



Phil Collins:
Can't Do Right For Doing Wrong
Sat 7 Jul – Sun 16 Sep



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This summer HOME presents a major solo exhibition and new co-commission from Turner-nominated artist Phil Collins. *Can't Do Right For Doing Wrong* features three large-scale installations which use digital and analogue technologies to tell the stories of individuals and social groups living under late, accelerated disaster-capitalism.

Bringing together works from the last five years, the exhibition is an expansive spatial and poetic statement which invites engagement with the voices and perspectives of the homeless, the future of resistance in a world without fossil fuels, and the life and revolutionary work of Friedrich Engels whose insights into the 19th century injustices continue to reverberate in today's society.

Ceremony, my heart's in my hand... and *Delete Beach* all touch upon everyday hardships, struggles and solidarity refracted through the prism of popular culture and the documentary as vehicles of conveying shared desires, anxieties and concerns. Collins' work is inspired by cinema, public access television, theatre, live art, and any manifestations of vernacular-, youth- and counter-cultures.

At the core of his varied practice is the radical and transformative potential of connection. Collins' projects are typically based in long-term collaboration with individuals and communities, creating a space of encounters for both participants and viewers to inhabit in new and unexpected shapes. As the artist says, "in times of increasing division and discord, art has a duty to step forward as a safeguard for reflection and exchange in order to create, or ballast, the bridges between us."

Can't Do Right For Doing Wrong is curated by Sarah Perks, Artistic Director: Visual Art, HOME and Professor of Visual Art, Manchester School of Art.

About the Artist

Phil Collins is filmmaker and visual artist based in Berlin and Wuppertal, Germany. He is Professor of Video Art and Performance at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne. Since the late 1990s Collins' practice has explored the intersections of art, politics and media. Characteristic of his approach is a close engagement with place and a wide range of collaborators, which over the years have included, amongst others, disco-dancing Palestinians; Kosovan Albanian refugees; the youth of Baghdad; fans of The Smiths across three continents; teachers of Marxism-Leninism from the former German Democratic Republic; anti-fascist skinheads in Malaysia; men incarcerated at one of the United States' largest prisons; and prisoners, pensioners, school kids, and a symphonic orchestra in Glasgow. Reflecting critical consciousness and disarming immediacy, Collins' works pull into sharp focus the contradictions which shape human experience.

About the Curator

Sarah Perks is Artistic Director: Visual Art at HOME and Professor of Visual Art at Manchester School of Art. Sarah is an award-winning writer, curator and film producer interested in cross art form curation and practice, politically engaged contemporary visual art and counteracting the toxic narratives of our time.



Ceremony

Through the complex layering of a decommissioned 1970 statue from former Eastern Europe, a public gathering, a television documentary, and a new gallery film, this multi-faceted project explores the work and legacy of Friedrich Engels, Manchester's adopted son and co-founder of communist theory with his friend Karl Marx.

The 1917 Russian Revolution shaped the political landscape of the 20th century. But it was in Manchester, not Imperial Russia, that the idea of communism was born, articulated in large part through the economic, social and political ideas of Friedrich Engels who lived in the city for more than twenty years. Linking his work to the social conditions of Britain today, *Ceremony* returns Engels to a position of prominence in Manchester, reasserting the city's role in the history of radical thought.

Presented exactly one year after the statue of Engels was inaugurated outside HOME, where it remains as a permanent public monument, the new gallery film re-cut and expanded from a version broadcast on BBC revisits a singular moment in which performers, musicians and local communities came together for Engels' homecoming party. Leading up to this event, Collins collaborated with activists, organisations and people he met during his year-long residency to explore the lives of workers today. Featuring Maxine Peake as the voice of Engels and a central performance from Carla Henry, *Ceremony* reconnects Manchester to the idea of communism, which transformed the post-war world and continues to provide a visionary alternative to the tyranny of capital which governs our political, economic and emotional lives.

Ceremony was co-commissioned by 14-18 NOW, HOME, Manchester and Manchester International Festival. Produced by HOME, Manchester, Manchester International Festival, Shady Lane Productions and Tigerlily Productions. Supported by Arts Council England's Ambition for Excellence, the BBC, the Henry Moore Foundation and My Festival Circle. *Ceremony* also tours to BALTIC, Gateshead, Fri 22 Jun – Sun 30 Sep; MAC, Belfast, Thu 9 Aug – Sun 28 Oct; and Cooper Gallery at Jordanstone College of Art & Design, Dundee, Fri 18 Jan – Sat 16 Feb, 2019.



my heart's in my hand, and my hand is pierced, and my hand's in the bag, and the bag is shut, and my heart is caught

my heart's in my hand, and my hand is pierced, and my hand's in the bag, and the bag is shut, and my heart is caught is a project from 2013 developed in collaboration with guests of GULLIVER Survival Station for the Homeless, located under the railway arches at Cologne's central station.

Material selected from over a thousand free and anonymised phone calls recorded at the facility was posted to a group of international musicians, serving as the starting point for original new tracks pressed as 7" vinyl records and hosted in a series of specially designed listening booths.

The contributors include some of Collins' personal heroes (Scritti Politti, David Sylvian, Lætitia Sadier, Damon & Naomi), trailblazing experimental acts (Demdike Stare, Planningtorock, Maria Minerva, Pye Corner Audio, Heroin In Tahiti, Peaking Lights), Cologne musicians across different generations (Elektronische Musik aus: Köln, Pluramon, Cologne Tape), and a special guest turn by the German indie superstar Julia Hummer.

Bringing to the fore the lyrical potential of the human voice when it stands in for subjects of city life who are purposely ignored and routinely overlooked, *my heart's in my hand...* dramatises the moment of communication as an intimate and ambivalent exchange. The installation gains a special resonance in Manchester where homelessness is at an all-time high, particularly in tandem with *Ceremony* and its unorthodox look at the realities of life in 21st century austerity Britain.

my heart's in my hand, and my hand is pierced, and my hand's in the bag, and the bag is shut, and my heart is caught was commissioned for a solo exhibition at Museum Ludwig and supported by Akademie der Künste der Welt in Cologne.



Delete Beach

Delete Beach is an anime film set in the near future which tells the story of a schoolgirl who joins an anti-capitalist resistance group in a society in which carbon-based energy is outlawed. The film proposes a scenario describing the decline of the oil economy, with the prosperity of the boom years expiring and the necessity of infrastructural changes looming large.

As an art form, anime has repeatedly addressed political themes, often through the lens of complex female characters. In *Delete Beach* a curious paradox is at work: society has reached an advanced state of independence from carbon fuels, yet it continues to toil as before under a regime of oppression, inequality and control. Following anime's recognisable aesthetic and storytelling strategies, Collins' collaboration with STUDIO4°C, one of Japan's leading animation studios (*Tekkonkinkreet*), and pop auteur and film composer Mica Levi (*Under the Skin*, *Jackie*) brings to life a world at once familiar and disquietingly corroded.

For the installation at HOME, *Delete Beach* is conjured up as an apocalyptic, melancholy shoreline, crashing in from another dimension to play host to a dream-like animation environment.

Delete Beach was commissioned by Bergen Assembly. Supported by Vestnorsk Filmsenter. Co-produced with HAU Hebbel am Ufer Berlin through funding provided by the German Cultural Foundation.

Events

Discussion / Beyond the banner: How does contemporary art engage with political history?

Friday 6th July, 17:00 - 18:00. Cinema 2

We ask what artistic context can bring to debates around political history, and to what extent should the artist-as-archaeologist inhabit the role of historian within their practice. When artistic gestures are charged with 'bringing stories to life', are we to consider this a type of historical fiction or something more? How do these encounters alter the echoes of history, and do they impact upon received narratives or occupy their own space?

Chaired by Sarah Perks, Artistic Director, HOME, with panellists Phil Collins, Dr Danielle Child, Kristin O'Donnell and Skinder Hundal.

NEW / 10-Min Intro

Join a member of our team for a short 10-minute introduction to the exhibition themes before exploring the dramatic gallery environment for yourself.

Please note this exhibition is in partial darkness and features pools of shallow water with loose, shifting surface underfoot in part. FREE, just turn up.

Thu 19 Jul, 18.00 - With exhibition curator Sarah Perks, Visual Art Team, HOME

Sat 28 Jul, 14.00 - With Bren O'Callaghan, Visual Art Team, HOME

Tue 7 Aug, 18.00 - With exhibition curator Sarah Perks, Visual Art Team, HOME

Sun 19 Aug, 14.00 - With Ella Walker, Engagement Team, HOME

Fri 31 Aug, 18.00 - With Katie Roberts, Communications Team, HOME

Sat 15 Sep, 14.00 - With Anne Louise Kershaw, Engagement Team, HOME

BSL Led Gallery Tour

Sat 18 Aug, 15:00, FREE, just turn up

Join Art and Design Historian, Jennifer Little for a tour of this exhibition. This tour will be led solely in British Sign Language with no spoken English.

If You're Gonna Do It Do It Right

Manchester's youth poetry collective Young Identity will respond to *Can't Do Right For Doing Wrong* with a series of newly commissioned pieces reflecting on the politically driven themes of this extensive exhibition. After a month of immersing themselves in the art work, the poets will perform pieces inspired by the three major works in the exhibition; *Ceremony, my heart's in my hand...* and *Delete Beach* in and around HOME throughout August.

Join us for this special series of free evening performances to experience this breakthrough exhibition through the words of Manchester's most talented and dynamic young poets. The gallery will be open until 10pm on performance days.

Thu 9 Aug, 21:00 - WORK – A response to *Ceremony*

Thu 16 Aug, 21:00 - SAFE – A response to *my heart's in my hand*

Thu 23 Aug, 21:00 - EARTH – In response to *Delete Beach*

Thu 30 Aug, 21:00 - TOGETHER – A collective response

Founded by Shirley May and Ali Gadema in 2006, Young Identity is a multifaceted spoken work project supporting young writers across the city to showcase work and develop as professional artists through workshops, mentoring programmes, commissioning opportunities and national and international performances. Young Identity recently performed to a sell-out audience at The Schaubühne, participated in the Frankfurt Poetry Slam and have previously worked with artists such as Kate Tempest and Lemn Sissay who champion their work. They are resident at Contact, HOME and Manchester International Festival and run regular slam poetry nights celebrating spoken word in the city.

Exhibition Design

raumlaborberlin | Florian Stirnemann with Annabelle Dorn and Jeanne Astrup-Chaveaux

Audio-Visual Design

Sue MacDiarmid



If you don't want to keep me, please return to an invigilator or recycle me!

HOME is committed to the 100% reuse and redistribution of all exhibition materials, with all build elements being repurposed. HOME maintains a zero-to-landfill policy and we are committed to Greater Manchester's goal of becoming a carbon neutral city region by 2038.

Should you have any access requirements or suggestions of how we can improve your experience, please speak to member of gallery staff or email access@homemcr.org

Visit homemcr.org/access for information on our facilities and Access Programme.

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