

A close-up photograph of a red monkey face, likely a character from the movie 'The Monkey King'. The monkey has large, wide, red eyes with black pupils, a red nose, and a wide, toothy grin showing two prominent yellow teeth. The monkey's fur is a mix of light brown and white, and it has a thick white beard. The background is dark and out of focus.

HOME

ART

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EXHIBITION

RACHEL MACLEAN: WOT U :-) ABOUT?

SAT 29 OCT 2016 - SUN 8 JAN 2017



INTRODUCTION

Wot u :-) about? is a major exhibition of entirely new work by acclaimed artist Rachel Maclean, who will represent Scotland at the 2017 Venice Biennale.

Using the fairytale genre to examine the murky boundary between childhood and adulthood, Maclean explores ideas of happiness and childhood as qualities that can be packaged and sold, resulting in dark and unsettling adventures located in a fantasy world reminiscent of the candy-coloured palette of children's television.

The new work in *Wot u :-) about?* includes a large format print series, *We Want Data!* (2016), plus a new film commission for HOME, *It's What's Inside That Counts* (2016). These premiere alongside a new sculpture series.

Co-curated by Bren O'Callaghan and Sarah Perks.

BIOGRAPHY: RACHEL MACLEAN

Rachel Maclean was born in 1987 in Edinburgh and lives and works in Glasgow. She has a BA in Drawing and Painting from Edinburgh College of Art and has had solo exhibitions at: Zabłudowicz Collection, London (2014); Edinburgh Printmakers (2013); Collective Gallery, Edinburgh (2013); and Trade Gallery, Nottingham (2013). In 2013, Maclean received the Margaret Tait Award for her contribution to Glasgow Film Festival and was shortlisted for the Film London Jarman Award 2013 and 2016. She will represent Scotland at the Venice Biennale 2017 in a solo pavilion at the Chiesa di Santa Caterina. Maclean was one of the Frieze Film artists in 2016, and will feature as one of Channel 4's Random Acts in late 2016.



DRIVE THRU



WAKE UP COFFEE



WE WANT DATA! (2016)

6 x 2.1m x 3m, dye sublimation fabric prints

We Want Data is a series of wall hangings exploring themes of data management and consumption, part of a larger body of work that includes the film installation *It's What's Inside That Counts* (2016). Beneath the decaying streets of a dystopian metropolis fueled by fevered connectivity, a race of rodents hack the sales messages of a Kardashian-type demigod, more cyborg than human, who rules over the digi-fed masses. Part Baroque heaven, part post-apocalyptic nightmare, the grotesque, cartoonish figures compete for attention within this digitally connected, corrupt, caffeine marinated environment where power dynamics are constantly changing.

Commissioned by Artpace and HOME
Photographer Josh Huskin
Make-up Zachry Smith
Studio facilities Artpace



:-) & :-(U SHALT NOT LIKE :-) THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX :-) THINKING INSIDE THE BOX :-) (2016)

Mixed Media

This new mixed media sculpture series takes characters, narratives and themes explored in Maclean's recent film and print work and expands them into 3D installations. Looking somewhere between bored commuters, cutesy kids' tv monsters and sickeningly engorged, over consumptive organs, these emotive sculptures are hunched over and fixated upon a variety of hand-held monitors. These figures are both props and inanimate viewers for a series of videos displaying data and infographics to their unblinking users.

The faces of the sculptures are taken from Maclean's 'happy' and 'sad' logos which appear in much of her work, giving them the appearance of life size emoticons. On top of and within these structures are a swarm of life-size humanoid rats. Like cherubs within an opulent altarpiece, these figures cling to and decorate the surface of the sculptures. However, unlike cherubs, the rats bite, consume and torture their hosts, pulling and chewing into a tangle of blue data cables that spill from their engorged bodies like visceral innards.

Lead sculpture assistant Samuel Devereux
Sculpture assistants Tim Dalzell, Lucy Payne, Angus Maclean
Metalwork assistant Tess Vaughan
Printing facilities Advanced Textiles at Glasgow School of Art



IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS (2016)

3-channel digital video, 30mins

This brand new film installation expands upon the world we first encounter in the print series *We Want Data!*

The supermodel-like figurehead of a greed-driven data provider, is stalked by the leader of a band of guerilla hacktivist rat creatures. Their aim is to disrupt and gorge upon the addictive in-vi-si-juice that powers phones and pocket tablets, gnawing on bandwidth cables like sugar cane, to suck at the sweet nectar within. Above ground, the citizens are infected with a plague-like lethargy, becoming zombies who stumble in stained bed clothes in search of ever greater connectivity, totally disconnected from non-virtual reality.

A new HOME commission in partnership with University of Salford Art Collection, Artpace, Zabłudowicz Collection, Tate, Frieze Film and Channel 4 Random Acts.

Film credits

Written and Directed by
Rachel Maclean

All parts performed by
Rachel Maclean

Assistant Director
Bren O'Callaghan

Executive Producer
Sarah Perks

Producer
Bren O'Callaghan

Assistant Producer
Laura Heberton

Director of Photography
David Liddell

1st Assistant Camera
Steven Cook

Gaffer
Derrick Ritchie

Make-up artist and prosthetic application
Kat Morgan

Costume and Prop Designer
Rachel Maclean

Costume and Prop Assistant
Lucy Payne

Costume and Prop Assistant
Eilidh Page Morrissey

Costume Assistants (Texas)
Deirdre Ford, Javier Gonzalez, Barbara Miñarro,
Angel Mitchell, Jayne Valverde

Audio production & composer
Julian Corrie

Songs written and produced by
Finn Anderson

Script Editor
Andrew Cattanaach

Voice actors
Young Woman (spoken) - Andrea Flowers
Young Woman (sung) - Mikaela Kahn
Happy Man - Frank Mosley
Rats and Servant - Kirsty Strain

Runners
James Findlay
Colin Maclean
Eilidh Page Morrison

Editor and VFX
Rachel Maclean

Director's Assistant and VFX
Colin Maclean

VFX Assistant
Eilidh Page Morrissey

Subtitles
Colin Maclean

Studio facilities
Swamp, Glasgow

Recording facilities
Sonido, Glasgow
Orb, Austin, Texas

With special thanks to
Bren O'Callaghan, Sarah Perks,
Tomas Harold, Elisa Ruff, Alice Wilde at HOME,
Andy Peline at Swamp Media,
Catriona Maclean

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PUBLICATION

£19.99

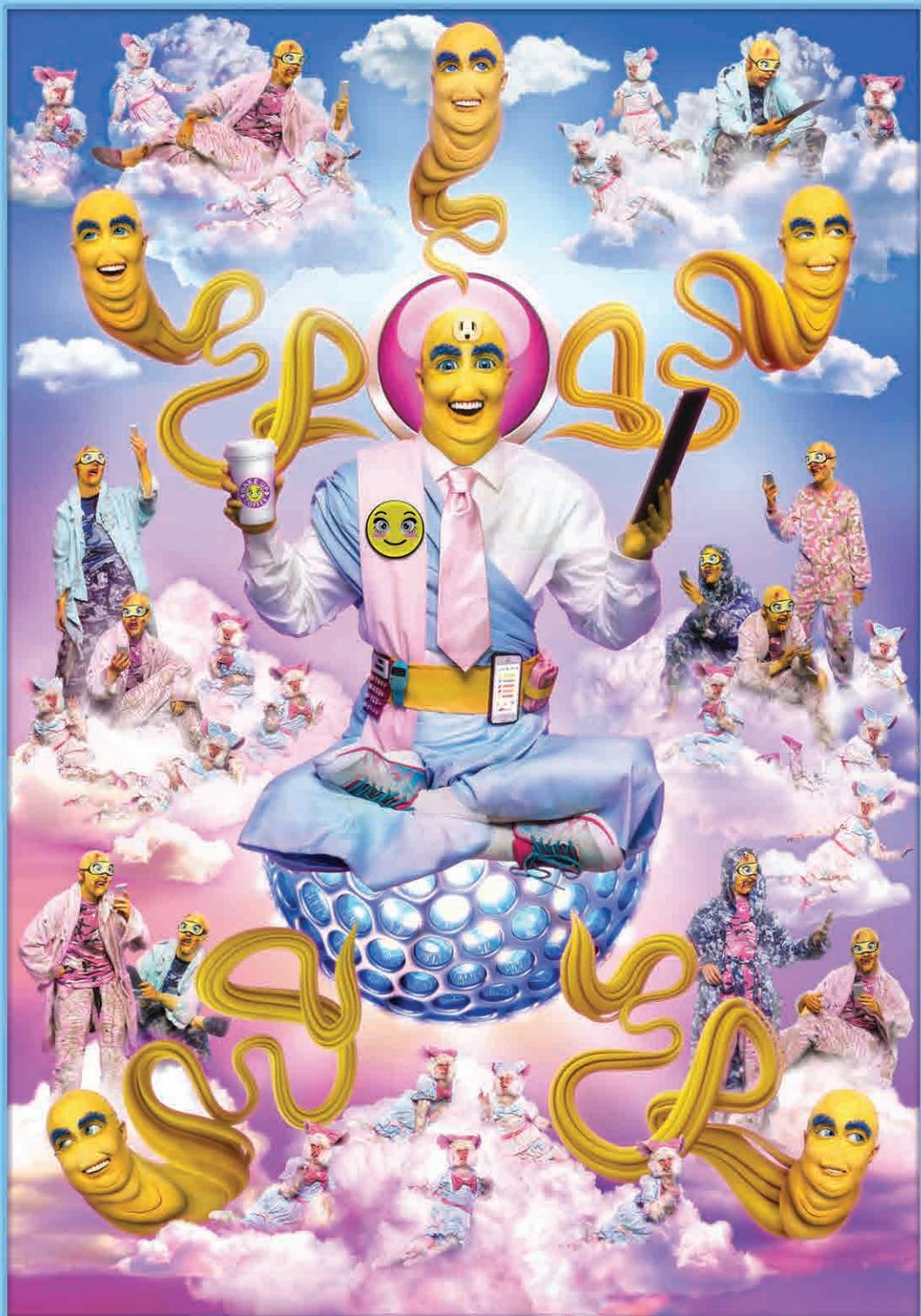
Available from the HOME shop

HOME and Cornerhouse Publications, with Hayward Publishing, present the first major monograph and colour-infused field guide to Rachel Maclean's work.

William Davies (author of *The Happiness Industry: how the government and big business sold us well-being*), contributes an essay on *Feed Me* (2015), a black satire on contemporary capitalism and exploitation, currently touring with the British Art Show, while writer Melissa Gronlund explores the links between fairytale, symbolism and pop culture in Maclean's practice. The book also features an introduction by Sarah Perks (Artistic Director: Visual Art HOME) and an artist interview between Rachel Maclean and curator Bren O'Callaghan.

Featuring a complementary emoji alphabet by book designer Darren Wall, this is the most comprehensive survey of Rachel Maclean's work to date.





TOURS

EXHIBITION TOUR

Sat 29 Oct

14:00 - 15:00

FREE

Find out more about the production process, including green screen technology, animation, props and prosthetics in a tour of the exhibition by Artist Rachel Maclean and co-curators Bren O'Callaghan and Sarah Perks.

BSL LED GALLERY TOUR

Sun 3 Dec

15:00 - 16:00

FREE

Art and Design Historian Jennifer Little leads a tour of the exhibition. This tour will be led solely in British Sign Language with no spoken English. A subtitled version of the film commission has been commissioned and will play in the gallery on this date.



WORKSHOP

INTRODUCTION TO GREEN SCREEN

Sun 27 Nov

11:00 - 14:00 / age 20+

15:00 - 18:00 / under 20s

FREE, booking required

Limited availability

Learn how to set up all aspects of chroma-key, from material used for the backdrop to lighting placements, and also the process from camera to editing software, to composite the final effect. You are encouraged to bring your own camera, laptops and even props. No prior experience required. Tutor Ash Tidball is Creative Technical Demonstrator/TV Studio Manager at University of Salford at Media City. Ash is also an independent director, editor, composer and sound designer.

Booking info

homemcr.org/digiskills

FILM SEASON: I'M TOO HAPPY

Selected by artist Rachel Maclean and curator Bren O'Callaghan, this season expands upon themes within the artist's rainbow-dipped but unsettling work that addresses the exploitation of childhood, happiness and innocence.

Combining fairytale with horror, animation with CGI, Disney princesses with alcoholic excess, we offer a deep, cinematic draft from a well in which the water may taste of strawberries, but blisters soon bubble upon the lips.

FEED ME (18)

Sat 29 Oct, 18:20 (Introduced by Rachel Maclean)

Mon 5 Dec, 18:30

Dir Rachel Maclean/GB 2015/61 mins

Jaime Adler, Peter Brooke, Sara Cartwright

A parable of the pleasures and perils of indulgence, and a wicked, waspish skit on a world where greed is good. Extravagance and excess are signature features of Maclean's artistic palette; evident in her obvious love of dressing up and in the multi-layered digital confections with which she drapes and decorates her work. Although these colourful computer-generated effects apply a fantastical candy-coated surface, Maclean lays it on equally thick with make-up, costume and prosthetics: older tricks of the theatrical trade that enable her to appear as multiple characters in a parade of show-stopper performances.



THE INNOCENTS (12A)

Thu 3 Nov, 18:20

Dir Jack Clayton/GB 1961/100 mins

One of the great British Gothic chillers, *The Innocents* is also the best of the many adaptations of Henry James' *Turn of the Screw*. Deborah Kerr plays Miss Giddens, an emotionally repressed vicar's daughter, who becomes the guardian of two, apparently angelic, orphans at a secluded stately home. When the apparitions of a late governess

and her sadistic lover manifest themselves to Miss Giddens, she determines to save her young charges from the their ghostly evil. But just who is corrupting whom?



THE COMPANY OF WOLVES (18)

Mon 7 Nov, 20:40

Dir Neil Jordan/GB 1984/95 mins

The Gothic landscape of the imagination has rarely been filmed with such invention as in Neil Jordan's second feature. Within lavish, expressive sets a teenage heroine begins to discover her sexuality and its dark, unsettling power. Wolves become human, humans become wolves. The film's elaborate structure offers tales within tales, but what really grips is the utterly lucid fantasy. Adapted from Angela Carter's luxuriously sensual anthology, *The Bloody Chamber*, starring Sarah Patterson as Rosaleen, Angela Lansbury as the grandmother and Micha Bergese as the huntsman.



ESCAPE FROM TOMORROW (15)

Thu 24 Nov, 18:20

Dir Randy Moore/US 2013/87 mins

A middle-aged American husband and father learns that he has lost his job so he packs up the family and embarks on a full day of theme park hopping. Soon, the manufactured mirth of the fantasyland around him begins to haunt his subconscious and the idyllic family vacation quickly unravels into a surrealist nightmare of paranoid visions and bizarre

encounters. Made by smuggling cameras and cast and crew into Disneyland, this disturbing satire is guerrilla filmmaking of the highest order.



ALICE (PG)

Sat 3 Dec, 18:20

Dir Jan Švankmajer/CZ/GB/CH 1988/85 mins

Hugely acclaimed Czech animator Jan Švankmajer's darkly surreal adaptation of Lewis Carroll's classic tale *Alice in Wonderland*, combines the director's live action with his trademark stop-motion animation. A work of genuine invention and wonder that uses sound effects in place of a score, it's a deliriously dark and often disturbing work, and frequently the stuff of both dreams and nightmares.



THE SADDEST MUSIC IN THE WORLD (15)

Tue 13 Dec, 18:20

Dir Guy Maddin/CA 2003/99 mins

Based on an original screenplay by Booker prize-winner Kazuo Ishiguro, Isabella Rossellini stars as a beer baroness who, at the height of the Great Depression, sponsors a contest to find the world's saddest tune. A darkly comic tale that is part musical melodrama and part tongue-in-cheek social satire, it brought Canadian auteur Guy Maddin's cinema to a wider audience.

Find out more at
homemcr.org/im-too-happy



COMING SOON

JOHN HYATT: ROCK ART SAT 4 FEB – WED 29 MAR 2017 CURATED BY SARAH PERKS

John Hyatt is an artist, musician, scientist and irrepressible explorer. His latest exhibition brings the findings, objects and narratives of his restless search together for a celebration of creative adventure, unveiling the results of years of solo and collaborative work that blend disciplines as diverse as music, magic and mathematics.

At the centre of the show is Club BIG, a pop-up music club and performance space that hosts a range of special gigs, performances and events over the duration of the exhibition curated by one of John Hyatt's alternate personas, including the likes of Sir Stuart Farquar, The Pilot of Bee Patrol, Gerry Windrim and others.

University of Salford School of Arts and Media

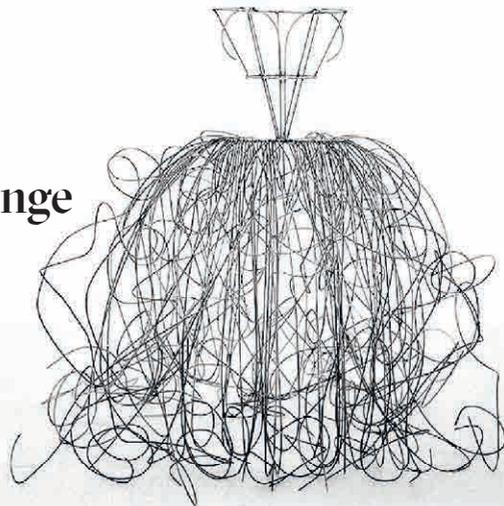
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