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EXHIBITION PRESS RELEASE

DWOSKINO Evan Ifekoya, P. Staff, Margaret Salmon

27 January - 6 March 2022 at LUX

LUX is pleased to announce an exhibition of newly commissioned moving image works by Evan Ifekoya, P. Staff and Margaret Salmon.

Following on from their World Premiere at the London Short Film Festival on 15th January 2022 LUX is proud to present three newly commissioned artists' films inspired by the life and work of boundary-pushing experimental filmmaker Stephen Dwoskin (1939-2012). Rather than films about Dwoskin these new works take creative inspiration from his work and the themes he explored throughout his life of masculinity, sexuality, disability, illness, pain/pleasure, voyeurism, movement and desire. The films are commissioned by LUX and the University of Reading as part of the Legacies of Stephen Dwoskin, a three year research project supported by the AHRC.

P. Staff's new single-screen work *Hevn* cuts together digital and analogue filmmaking techniques with poetry, hand painted animation and industrial sound. The work combines influence from Stephen Dwoskin's exploration of pleasure and pain in the sick or debilitated body with Staff's own video and poetry practice exploring the volatility of queer and trans bodies through dreaming, volatility, inebriation and exhaustion.

For *Undercurrent 528* a series of invitations were sent out by **Evan Ifekoya** to their extended community for a dancer, a drummer, a gathering around breath and breathing and a sonic response to these images. Participants were invited to take part in person, or virtually, to explore tantric techniques of visualisation, breath work, movement and sound to awaken the senses, release the Bliss hormone and heal the Divided Self. This new video work explores the relationship between documentation and liveness, opening portals of intimacy by bringing people together through different spaces and time. Inspired by Sylvia Wynter's statement that drums are "enabling mechanism(s) of consciousness reversal" (*Black Metamorphosis*), *Undercurrent 528* is an offering of rhythmic medicine.

Margaret Salmon's *Boy (winter)* is a film study, shot on 35mm film, presenting viewers with a set of encounters, celluloid descriptions and imaginative analysis of contemporary boyhood. Shot on location in Glasgow in late 2021, this is the first in a two-part series of films exploring masculinity and stages of (identifying) male physical and psychological development in Britain.

This work is in response to the expansive oeuvre of Stephen Dwoskin, in particular his early portrait films, but also follows a strand of research and enquiry which has been active in Salmon's own feminist film practice. That is, gendered dynamics experienced within the everyday, expressed through the body and film culture.

NOTES TO EDITOR

Evan Ifekoya (b. 1988 in Nigeria) lives and works in London, is an artist who through sound, text, video and performance places demands on existing systems and institutions of power, to recentre and prioritise the experience and voice of those previously marginalised. The practice considers art as a site where resources can be both redistributed and renegotiated, whilst challenging the implicit rules and hierarchies of public and social space. Through archival and sonic investigations, they speculate on blackness in abundance; the body of the ocean a watery embodied presence in the work. They established the collectively run and QTIBPOC (queer, trans*, intersex, black and people of colour) led Black Obsidian Sound System (B.O.S.S.) in 2018. In 2019, they won the Kleinwort Hambros Emerging Artists Prize and in 2017 the Arts Foundation award for Live Art sponsored by Yoma Sasberg Estate. They have presented exhibitions, performances and screenings across Europe and Internationally including: Liverpool Biennial (2020); De Appel Netherlands (2019); Gasworks London (2018) Contemporary Arts Centre New Orleans as part of Prospect 4 (2017); Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town (2016); Studio Voltaire London (2015) and Castlefield Gallery Manchester (2014)

Margaret Salmon (Born in 1975 in Suffern, New York) lives and works in Glasgow, Scotland. She creates filmic portraits that weave together poetry and ethnography. Focusing on individuals in their everyday activities, her films capture the minutiae of daily life and infuse them with gentle grandeur, touching upon universal human themes. Adapting techniques drawn from various cinematic movements, such as Cinema Vérité, the European Avant Garde and Italian Neo-Realism, Salmon's orchestrations of sound and image introduce a formal abstraction into the tradition of realist film. Margaret Salmon won the first Max Mara Art Prize for Women in 2006. Her work was shown at the Venice Biennale in 2007 and the Berlin Biennale in 2010 and was featured in individual exhibitions at Witte de With in Rotterdam and Whitechapel Gallery in London among others.

P. Staff (b.1987, UK) is an artist who lives and works in Los Angeles, USA and London, UK. Their work combines video installation, performance and publishing, citing the ways in which history, technology, capitalism and the law have fundamentally transformed the social constitution of our bodies today. Staff's work has been exhibited, screened and performed internationally

The Dwoskin Archive is housed at the University of Reading and contains a wealth of material relating to Dwoskin's life, work and the period he lived in. The Legacies of Stephen Dwoskin is a three year AHRC-research project looking at Dwoskin's social, political, technological and cultural influences, considering his work in relation to new scholarship in gender, disability studies and phenomenology, and digital forensics and data exploration.

<https://research.reading.ac.uk/hcic/research/the-legacies-of-stephen-dwoskin/>

LUX is the UK agency for the support and promotion of artists working with the moving image based in London and Glasgow. Originally founded in 1966 as the London Filmmakers Co-operative, it

represents an over 50 year history of artists' engagement with the moving image in the UK. As well as organising exhibitions, education programmes, commissioning, artists professional development and research LUX represents Europe's largest collection of films and videos made by visual artists.

www.lux.org.uk

Event Accessibility

LUX is located in Waterlow Park (Highgate), near the Dartmouth Park Lodge Gate on Dartmouth Park Hill. Please note: there is no public parking inside Waterlow Park. The LUX building is fully wheelchair accessible and there are wheelchair accessible toilet facilities.

Address: LUX, Waterlow Park Centre, Dartmouth Park Hill, London, N19 5JF, UK

Please contact us at +44(0)20 3141 2960 or events@lux.org.uk if you have special access requirements to experience the event.