SALLY GOLDING: YOUR DOUBLE MY DOUBLE OUR GHOST

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SOUND AND MUSIC: EMBEDDED RESIDENCY

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Sound and Music is the national charity for new music. Our vision is to create a world where new music and sound prospers, transforming lives, challenging expectations and celebrating the work of its creators.
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CREDITS
Custom software by UK electronic music producer and creative technologist Spatial. www.spatial.infrasonics.net/
Technical installation by multivisual designer Dizqo. www.diz.co/
YOUR DOUBLE MY DOUBLE OUR GHOST

Australian British artist Sally Golding presents two new audiovisual installations which conclude her year long Embedded residency, delivered in partnership with Sound and Music and the South London Gallery (SLG).

The installations explore Golding’s interest in perception and phenomenology, and consider audiovisual art as a participatory experience. Golding’s work questions states of reality, challenging notions of narrative and the act of perceiving through the deployment of sonic and visual fragments, and the reworking of the bare components of audiovisual media such as light, substrate, and amplification.

The new works involving multisensory projection, optical sheeting, reflection, lighting, and sonic composition extend upon her repertoire of live expanded cinema performances, multimedia installations and sound recordings. During her residency, Golding accessed the Grade II listed former Peckham Road Fire Station, recently gifted to the SLG, as means of exploring geodislocation, representation and the double.

Golding approached the capture and representation of sounds and images from the Fire Station by considering a psychical excursion of heautoscopy and autoscopy - two known conditions in psychiatry and neurology, the first in which one has a feeling of seeing one’s own body at a distance, and the second in which an individual perceives the surrounding environment from a different perspective. Applying the physical doubling of the Fire Station building within the white walled gallery space of SLG, the artist references dream interpretation theory, in which a fleeting, elusive representation of a building becomes a sign of development to come.

In designing a composition for light and sound, Golding introduced a flexible silver two-way mirror as the centerpiece of the room, inviting viewers to interact with it much in the same way as with a funfair mirror. Again playing with heautoscopy, the viewer may not see his or her reflection when looking in the mirror, or their image may only be seen by others, or perhaps when doubled with another viewer they may consider themselves as an Other. By opening up a contemplative space or hallucinatory fantasy, the work has characteristics based around imaginary perceptions and perceptual distortions of the self.

To construct the installations Golding collaborated with software programmer and electronic musician Spatial (Matt Spendlove), to explore new platforms for representing generative and cyclical systems for audiovisual playback. These processes invite chance and serendipity, enabling a viewer experience that may be different each time.

“Instead of seeing his own image reflected, his vision appeared to him to extend indefinitely... I could perceive quite plainly what appeared to be a ray of light emitted from my epigastrium, which illuminated objects in the room.” — The Mystery Of The Human Double · The case for astral projection, Ralph Shirley, 1938

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Sally Golding is a multimedia artist combining film projection, lighting and sonic composition to create expanded cinema performances and participatory installations. Golding’s audiovisual performance work focuses on the experience of the audience, pushing the boundaries of visual and auditory perception through the breakdown of the cinematic system into flicker, waveforms and colour fields; while her installations have harnessed the presence of the audience themselves by incorporating their reflected image into projections within immersive spaces.

Known internationally for her expanded cinema performances, Golding’s live sets are edgy and intense, driven by a minimalist approach to horror aesthetics leading her to explore science and superstition, philosophy and pulp. Her sonic work revolves around a custom system of printing complex optical sound compositions onto 16mm film, and performing with light sensitive audio devices and amplified lighting. Cacophonic in form and content, Golding’s performances transcend chaos and enter a hypnotic zone, while her installation work evokes acts of self-perceiving leading to meditative and transgressive states.

Through the curatorial outlets of Unconscious Archives (London) and OtherFilm (Australia), Golding presents live audiovisual and sound art performance as a means of examining: ‘liveness’; the synaesthetic concerns of audiovisual art; and the contemporary role of the audience.

Since 2004 Golding has performed and exhibited at Tate Britain; Digital Culture Centre, Mexico City; Institute of Modern Art, Australia; CA2M Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Madrid; Rotterdam International Film Festival; Sound of Stockholm; Cable Festival, Nantes; BEAM: Brunel Electronic & Analogue Music Festival, UK; Kraak, Belgium; Colour Out of Space, Brighton; Fylkingen, Stockholm; Sonica, Slovenia; Open Frame (Room40), Brisbane; FlexFest, Florida; Supernormal Festival; Edinburgh International Film Festival; San Francisco Cinematheque; Abandon Normal Devices, UK; Contemporary Art Centre, Lithuania; NowNow Festival, Sydney; Australian Centre for the Moving Image; Melbourne International Film Festival; Contemporary Art Tasmania; Audiograft, Oxford; Experimenta, India; The Stone, NYC; Cafe OTO, London; New Zealand Film Archives; Liquid Architecture, Australia; Transacoustic, Auckland; and What is Music?, Australia.

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