

PRESS RELEASE

18 August 2020

HOME and Future 20 present Last Place On Earth



For immediate release

An artists' collective's debut exhibition that was put on hold by the coronavirus lockdown has been turned into a gorgeously terrifying digital experience using film and virtual reality.

Future 20's *Last Place On Earth*, commissioned by HOME as part of their cross-art-form training initiative for young artists aged 18-25 and created with Studio Morison, consists of unworldly environments, imaginary and experimental concepts dreamt up by the artists. Size and scale are no longer concerns, as it has become possible to build a world with no limitations, where sound, film, music, poetry and sculptural forms align perfectly together in the digital realm.

HOME

Future 20 are reimagining an alternative place to reconnect with mother nature, through the virtual reality lens. A space for people to think carefully about who they are, the impacts of their behaviours and attitudes towards our planet and what actions we must take to create real positive change.

Taking as its starting point a future eco-catastrophe, *Last Place on Earth* asks what will the world look like when it is reborn? Digitally recreating the HOME building and Tony Wilson Place, the artists take the viewer on a rite of passage, passing through different realms that echo the five classical elements - Black Light (Light), Bleak Sea (Water), Surface Cloud (Air), Soft Stone (Earth) and Nexus Valley (Aether) - each with its own message.

The ten featured artists – Khizar Ali, Evie Appleson, Elena Brearley, James Desser, Saf Elsenossi, Jahday Ford, Sally Hirst, Connor Milligan, Maisie Pritchard and Melissa Sorrell started working on the project in Summer 2019, long before the start of the pandemic. They were initially due to open the exhibition in HOME's gallery this month.

However, when the world was put on hold by the pandemic, the underlying themes of the work started to feel mor relevant than ever.

Maisie Pritchard said: "The whole world is collectively experiencing impacts of climate change, we are in great turmoil as governments across the globe ignore the need for serious policies to fight this climate crisis. We are threatened by an increase in choking cities, overheating climates, flooded communities and extreme poverty. If we are not vigilant, we may cut ourselves off from the natural world. If we don't act now, what will happen to our planet? Does our Last Place on Earth give insight to an uncertain future?"

"COVID-19 has proven to be an example of how we can live and act in solidarity, it has proven the positive impacts of reducing carbon emissions and it has proven that if we put serious policies into place, we can too fight the climate crisis. With creativity, consideration and determination, we have built a new world."

The process of moving from a physical exhibition to the digital realm was guided by artist Ivan Morison, founder of Studio Morison.

Ivan said: "Last Place On Earth evolved around the central question within the collective: As artists and creatives of all types, how best do we communicate the



urgent issues of our time - the environment emergency and the collapse of societal norms and civic responsibility - and through our work how do we bring about meaningful change?"

Last Place on Earth can be accessed via the HOME website now. A series of online workshops with the artists will take place throughout August and September.

For more information, visit homemcr.org/LastPlaceOnEarth

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information, images and interview requests, please contact Kat Harrison-Dibbits, Head of Communications at HOME, on 07833 523295 or email kat.harrison-dibbits@homemcr.org.

This project is part of HOME's Engagement Programme.

The Future 20 Collective are: Khizar Ali, Evie Appleson, Elena Brearley, James Desser, Saf Elsenossi, Jahday Ford, Sally Hirst, Connor Milligan, Maisie Pritchard and Melissa Sorrell.

It also included: Vân Bùì and Yorusalem Okbamichael between July 2019 - February 2020.

Lead Artists: [Studio Morison](http://www.morison.info),

Directed by Ivan Morison with support of Daniel Childs (Virtual Reality), Fai Chung (Sound Design), Iman Dattoo (3D Design) and Emma Weston (Musician & Mastering).

<http://www.morison.info>

About HOME

HOME is Manchester's centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in 2015, HOME has welcomed over 2.9 million visitors to see thrilling theatre and dance shows, experience great independent films from across the world, dive into the new art in our galleries, relax in our café and browse our bookshop. We work with international and UK artists to produce extraordinary experiences, creating an exciting mix of thought-provoking drama, dance, film and contemporary visual art with a strong focus on international work, new commissions and talent development. Our ambition is to push the boundaries of form and technology, to experiment, have fun and take risks. We want to explore what it means to be human today, and to share great new art with the widest possible audience. HOME has welcomed the following artists and more since opening: AL and AL, Rachel Maclean, Phil Collins, Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, Larry Achiampong, Sophie Al-Maria, Noor Afsan Mirza & Brad Butler, John Walter & David Lynch. www.homemcr.org | @HOME_mcr | Facebook HOME_mcr



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