

LISSON GALLERY

Press Release

Performer/Audience/Mirror

15 July – 3 September 2016
52 Bell Street, London

The exhibition 'Performer/Audience/Mirror' celebrates moving image and features work from the 1960s to the present day by eighteen internationally acclaimed artists, including Marina Abramović, John Akomfrah, Allora & Calzadilla, Francis Alÿs, Cory Arcangel, Art & Language, Gerard Byrne, Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg, Ceal Floyer, Ryan Gander, Dan Graham, Rodney Graham, Christian Jankowski, John Latham, Jonathan Monk, Wael Shawky, Santiago Sierra and Sean Snyder. Borrowing its title from Dan Graham's 1977 performance at De Appel Arts Centre in Amsterdam, in which the artist described himself and the seated audience in front of a mirrored wall, the exhibition draws on the interactivity and reflexivity of film and explores its importance as a media for experimentation, performance and documentation.

The exhibition is organised into three distinct sections that draw on the subjects of Graham's performance – performer, audience and mirror – with each section showing a looped showreel of films. A selection of films featured in the exhibition will be screened online through Lisson Gallery's website, allowing users to virtually experience the wealth of moving image on display while calling into question the accessibility of video art. Drawing on the gallery's near 50 year history and extensive archive, a resource area featuring catalogues and other relevant ephemera will also accompany the exhibition.

The 'Performer' section of the programme highlights the association between performance and film through the works of artists such as Marina Abramović, Gerard Byrne, Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg, Ryan Gander, Rodney Graham and Christian Jankowski. These works explore our understanding of performance in film both within a conventional contemporary art setting and within the broader cultural context of theatre, comedy and narration. Here the newest work in the exhibition, *Worship* (2016), a claymation film by Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg, will make its premiere in the UK, following successful reception in Sweden and Austria.

The 'Audience' programme, located in the main gallery space, will take place within Dan Graham's pavilion, *Greek Meander Pavilion, Open Shoji Screen Version* (2001). The pavilion creates an intimate sculptural environment to explore the significance of architecture and space in film and allows the audience to more actively engage with the works on view. Films by artists including Art & Language, Cory Arcangel, Ceal Floyer, Ryan Gander, Jonathan Monk and Santiago Sierra will be screened on monitors housed in the large-scale structure. Highlighting reflexivity in film, these works will also be visible from the outside through a gridded shoji screen and reflections in the pavilion's two-way reflective glass. Graham's documentation of his performance *Performer/Audience/Mirror* will be also screened, alongside the earliest work in the show, *Speak* (1962) by John Latham. Following a recent London exhibition dedicated entirely to Latham's spray paintings, this screening offers a rare opportunity to become acquainted with the artist's avant-garde film practice.

Screened in the third gallery space, the 'Mirror' programme reflects the social, political and historical significance of film and its potential to act as a mirror on society. A recent film by John Akomfrah, whose film installations *The Airport* and *Auto Da Fé* (2016) will be on display at Lisson Gallery New York from 24 June until 12 August 2016, will be presented, alongside work by other artists including Allora & Calzadilla, Francis Alÿs, Cory Arcangel, Wael Shawky and Sean Snyder.

27 & 52 Bell Street
London NW1 5BU
UK
T +44 (0)20 7724 2739

Via Zenale, 3
20123 Milan
Italy
T +39 (0)2 8905 0608

504 West 24th Street
New York NY 10011
USA
T +1 212 505 6431

lissongallery.com

Online Screening Schedule

15 – 18 July: *Performer/Audience/Mirror* (1977) by Dan Graham

19 – 21 July: *How to Appear Invisible* (2008) by Allora & Calzadilla

22 – 25 July: *Art must be beautiful/Artist must be beautiful* (1975) by Marina Abramović

26 – 28 July: *Speak* (1962) by John Latham

29 July – 1 August: *Telematch Shelter* (2008) by Wael Shawky

2 – 4 August: *The Hunt* (1992) by Christian Jankowski

5 – 8 August: *Downpour (Torstrasse)* (2004) by Ceal Floyer

9 – 11 August: *Cloud Sediment (Gstaad)* (2015-2016) by Sean Snyder

12 – 15 August: *As it presents itself* (2008) by Ryan Gander

16 – 18 August: *THE TRAP* (2007) by Santiago Sierra

19 – 22 August: *Ideas in Action (starbucks.com)* (2014) by Cory Arcangel

23 – 28 August: *Painting / Retoque* (2008) by Francis Alÿs

29 August – 1 September: *Performer/Audience/Mirror* (1977) by Dan Graham

2 – 4 September: >> virtual closing party <<

About Lisson Gallery

Lisson Gallery is one of the most influential and longest-running international contemporary art galleries in the world. Established in 1967 by Nicholas Logsdail, it pioneered the early careers of important minimal and conceptual artists, such as Sol LeWitt, John Latham and Richard Long, as well as significant British sculptors from Anish Kapoor and Tony Cragg to a younger generation led by Ryan Gander and Haroon Mirza. With two exhibition spaces in London, one in Milan and a fourth under the High Line in New York, Lisson Gallery supports and develops its artists globally.

Gallery opening hours

Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm

Saturday, 11am-5pm

Press enquiries

Helena Zedig or Cecilia Vilela at Rhiannon Pickles PR

Tel: [+44 7803 596587](tel:+447803596587); [+44 \(0\) 7449 872 799](tel:+44207449872799)

Email: helena@picklespr.com; cecilia@picklespr.com

i: [@lisson_gallery](https://www.instagram.com/lisson_gallery)

t: [@Lisson_Gallery](https://www.facebook.com/LissonGallery)

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