London Jarman Award is presented in partnership with Channel 4 and in association with the Whitechapel Gallery.

51Zero's programme complements the Film London Jarman Award 2014 touring programme being presented at major international galleries and venues including Turner Contemporary, Whitechapel Art Gallery and Nottingham Contemporary during Jarman 2014 a major international year-long celebration of the life and work of Derek Jarman.

### **About Random Acts:**

Random Acts began in 2011 with the aim of escaping the conventions of arts broadcasting and showing television made by artists, rather than programmes about them. Since then it has broadcast over 500 short films covering art, dance, animation, music and opera, including work by Ai Weiwei, Tinie Tempah, Kate Tempest, Jake and Dinos Chapman and Marina Abramovic (all still available at <http://randomacts.channel4.com>). In 2014 Channel 4 and Arts Council England announced a new £3m partnership to expand and enhance the Random Acts Strand with a more prominent television slot, revamped online presence and a more ambitious remit.

### **Visitor Information**

All events are FREE and open to all.

### **Venues**

STROOD

[St Nicholas Church](#)

ROCHESTER

[Guildhall Museum](#)

[Princes Hall \(Corn Exchange\)](#)

[Medway Little Theatre](#)

CHATHAM

POP Creative Space

[Sun Pier House](#)

[Sun Pier](#) on the River Medway next to Sun Pier House

### **How to get to the Festival**

By road

Medway can be reached via major motorways. From north, south and west via M25/A2/M2 (junctions 1-4). From London via M25/M26/M20 (junctions 4 for A228 or 6 for A229). From the Channel ports/Eurotunnel via the M20 (junction 6 for A229 or via A2/M2 for junctions 1-4).

By air

Medway is 43 miles from Gatwick Airport via the M23/M25/A2/M2. It's 75 miles from Heathrow Airport, via the M25/A2/M2 and 52 miles from Stansted via, M11/M25/A2/M2.

By sea/tunnel



The area has links to the Channel ports and Eurotunnel. Medway is 40 miles from Dover and Folkestone and can be reached via the A2/M2 and M20/A229.

#### By rail

Medway has five main rail stations: Strood, Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham and Rainham. All have frequent services from London Victoria and Charing Cross. High speed trains also link Medway to London's St. Pancras International in just 35 minutes.

Southeastern offers a range of value for money train fares. For more information visit [www.southeasternrailway.co.uk](http://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk)

Rail travel from Europe to Medway is faster and easier by [Eurostar](#). Ebbsfleet International Station is 20 minutes by coach from Medway.

#### Public transport

The area is well served by public transport. Once here you can easily move around using local train, bus and taxi services. Arriva Southern Counties provides a frequent 10-minute bus service daily between historic Rochester and Chatham Maritime. It also operates several other services throughout Medway, Gravesend, Maidstone and West Malling from the Pentagon Shopping Centre bus station. For more information visit Medway Council's [public transport](#) page.

For where to park in Medway visit Medway Council's [parking](#) page.