

## SITE GALLERY BEGINS ITS 40<sup>TH</sup> YEAR WITH GROUP SHOW RE-COLLECTIONS, FEATURING ELIZABETH PRICE, GEORGINA STARR AND SUSAN HILLER



Image: Georgina Starr, The Joyful Mysteries of Junior, 2012. Courtesy the artist.

- Site Gallery celebrates its 40th year in 2019
- First exhibition programme of 2019 announced
- Featuring Turner Prize winner Elizabeth Price, Georgina Starr and Susan Hiller

## Re-collections Preview: Friday 15 February 2019, 6 – 8pm

Site Gallery, Sheffield's contemporary art space specialising in moving image, new media and performance, has announced details of the first exhibition and events programme of its 40<sup>th</sup> year.

The programme includes a major group exhibition (*Re-collections*) and a packed calendar of events, with talks, reading groups and workshops for all ages, focused on acknowledging the best of Site Gallery's past, present and future.

Re-collections (16 February – 19 May 2019) brings together the work of three phenomenal artists from Site's archive, honouring a tradition of supporting and championing women for the past 40 years.

Work by Susan Hiller (b. 1940, Tallahassee, FL), Elizabeth Price (b. 1966, Bradford, UK) and Georgina Starr (b. 1968, Leeds, UK) will be presented in the new gallery space, which opened in September 2018 following a £1.7m expansion project.

Curated by Angelica Sule, the exhibition explores how histories are remembered, recorded and retold. Moving between personal narratives, institutional records and oral histories, it touches on the myriad ways in which we collect and present our experiences.

Turner Prize winner Elizabeth Price's A *RESTORATION* is an 18 minute two channel HD video installation that employs the photographic and graphic archives of the Ashmolean Museum and Pitt Rivers Museums in Oxford. It is a fiction, set to melody and percussion, which is narrated by a chorus of self-proclaimed 'museum administrators' who mine the records of Arthur Evans's excavation of the Cretan city of Knossos.

Georgina Starr's The Joyful Mysteries of Junior follows the artist and her diminutive alterego 'Junior' on a psycho-spiritual journey—from their lowly beginnings in a dingy Den Haag B&B (The Making of Junior, 1994) to international art exhibitions and finally their emotional reunion in 2012.

Susan Hiller is an influential pioneer of video art and multimedia installation. She is best known for works that combine ideas of archiving in contemporary art with an emphasis on psychologically charged subjects. She will show Lost and Found - a composition of the voices of people who speak extinct, endangered and revitalized languages. Some sing; others tell stories, recite vocabulary lists, reminisce, read the weather report or discuss car problems.

Artistic Director, Sharna Jackson said: "Site Gallery's 40th year is autobiographical, bringing together the perspectives and voices that orate, narrate and envision its histories. The exhibitions, programmes and partnerships over the coming year will show the best of what Site Gallery does, has done and will do. At the heart of the exhibition is a space to excavate the past and consider the future - a platform to speak, listen, perform and remember. It is designed to be used by everyone, so please get in touch via hello@sitegalley.org if you would like to occupy the space."

**Executive Director Judith Harry said**; "We are thrilled to be kicking off our 40th anniversary year with a show that celebrates three incredible women artists who have played an important role in our history and made a significant contribution to the development of contemporary art in the UK. This show follows on from a significant 2018, reopening the gallery after 18 months of building expansion."

Site Gallery will begin the year's activity with a Preview of Re-Collections on Friday 15 February, 6 – 8pm.

Follow the conversation online with #SiteGallery40

## ENDS

For more information, images or interviews please contact Kirsty Young kirsty.young@sitegallery.org / 0114 281 2077

Listings

Site Gallery 1 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS

Opening hours: Tuesday-Wednesday: 11am – 6pm Thursday: 11am – 8pm Friday-Saturday: 11am – 6pm Sunday: 11am – 4pm Entry price: Free Website: <u>www.sitegallery.org</u> Facebook: facebook.com/sitegallerysheffield Twitter: twitter.com/site\_gallery Instagram: instagram.com/sitegallery

## ABOUT SITE GALLERY

Pioneering emerging art practices and ideas, Site Gallery works in partnership with local, regional and international collaborators to nurture artistic talent and support the development of contemporary art and its appreciation.

At the heart of what Site does, is to connect people to artists and to art, inspiring new thinking and debate through exhibitions, talks, events and other public activity.

Site Gallery provides new opportunities for young people in the region to engage with contemporary art through a range of activities across the city. By participating in regular groups; one-off events and collaborations with contemporary artists, young people play a pivotal role in the gallery and its relationships with wider communities.

In 2016, with continued funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Site Gallery launched 'On the Road', a pioneering programme of artist-led activity across Sheffield. This programme runs alongside the Society of Explorers, an active group of 14 – 19 year olds who work collaboratively to think critically, test ideas, create artwork, produce events and devise public responses to current exhibitions.

Site Gallery work with early career to established artists to commission new work, produce solo and group shows, deliver residencies, performances, events and community programme. Through diverse programming, they reveal the process of making art and invite audiences and participants to engage, explore and connect.

In 2018 Site Gallery re-opened after a building programme which trebled the scale of its public area and now have a large scale gallery, a dedicated projects space, café and shop as well as a beautiful new façade and main entrance.

In 2019 Site Gallery celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> year as a contemporary art space in Sheffield.