

PRESS RELEASE

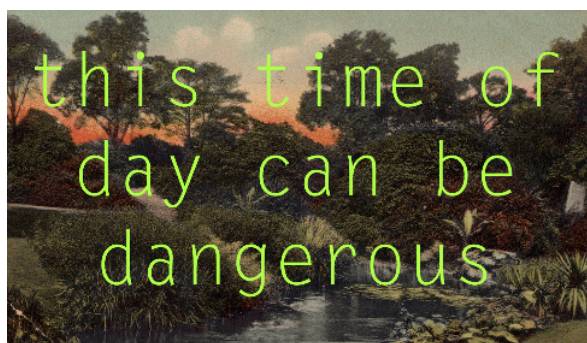
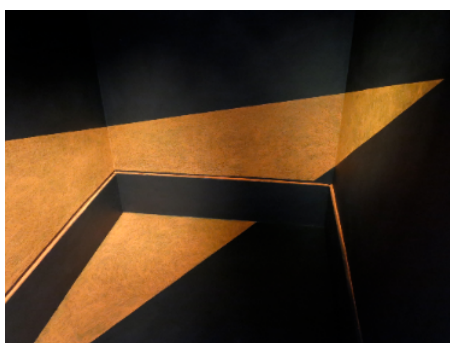
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www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

Eastside Projects, g39 and Jerwood Charitable Foundation announce the artists selected for Jerwood Encounters: 3-Phase

Opening in 2015:

Jerwood Encounters: 3-Phase
KELLY BEST/ GEORGIE GRACE/



Jerwood Encounters: 3-Phase is a new artist development collaboration between two artist-led organisations Eastside Projects (Birmingham) and g39 (Cardiff), and Jerwood Charitable Foundation, through its London based gallery programme Jerwood Visual Arts. 3-Phase offers two early career artists the opportunity to make new work which will be exhibited through five new exhibitions across the collaborating galleries. Across the year-long programme, each artist will access ongoing curatorial and practical support from the partners.

Kelly Best and **Georgie Grace** have been selected from more than 90 applications. They will each develop a solo show opening at Eastside Projects, Birmingham in January and March 2015 respectively. In May they will present a joint exhibition as part of the Jerwood Visual Arts programme in London. Finally they will each develop a solo show with g39, Cardiff, in November and December 2015. The artists were selected for their ambitious and rigorous ideas which were felt to reflect their commitment to developing an outstanding art practice.

Applications for **Jerwood Encounters: 3-Phase** were sought through Eastside Projects' Extra Special People associates scheme and g39's Wales Artist Resource Programme, drawing on the artist development expertise of these two key artist-led organisations who support artists in their areas. **Jerwood Encounters: 3-Phase** is an opportunity for both artists to achieve what had previously been just out of reach and to crystallise their current research. It is an opportunity for testing out ideas and bringing into reality the next stage of each artist's development, with the valuable support of the partners throughout.

Kelly Best makes work that is rooted in drawing and deals with sculptural concerns; thinking past the constraints of the edge of the paper and drawing directly onto the wall and floor. She is interested in illusion and our understanding of an image or space, and is particularly drawn to contrasts between form, line, colour and void, and the interrelationships that occur between them. Kelly is interested in the activity of looking, in how audiences

engage with the work and in their relationship with space. Her practice to date has explored the characteristics of different mediums, investigating the plastic possibilities of drawing, photography and painting. She proposes to develop a body of site specific work using the exhibitions to trial ideas and approaches which will influence each subsequent show.

Georgie Grace's work sits somewhere between the categories of still and moving image. She manipulates the delivery of words and visual information, exploring the structuring of information, and is interested in the slippery qualities of live reading experiences, especially when presented on the shifting surface of a screen. Georgie creates intensified, sometimes physically discomforting experiences of perception. Her interest in what words can do when they are not on paper encompasses questions of speed, meaning, duration and modes of attention. Her 3-Phase proposal will expand the ways in which she explores these preoccupations, enabling her to test some longstanding ideas in space by giving her control over a more ambitious technical presentation of her work for the first time, where presentation plays a significant part in its form.

"As more artists develop careers in a growing number of art scenes around the UK it is vital that projects such as '3-Phase' exist. We have been able to bring together three dynamic enabling organisations who share a commitment to art and artistic practice as a valuable and useful part of society, and '3-Phase' is a concentrated effort to commission two artists to make the most of their potential. We are really proud to be working with Kelly and Georgie to share their unique visions." Gavin Wade, Director, Eastside Projects

"As a litmus test of the quality and breadth of artists' ideas, we left the selection process feeling invigorated and excited. Kelly and Georgie's work stood out for the rigour and careful articulation of their ideas. It was also clear to the panel the speed with which their practice has been developing and deepening to date. With the support and resources of this project we hope to be able to accelerate this still further." Shonagh Manson, Director, Jerwood Charitable Foundation

- Ends -

Exhibition information

EASTSIDE PROJECTS, BIRMINGHAM

Exhibition dates: 31 January – 28 February & 6 March – 11 April 2015
Address: 86 Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham B9 4AR
Opening Times: Wed-Sat 12-5pm
Admission: Free
Website: www.eastsideprojects.org
Twitter: @eprjcts

JERWOOD SPACE, LONDON

Exhibition dates: 13 May – 21 June 2015
Address: Jerwood Space, 171 Union St, London SE1 0LN
Opening Times: Mon-Fri 10am–5pm, Sat/Sun 10am–3pm
Admission: Free
Nearest tube: Southwark, London Bridge or Borough
Website: jerwoodvisualarts.org
Twitter: @JerwoodJVA

Exhibition events Free but must be booked in advance, for further information please visit www.jerwoodvisualarts.org or contact: jva@jerwoodspace.co.uk

G39, CARDIFF

Exhibition dates: November – December 2015
Address: Oxford St, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF24 3DT
Opening Times: Wed-Sat 11am-5pm

Admission: Free
Website: www.g39.org
Twitter: @chris_g39

Artist biographies

Kelly Best lives and works in Cardiff. She graduated from Kingston University in 2007 and recently exhibited at Oriel Davies, Newtown 2014, and was in the John Moores Painting Prize, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, 2012. Kelly is a member of WARP. www.kellybest.co.uk

Georgie Grace lives and works in Cambridge. She graduated from Cambridge School of Art in 2012 and has recently exhibited at The Collection, Lincoln, and Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh. Georgie is a member of Extra Special People. www.georgiegrace.net

Notes to editors

Eastside Projects makes art public. We are an international centre of excellence based in a free public gallery that is being imagined and organized by artists, in partnership with Birmingham City University. We commission, produce and present experimental art practices and demonstrate ways in which art may be useful as part of society. Our influential Extra Special People programme develops UK talent positioned in a hyper-local and super-international context. Eastside Projects provides vital infrastructure and supports best practice by establishing and exercising new models for artists and curators to research, produce and thrive. We believe in working collaboratively towards change and do so to support the cultural growth of Birmingham. We do not make art for the public. We are the public that makes art. The artist run space is not a stop gap. The artist run space is a public good. www.eastsideprojects.org

g39 is an artist-run gallery in the centre of Cardiff, Wales' capital city. The organisation recently relocated from a narrow three storey building where it originated, to an expansive warehouse. The gallery curates between six and eight exhibitions per year and often hosts events in the interim weeks and in addition works in offsite locations for individual projects.

The organisation runs Wales Artist Resource Programme – WARP - an open-access resource and training space for artists. g39 focuses on contemporary work and consciously programmes a mix of work from Wales with work from further afield, placing work by established names alongside work by emerging or lesser known artists. The focus is on experimentation and risk and g39 aims to provide the opportunities to showcase new work rather than relying on selling. www.g39.org

Jerwood Visual Arts is a contemporary gallery programme of awards, exhibitions and events hosted at Jerwood Space, London and on tour nationally. Jerwood Visual Arts supports and showcases the work of talented emerging artists. It aims to make connections and provoke conversations within and across visual arts disciplines. Jerwood Visual Arts is a major initiative of the Jerwood Charitable Foundation. www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

Jerwood Encounters are curated exhibitions which provide artists and curators with new exhibition opportunities and the chance to explore issues and territories in the borderlands between disciplinary fields in the visual arts. Previous exhibitions in the Encounters series have included: *TTTT*, curated by Sarah Williams, 14 May-22 June; *Family Politics*, curated by Photoworks, 6 November – 8 December 2013; *After Hours*, curated by Nick Eagleton, 15 May – 23 June 2013; *“Now I Gotta Reason”*, curated by Marcus Coates and Grizedale Arts, 7 November – 9 December 2012; *ASSEMBLY* curated by Sarah Williams, 9 May – 24 June 2012; *TERRA*, curated by Hayley Skipper, Forestry Commission England, 9 November – 11 December 2011; *SHOW*, curated by Sarah Williams, 16 March – 21 April 2011; *For the Sake of the Image*, curated by Suki Chan, 3 March – 1 April 2010 and *Passing Thoughts and Making Plans*, curated by Catherine Yass, 4 November – 13 December 2009.

Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting emerging artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with

integrity. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts.
www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

Images:

Kelly Best, *Between 590 and 610*, 2014. Coloured pencil on wall and floor. Size of the room 158cm (w) x 212cm (l) x 219cm (h)
Georgie Grace, *this time of day can be dangerous*, 2014