

PEST

Sunday 16 September 2018

Full Programme



Andrea Luka Zimmerman, Taskafa: Stories of the Street, 2013, HD, 66 minutes. Courtesy the artist

Join us for a day of artist performances, workshops, film and animal expert-led tours, exploring our co-habitation with other species, in particular those seen as pests or strays, relegated to the edges of human society.

'The Giraffe in the Ark: Talk on Laura Ford's 'A King's Appetite'
West Gallery, 11:45am – 12:00pm, free, no booking

Join Dr Kaori Nagai, Lecturer in Victorian Literature at the University of Kent, as she discusses Laura Ford's 'A King's Appetite' (2017) in this free 15-minute talk.

'Time Travel and Taxidermy': Talk on Kiluanji Kia Henda's 'In the Days of a Dark Safari'
South Gallery, 12:45 – 1:00, Free, no booking

Join Dr Ben Grant, from the School of English at the University of Kent, as he discusses Kiluanji Kia Henda's 'In the Days of a Dark Safari' (2017) in this free 15-minute talk.

Cast, Bronwen Buckeridge

Performance

Sunley Gallery, Foyer and Outside, 1 – 1.30 pm, free, no booking

A live phone call with a raven to imagine how avian behaviour might shape and disturb our more familiar world.

'Blind Animals': Live Action Roleplay Workshops (LARP) with Adam James
Foyle Room, 2 – 2:25, free, no booking

Suitable for ages 10+

No prior experience or skills necessary to take part.

In this blindfolded larp, you will collectively create a mysterious group of blind animals. Each animal will be completely unique, with strange bodies, voices and unpredictable behaviours. Set within a pitch-dark underground cave, these creatures have never seen the light of day and rarely encounter other life forms. Join us in finding out what happens when they meet each other for the first time...

Pest, Robbie Judkins
Sunley Gallery, 2.30 – 3 pm, free, no booking

Judkins has created a new sound performance for *Animals & Us* using sonic devices employed to scare animals away from gardens and green spaces, in a composition with other sounds and field recordings.

'Monkeys: Live Action Roleplay Workshops (LARP) with Adam James
Foyle Room, 3 – 3:25, free, no booking

Suitable for ages 10+

No prior experience or skills necessary to take part.

In this energetic short-form larp, you are invited to play as part of troop of monkeys living deep within a tropical rainforest. Over generations the monkeys have formed meaningful bonds with one another, living as a family in harmony with their surroundings. Whilst they are a playful and sensitive family they also know how to defend themselves when intruders threaten their peaceful existence.

Co-Existence: John Berger's Films about Animals
Film screenings and Q&A
Foyle Room, 2 – 4.45 pm, individual timing below, free, no booking

A special screening of two of the late, great writer John Berger's documentary film collaborations, with acclaimed artist, documentary maker and cultural activist Andrea Luka Zimmerman in conversation.

Parting Shots from Animals (1980, 60 mins)

2 – 3 pm

One of John Berger's longest-standing collaborators, director Mike Dibb made a number of television films with the writer, including the pioneering *Ways of Seeing*. This film, rarely seen since its BBC broadcast in the Omnibus arts series, draws from Berger's key essays on how we look at animals and what they mean to us including *Why Look at Animals?* The striking twist in the film is how it becomes a letter from the animals about how they perceive us.

Taskafa: Stories of the Street (2013, 66 mins)

3.15 – 4.20 pm

John Berger's 1998 novel *King* was told from the perspective of a homeless community's dog of that name. Featuring the author's own readings, Andrea Luka Zimmerman's warm and engaged film celebrates the numerous residents in Istanbul who care for the city's extensive population of street dogs. At once a portrait of a culture in transition, an affecting and committed study of those (not only canine) marginalised by globalisation, and an empathetic vision of resistance through a wholly different form of belonging, *Taskafa* is a work of poetry and praise, singing of the daily joys that come from camaraderie between species.

Q&A with the filmmaker, Andrea Luka Zimmerman

4.20 pm

The screenings will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker, Andrea Luka Zimmerman, and the event will be hosted by Gareth Evans, film curator at the Whitechapel Gallery and a frequent collaborator in events and publication with John Berger.

Participant Biographies

Bronwen Buckeridge's practice sits at the intersection of sound, sculpture and performance. Recent work includes a live audio session featuring conversations with dogs, an earthwork made with the assistance of witches, and an exhibition curated by spirits.

www.bronwenbuckeridge.com

Gareth Evans is a London-based writer, curator, presenter, producer and Whitechapel Gallery's Adjunct Film Curator. He is also co-curator of Swedenborg Film Festival, Flipside Festival, Whitstable Biennale and is the film co-ordinator for the London Review of Books.

Ben Grant, from the University of Kent, has a background in postcolonialism. He has published widely on nineteenth century European imperialism, on topics including gorillas and cannibals in West Africa, and falconry in India. He is also an expert on the aphorism and other short literary forms.

Adam James's practice brings people together in order to understand the self and to open up new ways of being and interacting. He uses non-verbal play to encourage forms of dialogue, mediation and the reconsideration of sameness and difference. James makes sculptural objects, drawings, photographs, videos and texts that all arise from his steadfast involvement in the performative practice of live action role play (larp). www.mradamjames.com

Robbie Judkins is a sound artist and musician with a focus on performance, improvisation, composition, broadcasting and audio-visual work. His work also explores political and personal issues; particularly animal advocacy and mental health. Robbie performs as Left Hand Cuts off the Right, is the creator of Animal Sounds on Resonance FM and hosts Parallax View on 199 Radio www.cargocollective.com/robbiejudkins

Kaori Nagai is Lecturer in Victorian Literature at the University of Kent. She is a Rudyard Kipling expert, and the editor of *The Jungle Books* for Penguin Classics (2013). She was the chief editor of 'Cosmopolitan Animals' (2015), edited with five colleagues from the University of Kent. Kaori recently undertook a Caird Short-Term Fellowship at the National Maritime Museum on the topic of seafaring rats in the British Empire, and is now organising a conference to be held there entitled 'Maritime Animals: Telling stories of animals at sea' (National Maritime Museum April 25-27, 2019).

Andrea Luka Zimmerman is an artist, film maker and cultural activist, exploring an often-unexpected intersection of public and private memory, in particular in relation to structural and political violence. Her features include *Estate, a Reverie* (2015) and *Erase and Forget* (2017). Her new film is an Artangel commission.

PEST has been organised by curator and researcher Rose Thompson in collaboration with Gareth Evans, Film Curator at the Whitechapel Gallery, and the Kent Animal Humanities Network and supported by the University of Kent's School of Arts.

www.kent.ac.uk/arts

www.research.kent.ac.uk/kentanimalhumanitiesnetwork