

**Drawing Research Forum – 2021/2022 Sessions**

Friday 4th March 2022

This afternoon of presentations and discussions, selected from an open call, provides access to recent research examining critical issues around contemporary drawing. The session will feature presentations and a plenary discussion with artists examining diverse themes and utilising and developing current discourse around contemporary drawing. The Drawing Research Forum provides a space for knowledge exchange between disciplines, encourages cross-fertilization of ideas and methodology, and fosters collaborations between artists and researchers.

SCHEDULE

2 – 2.20 pm **Giulia Ricci***- Lines of Empathy*

2.20 – 2.40 pm **Filippo Bosco***- Disegno vero e disegno finto: shifts of a drawing paradigm through the Seventies*

2.40 – 3.00 pm **Lucy Russell** *- ‘More than just looking good, everybody has something to say’. Drawing people, as an experience (of embodiment) beyond observational life drawing*

3.00-3.20 pm Chaired plenary discussion

ABSTRACTS

**Giulia Ricci***- Lines of Empathy*

Ricci’s presentation will feature an overview of the project *Lines of Empathy*, which developed over the past year through a series of detailed written interviews to 13 established and mid-career British artists. Each interview focuses on a specific work on paper by each artist; and questions investigate the choices of tools, materials and processes used in the making of these artworks. This self-directed artist project reflects an interest in cognitive processes and the materiality of abstract drawing. The presentation will include images of the artworks and a brief overview of the projects’ questions.

**Filippo Bosco***- Disegno vero e disegno finto: shifts of a drawing paradigm through the Seventies*

Bosco’s presentation deals with an age-old question - the intrinsic truth of drawing, which acts as a paradigm in the Italian art of the Seventies. Examples include practices of “true drawing” in Paolini’s engagement with the elementary condition of seeing, or Penone’s indexical traces of the body, or the generational resort to diagrams. But what if drawing's im-mediacy is actually false? Such a challenge is that of some post-conceptualist Italian artists (De Dominicis, Salvo, Clemente, Chia and Cucchi) and their mediations on the image, performativities of the “hand” and the ambiguity of hermeneutics. By fake authorship and photographic manipulation, “false drawings” deconstruct the truth-paradigm for the following decades.

**Lucy Russell** *- ‘More than just looking good, everybody has something to say’. Drawing people, as an experience (of embodiment) beyond observational life drawing*

Russell’s research-through-drawing explores engaging participation, observing, creating and communicating (subjective) experiences of (drawing) people as more than ‘just the way they look’. It experiments with drawing, as a verb and a noun, a multimodal tool of potential experiences of agency(s) and embodiment and offers drawing (people) as an alternative experience to objectification: facilitating experiential possibilities of disseminating new representation(s) with/for everybody who takes part as multifaceted people (rather than bodies). This presentation will focus on, explore and question what contemporary life drawing represents to this research, and how that could relate to everybody. Attendees are invited to draw their own conclusions.

BIOGRAPHIES

***Giulia*** *Ricci – I am a visual artist and freelance art educator. Born in Italy in 1976, I emigrated to the UK in 2004. Drawing is the focus of my practice; my abstract artworks are characterised by patterns of triangles inscribed in a grid, I draw primarily on paper and also make site specific work with a range of different media. My work has been selected several times for the Jerwood Drawing Prize (2010, 2011, 2015, 2017 and in 2018 in the Trinity Buoy Wharf Drawing Prize), it has featured in the ‘Drawing Biennial 2016’ at Kunstverein Eislingen (Germany), in the drawing anthology ‘Walk the Line’ by Laurence King Publishing (2013) and in the ‘Drawing Biennial 2021’ at the Drawing Room (London). I have gallery representation (Bartha Contemporary) since 2014 and have shown widely in the UK and abroad, with feature articles in British and international publications. Since 2015 I have completed large scale permanent commissions for Crown Estates, Facebook, Queen Mary University’s School of Mathematical Sciences and for the Wellcome Centre for Human Neuroimaging (UCL).*

***Filippo Bosco*** *- I am a PhD candidate at the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa and will be the 2021-2022 Pre-Doctoral Fellow at the Menil Drawing Institute in Houston, Texas. In 2018 I completed my Masters degree in History of Art at the University of Pisa, with the dissertation 'Notes on Magic Realism.German and Italian painting in the Twenties'. In 2018 and 2020 I was also affiliated with the Freie Universität in Berlin. My field of interest includes Italian art criticism and painting between XIX and XX centuries (with articles and catalogue essays on Pittura Metafisica), Postwar art theory (Pop Art and performativity) and Arte Povera graphic work. After co-curating an exhibition about the Futurist Giacomo Balla (2016) and the permanent collection (2017) in the Modern Art Gallery in Turin, I collaborated on the catalogue of Cerruti Collection in Rivoli.*

***Lucy Russell*** *– I am a Peckham based artist, facilitator and (LDoc funded) PhD researcher at Central Saint Martins, UAL. I studied at Winchester school of Art (BA Hons) and hold an MA from the Royal College of Art. My drawing practice focuses on visual representations of the body(s) and is the foundation of my practice-based research ‘What I See I Own: Drawing people (rather than bodies) as a tool for social-innovation’. As ‘Drawing People Together’ I design and facilitate inclusive and socially engaged community art events - creating an ongoing diverse range of workshops that explore art as (both) serious (and) fun by asking everyone, all ages and abilities, to quite literally draw together.*