

SIX BRITISH POETRY FILMMAKERS

selected for ZEBRA 2019

LUCY ENGLISH

1. Time and The Two-Year Old's Hands 2015

2.56

Time and the Two Year-Old's Hands is the second work in *The Arctica Triptych*, a series of interconnected short poetry films that were made in response to artist Stevie Ronnie's 2013 residency in the High Arctic. It is an urgent and plaintive call for the survival of our children in the face of our changing climate. The film was directed by Alastair Cook and produced by Film-poem with sound by Luca Nascuiti and Arctic footage by Michael Eckblad.

Stevie Ronnie

Stevie Ronnie is an artist based in Newcastle, UK. His works, often rooted in poetry and poetics, span traditional creative disciplines. Stevie has collaborated as both a writer and director on several moving image works that have screened internationally including at Zebra, Kinofilm, Ó Bhéal, Juteback, MONSTRA and Encounters festivals. In 2014 he won the Awkword Papercut videopoetry writing contest. Stevie is the recipient of two MacDowell Fellowships for his interdisciplinary works and a Northern Writers' Award.

2. Work 2018

2.25

Work is both a hand-drawn animation and a photographic study. The spotlighted yellow post-it notes frame a poet reminiscing about an old office job she once had before becoming a writer. Mirroring the function of a post-it note stuck to a document, the post-it note animation demarcates, highlights and obscures glimpses of shelves, desks and objects synonymous with any office. The objects in those glimpses are those used to categorise, label, post, file and eventually build a physical archive and yet they, and the people who use them, are often invisible when considering the cultural significances of archives and how they are used to articulate cultural history. *'Work'* seeks to explore the ways memory can fragment, disrupt and overlay the present and creates a space for the haunting poem by Anna Woodford to unfold.

Kate Sweeney

Kate Sweeney is an artist and researcher producing video, photography, and animation. She is interested in video making as a tool for translation of materials and a platform for exploring collaborative practices. Her current PhD research relates to existing dialogues positioning collaboration, inter-personal work and hidden labour within a socio-political context. She has disseminated her research at conferences, symposiums and film festivals. She was associate artist at Newcastle University as part of the acclaimed AHRC project, The Bloodaxe Digital Archive. Kate has taught

fine art, animation and lectured in poetryfilm. She was awarded a full REA studentship for her PhD at Newcastle University 2016-19.

3. WikiHow to Find Things You Have Lost 2018 5.18

Started as a poem by Theresa Lola from her collection *In Search of Equilibrium*. The poem refers to her grandfather's loss of memory and touches on faith and loss. Objects are an important element in the film, and help to ground memory in the everyday. Colin Heaney provided the soundtrack. Theresa Lola is a British Nigerian poet and is currently the Young People's Laureate for London.

Helen Dewbery and Chaucer Cameron

Helen Dewbery is co-director of Swindon Poetry Festival. She is currently working with Nine Arches Press to create poetry film with their authors. Helen teaches, facilitates and promotes poetry film to poets and filmmakers and uses poetry film in community settings to promote well-being, and as a means of enabling people to express complex experiences.

Chaucer Cameron's poems have been staged and screened, and published online, in journals and anthologies. Chaucer's latest work, *Wild Whispers*, is an international poetry film project.

Helen and Chaucer co-edit the online poetry film journal, *Poetry Film Live*.

4. Huntress 2018 6.31

The piece encourages us towards a wider-awake vision, towards more sensitive ears with attention facing both inwards and outwards, and on the perceptual spaces in between. George Simpson is the creator of the soundtrack, providing a track called 'Artmeis' from his album *Still Points in the Turning World*. Emotionally affecting, with an elegant and simple extending first movement, followed by expansion into expressive drama, the music coherently accompanies the visual and textual elements in an organic way (Dave Bonta, *Moving Poems*)

Janet Lees

Janet Lees is an award-winning poet and artist working primarily with photography, film and collage. Her poetry has been widely published around the world, and her film-based works selected for many international festivals. Last year she was the visual artist representing the Isle of Man at the Festival Interceltique in Lorient, France, with an exhibition of art photographs, poems and films. Her first book, *House of water*, which combines her poetry and art photography, was published in May 2019.

5. Moss 2019 1.12

Moss won third prize in the Oxford Brookes Poetry Film competition.

