

Creative Learning programme October 2017 – March 2018 at Attenborough Arts Centre

This Autumn / Spring we have some exciting opportunities for creative learning courses and workshops.

We have a new exhibition programme featuring highly acclaimed artists Laura Swanson and Claude Cahun and are looking for courses and workshops that link to their work.

Please find more information about the artists below and suggestions for areas that can be explored through creative learning. We are keen to open up new ways in which people can engage and understand the contemporary art that is showcased at Attenborough Arts centre so are open to your ideas and suggestions.



Laura Swanson: 8 September - 10 December 2017

Gallery 1 & 2

The University of Leicester's Attenborough Arts Centre (AAC) will present the first UK solo exhibition by American artist Laura Swanson. It will feature new artwork commissioned especially for this exhibition, including new installation and sculpture, alongside recent work

from Swanson's mixed-media series "Uniforms" (2014-2015), and photographic works from various past projects.

Laura Swanson examines the behaviour of looking at physical difference, working across media including drawing, installation, photography, and sculpture. Pulling from multiple sources - art history, commercial display, critical theory, personal experience, photography, popular culture, sociology - her visual language is simultaneously playful and serious, simple and intricate, inviting and disruptive.

The exhibition will take autumn 2017 in AAC's new gallery, a space dedicated to international contemporary art. AAC is one of the largest public galleries in the midlands, producing high quality exhibitions and commissioning exciting new work. AAC is committed to supporting innovative, critically challenging, and socially engaged artists.

Links:

www.lauraswanson.com

<http://www.centerforartandthought.org/work/contributor/laura-swanson>

<http://www.wnewhouseawards.com/lauraswanson.html>

Themes for Courses/Workshops:

- Playing with Scale
- Self-portraiture
- Costume/Mask Making
- Framing/Composition
- Photography
- Life drawing – Representation of the Body
- Symmetry and Asymmetry
- Anthropomorphisation of Objects



Claude Cahun: 8 September - 10 December 2017

Gallery 3

French photographer Claude Cahun (1894–1954) achieved posthumous fame for her elusive self-portraits in which she assumed multiple personae. Born Lucy Schwob, she adopted the pseudonym in 1917 to free herself from the narrow confines of gender. At the beginning of her career she was aligned to the Surrealist movement and was friends with André Breton; however she distanced herself both politically and physically after fleeing France on the eve of Nazi occupation. Cahun settled in Jersey where she embarked upon her defining photographic series, in which the subversion of traditional portraiture and the constructed nature of identity and gender are pressing concerns. In these now famous images, Cahun anticipated the performative work of contemporary artists such as Cindy Sherman.

This Hayward Touring exhibition is in collaboration with Jersey Heritage and was first presented at the Women of the World Festival 2015, Southbank Centre. It consists of 42 contemporary giclee prints made from scans of the original, the majority of the negatives having been lost.

Links:

www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/claude-cahun-10611

<http://www.anothermag.com/art-photography/7358/claude-cahun-a-very-curious-spirit>

Course/Workshop suggestions:

- Self-portraiture
- Costume/Mask Making
- Framing/Composition
- Photography
- Life drawing – Representation of the Body
- Issues of Gender – Androgyny or Transgender
- Surrealism