

# MEGAN BROADMEADOW

## SEEK-PRAY-ADVANCE, EPISODE 1: EYES ONLY

**The Gallery // 21 March - 29 April 2018 // Wed - Sun**

**Preview // Sunday 18 March // 2-6PM**

**Artist Talk // Megan Broadmeadow in conversation with Jamie Sutcliffe**

Thurs 26 April // 7 pm. Free but booking required: [admin@cgplondon.org](mailto:admin@cgplondon.org)

Inspired by recent UFO religious leaders, and records of hallucinations from across human history, *Seek-Pray-Advance, Episode 1: Eyes Only* is the first chapter of an aggregative national touring exhibition by Bristol-based artist **Megan Broadmeadow** co-commissioned by CGP London, Green Man Festival and QUAD, Derby. This immersive, labyrinthine exhibition explores the complex and blurred zones between religious epiphany, alien contact and delusional disorder.

This intergalactic tale investigates the human condition of belief, asking if we are really 'alone'; what about the others that exist within us, the others created by society; the others to whom we must listen and obey?

In this, the premier episode of Broadmeadow's largest work to date, we are introduced to the characters of *Seek-Pray-Advance*; an eclectic cast of players including The Ordinary Person, The Mother of all Personas and The Anguine Twins who all interact with a curious cosmic box, the contents of which connects the Earth and universe. Broadmeadow's cast are developed from a wealth of mythical hybrid tropes, referencing 1950s sci-fi blockbusters, ancient scripture, Jungian theories and contemporary culture.

*Episode 1* charts the beginnings of a new community on earth as observed by its governing aliens in space, 'The Watchers'. The plot unfolds with the possibility of alternate realities in mind. Embracing filmic and stage gestures from classic sci-fi film and TV genres, Broadmeadow has created an immersive built environment within the gallery, creating an ethereal set in which we are transported into an alternative universe.

Alien landscapes are projection-mapped and enveloping, creating a scene for chance encounters with the cast in their own transcendental environment. Here we observe the birth of a new order, via an alien surveillance station and mystic cave.

This ambitious work stems from Megan's ongoing interest in contemporary UFO religions,

encounters, revelation and personal accounts of religious euphoria throughout history. The exhibition references imagery and experiences described in The Book of Enoch, an ancient Hebrew text said to be one of the earliest records of alien encounter (ascribed to Noah's great-grandfather dating back to 300 BC). Filmed at uncanny locations including Margate's otherworldly Shell Grotto, we are transported into an alternative reality that is simultaneously both futuristic and nostalgic.

What would you do if you were the chosen one?

Would you embrace or hide?

If you accepted your fate, how would you transmit this news to the world?

*Seek-Pray-Advance* is an interdisciplinary artwork comprising of installation, video, performance and sound. It will unfold as an episodic sequence during 2018-19 across the UK. The show at CGP London marks the departure point for the work, travelling onto **Green Man Festival** for *Episode 2* (August 2018) then will culminate with *Episode 3* at **QUAD, Derby** in Autumn 2019.

Alongside conventional research Broadmeadow has developed this work through an intensive period structured around a workshop-led process in collaboration with artists, singers and dancers. Through which Megan has created an Sci-fi Choir whose performances at **Arnolfini**, Bristol, provide the soundtrack to the exhibition and shall feature throughout the touring exhibition.

The Sci-fi Choir will perform live during the exhibition tour at spin-off events across the UK. An EP of soundscapes created for the exhibitions and featuring the choir is scheduled by **Paper Folds** in Bristol in 2019.

Ongoing workshops shall continue to investigate similarities between mental stability, delusion and religious euphoria, spiritual transformation and the relatively contemporary phenomena of alien contact and in a live scratch performance will be held in QUAD June 2nd as a precursor to the next Episode of the project.

Each episode will be accompanied by an exploratory text written by researcher and curator Lucy A. Sames, investigating key themes within the exhibitions and those of Megan's ongoing research into the occult, extra-terrestrial and religious experience.

**On Thursday 26 April Megan Broadmeadow will be in conversation with Jamie Sutcliffe, writer and Co-Director of Strange Attractor Press, at our Dilston Grove gallery at 7pm.**

**To reserve your free place email [admin@cgplondon.org](mailto:admin@cgplondon.org) or call 0207 237 1230**



## BIOGRAPHY

Megan Broadmeadow's practise explores immersivity and our complex relationships to objects, investigating how objects and environments affect our subconscious. Megan studied Sculpture at the Slade School of Art and holds an MFA Fine Art from Goldsmiths, University of London. Recent exhibitions include Astro Raggi, Plymouth Arts Centre; A Corruption of Mass, Standpoint, London; Mercury 13, Galeria Melissa, London; Unit #1, G39, Cardiff. In 2015 Megan won the Mark Tanner Sculpture Award. 2018 will see a new commission for the National Eisteddfod, Wales and a new work for CCQ Magazine.

[www.meganbroadmeadow.com](http://www.meganbroadmeadow.com)

Seek-Pray-Advance is generously supported by **QUAD, Derby; Arts Council England, Southwark Council, The Paul & Louise Cooke Endowment; Green Man Festival.**

Megan Broadmeadow's research and development leading to this national touring project is generously supported by Arts Council England's Grants for the Arts programme and the Arnolfini, Bristol.

## THE ARTIST AND CGP LONDON WISH TO THANK

Ed Metcalf (for everything!)

### CO-COMMISSIONERS

Peter Bonnell and all at QUAD, Derby ([www.derbyquad.co.uk](http://www.derbyquad.co.uk))

Alexis Stevens, Visual Arts Producer, Green Man Festival ([www.greenman.net](http://www.greenman.net))

Arnolfini (Space in Kind)

### COLLABORATORS

Ed Metcalf (Cursor) – Technical direction, Projection mapping and visual effects

Jan Vrhovnik – DOP on all videos.

Viola Bruni – Movement Director

Phoebe Holman – Producer She'ol and The Watchers

Lawrence Barraclough – DOP She'ol (studio scenes)

Jamie Shaw (Cursor) – Visual Effects

Nicholas Sutton – Choir Master/ Composer

Matthew Faulkner – Composer

Abi Hubbard – Studio assistant and costume maker.



Lucy A Sames ([www.lucyasames.com](http://www.lucyasames.com))  
Jamie Sutcliffe  
The Shell Grotto, Margate ([www.shellgrotto.co.uk](http://www.shellgrotto.co.uk))  
The Bristol Film Office ([www.filmbristol.co.uk](http://www.filmbristol.co.uk))  
The Arnolfini, Bristol ([www.arnolfini.org.uk](http://www.arnolfini.org.uk))

## PERFORMER CREDITS

### CHOIR

China Fish, Helen Wyatt, Morgan Smith, Lucia Sellars, Mark Anthony Pearce, Abi Hubbard and Megan Broadmeadow

### SHE'OL

Ordinary Person: Vlad Troncea & Pernelle Lorette  
The Anguine Twins: Francesco Migliaccio, Gintare Geltyte  
The Shadows: Viola Bruni  
The Mother of All Persona's: Megan Broadmeadow

### THE WATCHERS

Bryan Longhurst  
Dan Toal  
Phoebe Holman  
Lilly Holman  
The Trickster, Dan Heart



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