Press Release

20-06-2014

Hester Reeve returns to Yorkshire Sculpture Park with new exhibition Ymedaca

Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) presents Ymedaca, an exhibition of work by British artist Hester Reeve, from 28 June to 7 September 2014, which culminates in a one-day open-air experimental academy on 30 August 2014.

Ymedaca is the result of Reeve’s two-year residency at YSP, where the artist re-mapped the Park as a contemporary translation of the very first university established by Plato in 5th century BC Greece.

For the Ymedaca academy, Reeve has collaborated with ‘Guardians’ selected from seven local groups to devise a series of events, known as ‘liberalational manoeuvres’, which run from dawn to dusk at the Park, on 30 August. Rather than working with experts or philosophers, Reeve celebrates everyday passions by working with interest groups, all of which are dedicated to activities that enrich their own lives.

Inspired by the National Arts Education Archive (NAEA), based at YSP, Ymedaca is both a conceptual sculpture and a concrete public event offering visitors a unique chance to experience creative events inspired by the Platonic questions, ‘what is a good life, indeed, what is the good?’ and ‘how can education bring joy to the soul?’.

Two displays, Ymedaca: Temple of the Muses in the NAEA and Ymedaca: The Game Plan in the Upper Space, document the artist’s concerns. The exhibition includes, a series of drawings for Reeve’s conceptual re-mapping of the estate, providing a necessary framework for the artist’s pop-up academy and signalling the radical direction that the performance takes.


Notes to Editors

About the artist

Reeve’s practice encompasses live art, philosophy, drawing and photography. In her work, art is not viewed as a straightforward tool of communication, more as a complex kingdom that is continually attempting to establish itself through human thought and action. The artist has shown live works both nationally and internationally over the last 15 years and lectures in Fine Art at Sheffield Hallam University.

About the National Arts Education Archive

The National Arts Education Archive (NAEA) at Yorkshire Sculpture Park was established at Bretton Hall College in 1985. Its inauguration was a direct response to the perceived need for key collections of materials to be brought together in one place; to secure their future as touchstones in the development of teaching and learning; and as an archive for professional reference and research. After 25 years as an independent charitable trust, the NAEA is now managed by YSP. The Archive’s original aims and objectives are in line with YSP’s overall mission, to enable access to, understanding and enjoyment of art.

Related Images

Hester Reeve, Ymedaca: The Game Plan, 2014. Courtesy the artist and YSP. Photo Jonty Wilde
Format - Jpeg File
Size - 1.73Mb


Page 1 of 2