



#### **Abingdon Studios -**

##### **Bio:**

Abingdon Studios Reading Room and Gallery Room have been designed and built by Abingdon Studios Directors Garth Gratrix and Tom Ireland. The reading room (1.07) and gallery room (2.07) are partnerships between Abingdon, Art B&B, LeftCoast and Grundy Art Gallery, showing work from Abingdon Studio members with a changeover of artworks scheduled for Feb 2020 and also developing a new Seaside Curators and Artist Network (SCAN) that will invite artist led spaces from coastal or peripheral locations to congregate at Art B&B and develop new ways of working together.

##### **The Space:**

Other information regarding *'The Reading Room'*; as well as donated books from commissioned artists there is also archive documentation from projects commissioned by LeftCoast, Blackpool Council' Art Service and Grundy programme. We are also inviting students and recent graduates to submit dissertation copies alongside a comprehensive selection of art and theory publications. The writing desk featured in the room is a commissioned item from Artist Laura Jamieson.

*'The Gallery Room'* will feature a selection of artwork from 8 artists currently operating at Abingdon Studios as well as revisit works commissioned as part of our ACE funded Work/Leisure residency programme, which ran throughout 2017. Works will range from photography, print and collage, sculpture and digital and sound works available to view on the TV monitor

Both rooms have been painted in a custom made colour by artist Laura Shevaun Green as part of Painting The Town - a LeftCoast commissioned project. The colour is called Fearless and is a colour match of the bandstand in Blackpool Stanley Park.

#### **Adrian Pritchard-**

##### **Bio:**

Adrian Pritchard is an artist and educationalist whose work has a deep rooted interest in physics and a scientific approach which often focuses on fluids and time based installations. His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in both solo and group exhibitions. Adrian physically manipulates the paint by tipping and turning the surfaces allowing the paint to find its own channels under the pull of gravity.

##### **The Sleep in Installation:**

As 2019 is the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon-landing by Nasa. Adrian has made a series of Orbital Moons using the latest art grade epoxy resins. Many more planets have also been discovered by the KEPLER space observatory launched by NASA with a specific purpose to discover Earth-like planets. As of the 19th April 2019, there are 3,944 confirmed exoplanets, Adrian's goal was to twin the discovery of new planets with his own creations to visualise new worlds like precious jewels, leading us to contemplate what lies beyond and our place within the universe.

#### **Andy Hazell -**

**Bio:**

Andy Hazell is an artist who was born in Manchester a long time ago (his words, not ours), he studied at Art Schools in Britain, Germany and the US. Andy has worked as an 'artist' and 'craftsman' for over 35 years making everything from large scale public artworks in steel, bronze and glass to small hand cranked mechanical figures made of recycled biscuit tins.

**The Space:**

'*Skyline Flip*' was born out of a serendipitous moment, Andy had bought a fifties fish slice from a car boot sale, that afternoon his son was watching Disney's Classic '*Fantasia*' on TV. Mickey Mouse, with a spell, had brought all kitchen implements to life. The two moments coalesced into the sprung, arcing Fish slice readying itself for a flip. The 'Fried Egg', flung against the wall followed on, naturally.

**Augusto Corrieri -****Bio:**

Augusto Corrieri is a performance artist, writer and sleight-of-hand magician. After his BA in Theatre at Dartington College of Arts, he developed numerous performances for the stage and gallery spaces. Recurring interests are the active role of the spectator as co-author, and the uncanny changes to space and time that live performance can give access to. His current interest is on expanding performance to include 'non-human' ecologies and entities: how to attend to invisible processes, to overwhelming time-scales, to other animals and beings whose articulations are often beyond human reach and understanding.

**The Sleep in Installation:**

'*The world's greatest magic show right before your very eyes*', brings together magic with another still mysterious mental process-dreaming. Hanging on the wall of the room are a number of discreetly framed images and objects, all suggesting illusions and magic feats yet to be realised: they offer tantalising glimpses of vanishes, apparitions and impossibilities. The B&B guests are invited to cover up these artworks at night, in preparation for sleep: those magical feats might perhaps find material form in their dreams.

**Catherine Mugonyi -****Bio:**

Catherine Mugonyi is a director and founder of Aunty Social CIC which provides accessible, affordable and participatory arts activities. The organisation is run by volunteers and has developed a number of projects including: Knittaz with Attitude, subversive knitting group; altBlackpool, arts and culture website and Charabanc, a shop selling products from local artists. She leads on Aunty's Pop-up Picturehouse which provides screenings of independent and specialised film for community organisations and neighbourhood audiences in Blackpool. Catherine also organises and programmes the Winter Gardens Film Festival, which focuses on the best of classic and contemporary black and white film.

**The Sleep in Installation:**

In one of our Cinema Rooms, Catherine Mugonyi has used influences from the most famous building in Blackpool, The Winter Gardens. Using design elements and colours from the venue and the Winter Gardens Archive, Catherine felt that she could create a polished, sleek interior in keeping with the luxuriant dècor of the Opera House but also creating a relaxing, modern hotel room. Elements of the room include high quality modern projection equipment as well as nostalgic, vintage film formats and include a carefully curated selection of films/video library.

**Catherine Peters & Claire Griffiths -****Bio:**

Catherine Peters is a Designer & Claire Griffiths a Photographer with academic backgrounds in Fashion and Fine Art, who are both based and working in Blackpool. Catherine's background in design and trend analysis lays predominantly within footwear, working internationally for high profile organisations such as Marks and Spencers and Fatface. Claire graduated in Fine Art from Northampton University. Historically using dark room and analogue film/moving image to explore biographical ideas of how we connect to one another.

**The Sleep in Installation:**

'*Been There Got the Badge*' is an exploration into the very fabric of Blackpool's hidden spaces and what it meant to grow up in the seaside town; using a badge for creative expression to make use of connotation to working class movements and its symbol of allegiance. The work itself encourages the B&B guests to engage with the work by taking a badge away accompanied with an "alternative" tourist map.

**Christopher Samuel -**

**Bio:**

Christopher Samuel is a multi-disciplinary artist. The context of his practice is rooted in identity politics. He explores universal themes that arise from an analysis of the psychological dynamics of relationships and how people interact with each other. He seeks to interrogate his own understanding of the factors that play a role in our identity and how they contribute to the way we act and feel as a person or a collective.

**The Sleep in Installation:**

'*The Welcome Inn*' will be an experience which transforms a standard hotel room into a fully immersive event that gives the audience a taste of what it is like to face access barriers. Through the development and installation of oversized beds almost impossible to get on, parts of the room too tight to move around, the doorway impassable, a menu too small to read, toilets way too high, and sinks way too low, the audience will get an experience to stay in a room like no other.

**Hunt & Darton-**

**Bio:**

Hunt & Darton are a Live Art Collaboration between Jenny Hunt and Holly Darton who have been working together for eight years. They have both practiced Art since graduating from Central Saint Martins in 2003 and have been working together for 8 years. Approaching Live Art from a Fine Art background they work across mediums with a sculptural approach to performance, choreographing words and movement in a sensory way and setting up alternative spaces – often creating installations to perform within.

**The Space:**

Hunt & Darton have created a series of motivational flags to adorn the walls of the main public space of the B&B. Each flag will contain a comedic slogan created by the artists to motivate, inspire and encourage users to get through the day. They will draw on the relationships between the creative process and food and drink, each flag will have a timed release throughout the day.

**Jennifer Gaskell & Lisa Matlocks -**

**Bio:**

*The Future* - made up of Lisa Matlocks & Jenny Gaskell started as an artist-centred development collective in 2014, driven by activism and a desire to support artists ethically. *The Future* is based in Manchester and collaborate with other artists and each other to create challenging and empowering new work. Lisa Matlocks has been documenting, recording, facilitating and making, visual art, digital art and performance for the past 10 years. Jenny Gaskell makes projects which are a combination of

producing, performance, participation and prating about. She's interested in people, art that happens in everyday places and creating scenarios for people to take agency.

#### **The Sleep in Installation:**

'*Comfortable Room*' emerged from a friendship and collaboration of 8-9 years. It has come from a place of care and a longing for things to be better – from all the crap accommodation Lisa has stayed in whilst touring with chronic pain and the care she hasn't received because her disability is often invisible. They wanted to know what the best room might be for a person in pain who was well enough to travel. *The Future* wanted to set a new standard.

#### **Jenny Steele -**

##### **Bio:**

Jenny Steele is a Scottish artist currently based in Manchester, UK. Her work references 20th Century architecture, most recently coastal mid war architecture and design. She is interested in the permanence of architecture, and in particular how mid war design embodied utopic hope for the future. She seeks to revive its positive restorative qualities through her practice that encompasses printmaking, sculpture, drawing, textiles and site-specific artwork.

##### **The Space:**

'*The Sea Front*' is a carpet in the main entrance stairwell of Art B & B that responds to in depth research undertaken by Jenny Steele into pleasure architecture constructed along Blackpool seafront to provide spaces of rest and relaxation for tourists visiting the town. Following a series of in depth drawings Jenny Steele, has selected motifs from the exterior and interior of the following pleasure architecture; Blackpool Casino and Pleasure Beach iconic red wheel, The Winter Gardens Foyer and Exterior Half Moon and The Tower Ballroom Stage Steps. These celebratory symbols of Blackpool's architecture has been created into a repeat carpet for the Art B & B interior, using North England based carpet manufacturer, Gaskell & McKay, who Jenny has worked with to interpret the design into an Axminster Carpet.

#### **Jez Dolan -**

##### **Bio:**

Jez Dolan's practice explores queerness and identity through the codification of language with a specific focus on: the things we don't say / things that remain unsaid / secrecy and hiddenness, whilst utilising text and language as both form and content, visual presence and mode of communication. Jez Dolan's practice is interdisciplinary, project-based and research-driven. He employs a range of media according to the specific needs, demands and context of each project.

##### **The Sleep in Installation:**

Jez Dolan's room is centred around the concept of an LGBT+ / queer space which is centered in Blackpool's significance as a home and a destination for LGBT+ people for many years. Plus some reflection of his own connection, as many years as a visitor to Blackpool. All the furnishings and wallpaper in the room are a collaboration between Jez and illustrator Guy McKinley.

#### **Keeley Bentley -**

##### **Bio:**

Keeley is a Fine Art Photographer based in Blackpool in the North West of England. Keeley's personal work challenges her transition to adulthood, which is explored through various female characters that provoke narratives surrounding the history/culture of how women have been represented in the media. Influences are from vintage films, adverts and her own family's archive which is built on a foundation of strong independent women who have lived in Blackpool for over 90 years.

**The Space:**

*'The Vegas of the North'* originated from a study that forms Keeley's on-going photographic practice, which questions the 'unreality' of female adolescence in the media. Keeley explored the role that the teenage adolescent has played in various sources, exploring how the false reality, when imposed upon the adolescent female, becomes the cause of unease and presents us with an oscillation between reality and fantasy. Keeley ventured around her hometown of Blackpool; the rationale being that drawing on her experiences and knowledge of her hometown, she could look for the cinematic in the mundane.

**Kristina Veasy -**

**Bio:**

Kristina Veasey is a visual artist who likes to find positives in negative situations and beauty in the mundane. Fascinated by detail and drawn to the things most people pass by, she likes to add humour, quiriness and a sense of fun to her work. Some, though not all, of her work is influenced by the barriers she faces as a disabled person.

**The Sleep in Installation:**

*'A Room of Dirty Secrets'* is born from Kristina Veasey's frustration as a disabled person battling to keep up with the housework, Kristina shares the surprising results of this unlikely friendship, celebrating unnoticed splendour by transforming images of common household detritus into stunning fabrics and furnishings. A visual feast of quirky patterns and psychedelic tessellations run riot across walls and furniture prompting guests to observe the everyday in new ways. Will you still be swift to vacuum under the sofa, or will you pause to re-imagine the discarded treasures beneath?

**Laura Shevaun Green -**

**Bio:**

Laura Shevaun Green was born in Lancashire, England in 1984. She received a First-Class Honours Degree in Fine Art and Professional Practice from Lancaster University in 2015 and is currently studying for her Master's Degree in Fine Art Studio Practice. Green has exhibited both in her home country of Britain and internationally. Showing at the LACDA in Los Angeles, The Schwartz Gallery in London and Supercollider in Blackpool, Lancashire. Her work has been featured on the cover of Art Reveal Magazine.

**The Space:**

*'Paint the Town!'* was an opportunity for Blackpool residents to reclaim the narrative of the town through storytelling. Laura invited people who live in the town to tell her about places that hold special meaning to them. Armed with their memories, she visited these spots to explore the landscape and capture the colours she found there. From the colours she recorded at these sites she is creating a paint range. A collection of colours from Blackpool for Blackpool; a product that represents the town based on the residents experiences of it. This paint range celebrates the vibrancy that can be found in every corner of the town! The colour 'Fearless' is featured in the *Abingdon Studios Gallery and Reading Room* and is a colour match of the bandstand in Blackpool Stanley Park.

**Lisa Wigham:****Bio:**

Lisa Wigham makes work that creatively plays with language and typography; she uses creative writing to compose thought provoking art interventions for public places, art galleries and museums. Lisa was born and raised in Blackpool before studying a degree in Fine Art at Kent Institute of Art and Design, Canterbury. After graduating in 1997 she set up *The Two a.m. Press* to make artists' books, prints and public art with democratic intent. Lisa's prints are held in the Victoria and Albert Museum International Art Library and books stocked in some of the world's most curious bookshops including Book Art Book Shop, London , Atlantis Books, Santorini and Printed Matter, New York.

**The Space:**

For this commission Lisa Wigham has created the hotels' bespoke front window signage to engage passers-by and 'a suite' of hand painted poetic messages inside the hotel, that explore where Blackpool exists in people's imaginations. These collected lettering styles and motifs- from jaunty 60's Illuminations posters to remnants of elegant gilded shop windows - have been integrated into her designs for hand painted signs at the Art B&B.

**Louise Ahl:****Bio:**

Louise Ahl is a Glasgow-based artist originally from Sweden, making experimental and choreographic performance work. She creates both solo and collaborative multi-art-form pieces under the guise of Ultimate Dancer. Louise makes work around the metaphysical and mystical, using movement, voice, light, sonics and language. To challenge the form and notion of choreography underpins her work with a practice revolving around improvisation, cultivating presence and atmosphere. The artistic outputs of these enquiries are trippy, colourful and idiosyncratic performances with meditative qualities

**The Sleep in Installation:**

*'A black chamber to soothe the soul!'* Louise Ahl created a series of surround sound pieces in a completely black bedroom inspired by her experiences of a darkness retreat. Her artistic focus is on choreographed sound and the experience of sound

moving physically in the bedroom but also sound moving the bedroom guest internally in and out of meditative states. Lisa work across art forms with an expanded understanding of dance and choreography as *any* movement in time and space. From this starting point, the sound will become a body in this room and manifest physically through its movement and vibrations, enveloping the guest as another presence. It will be a magical room, harnessing the power of darkness as a soothing and empowering force.

#### **Marisa Carnesky:**

##### **Bio:**

Marisa Carnesky is an artist interested in the use of spectacle through performance traditions, she engages with these forms of spectacle as a means of creating accessible and provocative performance work that promotes cultural and political discourse and direct actions surrounding issues oncology, feminism and diversity. She is best known in Blackpool for the critically acclaimed arthouse fairground ride Carnesky's Ghost Train which ran for a decade, five years in residence in Blackpool.

##### **The Sleep in Installation:**

Maria Carnesky has been researching women in spectacular popular performance traditions looking at the intersectional life stories and shows of lesser known BAME, Jewish, Eastern European, Irish, immigrant and minority women performers that have appeared in Blackpool shows and the politics that surrounded them. Relating these stories through montage imagery and oral history recordings in a multi- media installation at Art B&B.

#### **Mark McClure -**

##### **Bio:**

Mark McClure Studio embraces bespoke surface design alongside public art, sculpture and gallery works, all in his bold, geometric style. Mark has exhibited widely both in the UK and Internationally. With a background in visual design and working with wood, paint and other materials – Mark collaborates with interior designers, architects and public bodies to bring the bold, geometric works to both private and public spaces.

##### **A Sleep in Installation:**

The spirit of entertainment and sensory stimulation are ingrained in the architecture of Blackpool - with it's legacy of the Illuminations, Winter Gardens & the Pleasure Beach - to name just a few of its attractions.

Taking cues from structural shapes of the tower, rollercoasters and pier, and the visual spectacle of the illuminations – Mark's installation brings these elements of entertainment & stimulation into the room at Art B&B. Echoing the playful, interactive nature of the amusement arcades and the light spectacle of the Illuminations - the room brings Blackpool's attractions indoors.

## **Mark Tintcher -**

### **Bio:**

Mark Titchner's work involves an exploration of the tensions between the different belief systems that inform our society, be they religious, scientific or political. Focusing on an exploration of words and language, in recent years much of his production has been based in the public realm both in the UK and internationally. These public works have often been created from extended group activities, working particularly with young people.

### **The Sleep in Installation:**

*'Plenty and Progress'* examines civic design and aspiration in Blackpool, yet, given the intimacy of the bedroom setting also extends the work into the area of self improvement and contemplation. Combining the text *'Plenty and Progress'* with elements of Claudagens design and the artists elaborated versions. The text and images will be combined with the reflection of the rooms visitors as they become an integral part of the artwork.

## **Mel Brimfield -**

### **Bio:**

Mel Brimfield's energetic collaborative work operates at the intersection of live art, theatre and moving image. A range of wildly inappropriate absurdist narrative forms are used to articulate the findings of rigorous academic research processes, including elaborately choreographed musical theatre numbers, gymnastic routines, stand-up monologues and queer cabaret turns.

### **The Sleep in Installation:**

*'The Willy Little Suite'* revisits a collaborative live performance made by Mel Brimfield and drag fabulist Dickie Beau. Fictional comedian Willy Little is the recurrent crumbling cipher at the centre of the piece; he embodies the slow death of music hall in Britain in the 1950s in a reprise of John Osborne's third-rate comic Archie Rice. A central portion of the original script comprises over 300 audio fragments of the off-colour jokes, skits, bits and lurid double entendres of dozens of dead comedians, and is reproduced as a vast wall drawing running throughout the suite.

## **Noah Rose -**

### **Bio:**

Noah Rose is an artist based between the North West of England and the West of Ireland. He studied at Manchester Metropolitan University and has an international practice making multi-disciplinary work, specialising in site-specific sculpture

and installation, mainly for public space. His work is fundamentally interested in investigating the nature of what defines a place, its specific qualities, within its geographical, cultural and socio-historical context.

#### **The Sleep in Installation:**

'*Peep Fiction*' is a sculptural/photographic installation exploring the hidden histories of Blackpool, and the difficulty in determining the truth when searching through the murky representations of the past. The installation uses 21 analogue slide-viewers, most of them hidden around a bedroom, with a few more scattered around public spaces. The trick is to find them, and when they are found, in accessing the information contained within and correlating it with the narratives contained in a handy guide book. The guests in the room will have to work a little to find their art, and although the quest will not be too onerous, it will entail a little adventure and may get a little awkward. Noah Rose spent a lot of time researching the archival material held by Blackpool Heritage Service to bring to light the stories of a number of remarkable figures from Blackpool's past. Some of these characters are slightly famous, others almost completely unknown.

#### **Richard Woods -**

##### **Bio:**

Richard Woods graduated from the Slade School of Art in 1990. His architectural interventions are chiefly concerned with the re-surfacing of existing structures, and they propose an absurd twist on the cult of home improvement and DIY aesthetics. Over the past few years, he has designed a sensational interior for the Comme des Garçons' flagship store in Osaka, orchestrated the mock Tudor overhaul of a private residence in New York and transformed the interior of Cary Grant's former Hollywood residence for its new owner, Jeffrey Deitch. In 2003, his re-paving of a cloistered courtyard was the centrepiece of The Henry Moore Foundation's exhibition at the 50th International Venice Biennale of Art.

##### **The Space:**

*The Holiday Homes* were originally made for the Folkestone Triennial in 2017. Richard made a site visit to Folkestone in 2016 and was given a piece of paper as he walked up the high street. The paper was an advert from an estate agent asking for locals to think about selling their houses for 'cash'. Richard was a little shocked by the invitation, it seemed sort of brutal. It led him to think about who would be selling a house on that day for cash and who would be buying one, it made him think of where would be a good place to build a holiday home and where would be a bad place. Richard decided he would become a property developer for the summer and we would build six holiday homes and place them in different locations around Folkestone. Richard is delighted that some of the houses they built have stayed in Folkestone and equally delighted that some of the houses have gone on a road trip and popped up in other locations. Blackpool has always had a thriving hotel and B&B business and he is interested to see how one extra holiday let property in the town will be received.

### **Romely Alice Walden -**

#### **Bio:**

Romely Alice Walden is a trans disciplinary artist whose work centres a queer disabled perspective on the fragility of the body. Her work has been shown throughout the UK, Europe and North America in solo and group exhibitions. In 2019 she will present solo exhibitions at SOHO20 Gallery New York and Nars Foundation, Brooklyn. Her practice spans sculpture, installation, video and printed matter, all with a socially engaged and research-led working methodology.

#### **The Space:**

*'Remedial Geologies'* is a series of works depicting natural rock formations in clear glass and noble gases. The work seeks to explore the link between natural landscape and wellness, asking whether the landscape can still be remedial if viewed through a digital or abstracted medium. The shape of *'Remedial Geologies IV'* was inspired by a rock formation in North Wales, an area that can be seen from the Blackpool coast.

### **Tim Etchells -**

#### **Bio:**

Tim Etchells is an artist and writer based in the UK whose work shifts between performance, visual art and fiction. He has worked in a wide variety of contexts, notably as leader of the world-renowned Sheffield-based performance group Forced Entertainment and in collaboration with a wide range of musicians, artists and performance makers.

#### **The Space:**

*'Now You See it Now You Don't'* refers to the familiar verbal trope of stage magicians and illusionists. Playfully invoking the mystery and delight of another era's popular entertainment, the text also conjures more current processes of revelation and concealment, change and transformation— personal, social and political. An intimate-scale neon sculpture which invites the viewer to observe the work whilst at the same time imagining other things, which have been or could at some future moment be hidden or concealed. *'Now You See it Now You Don't'* opens multiple interpretations, questions and speculations for the viewer.

### **Tina Dempsey -**

#### **Bio:**

Tina Dempsey's creative practice examines joy! Exploring what joy is, how it makes us feel and what triggers it within us. Capturing the sensation and pausing it, allowing it to be examined closer. Tina explores a range of spaces; social, physical, architectural and emotional, to document these moments of pleasure, re-appropriating my findings through drawing, painting, printmaking and collage to generate an abstracted visual representation of joy.

**The Space:**

Tina Dempsey's process of examining sorrow and joy, explores what triggers them, how they affect us and questioning how we might navigate these emotions in our modern, media saturated, lives. Incorporating humour, honesty, reality & the ridiculous.

Tina's installation is a series of painted wooden shapes that aim to generate a sense of joy and excitement through the use of colour, pattern & form. Creating a feeling of movement and play throughout the space.