

Institute of Contemporary Arts

PRESS RELEASE

FRAMES of REPRESENTATION, the ICA's annual film festival, has now been postponed due to the ICA's precautions around Covid-19. The festival will hopefully open in summer 2020; new dates will be shared as soon as they can be confirmed.

Nico Marzano, Head of ICA Cinema, said:

'In these difficult times, we want to express how tremendously grateful we are to everyone who has supported us in putting this year's ambitious programme together. This year's festival features the premieres of over 20 films, with directors attending from across the globe.

'The festival would not be the same without the presence of the filmmakers and the full engagement of our audience and community. Every year we work hard to ensure directors of every film featured can stay with us and contribute to the collective spirit of our festival. Given the current circumstances, we are rescheduling this year's FoR to summer 2020, so that everyone can be here with us at the ICA. We look forward to welcoming the artists, our guests and our audiences to engage in the most pressing issues of our times.'

PRESS RELEASE EMBARGOED UNTIL 25 MARCH AT 12PM, WHEN THE FULL PROGRAMME GOES ONLINE AT WWW.ICA.ART/FILMS/FOR20

FRAMES of REPRESENTATION
ICA Film Festival
Summer 2020



Fradique, *Air Conditioner*, 2020
(Angola, 72 min., Portuguese with English subtitles)

FRAMES of REPRESENTATION (FoR), the ICA film festival, returns for its fifth edition. A showcase for the ‘cinema of the real’, the festival this year presents 20 films that offer aesthetic and political resistances to cinematic categorisations.

Emerging from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America, the new films screening at FoR 2020 engage with multi-layered ethical and political concerns, experimental filmmaking practices and the development of new modes of language.

This year, the festival’s thematic focus encapsulates notions of the role of spectatorship. Alongside the films, a programme of workshops, discussion and performance interrogates the relationship between knowledge, engagement and the act of viewing. FoR 2020 aims to challenge the relationship between viewing and action by bringing to the fore the space that comes after watching a film. The festival foregrounds the idea of the image as a moving proposal for the renegotiation and redistribution of positions of reception and activity, providing a space for fluid dynamics rather than rigid dichotomies.

Highlights include *The Earth Is Blue as an Orange*, the first feature by Iryna Tsilyk and the winner of the **Best Directing Award for World Cinema Documentary at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival**, which offers cinematic and cultural resistance to Ukraine’s tumultuous relationship with Russia; and the Hong Kong/China co-production *The Cloud in Her Room*, a personal and generational story by Zheng Lu Xinyuan that won the **Tiger Award at the International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020**. FoR 2020 also dedicates days to explore the works of filmmakers from Eastern Europe and Latin America, including *Los conductos* by Camilo Restrepo, winner of the **Best First Feature Award at the 70th Berlin International Film Festival**. The festival’s opening and closing-night films – *Panquiaco*, the first feature by Panamanian artist and filmmaker Ana Elena Tejera, and *Air Conditioner*, by Angolan filmmaker Fradique – will each be followed by live music and performance until late in the ICA Theatre.

FoR demonstrates the ICA’s continued commitment to nurturing and connecting a growing plurality of voices, enabling a community of practitioners to come together for the festival. All but two of the films are receiving their UK premieres, with every film accompanied by discussion and its director in attendance, including Khalik Allah, Rosa Barba, Éric Baudelaire, Eloy Enciso, Javier Fernández Vázquez, Fradique, Matjaž Ivanišin, Dorian Jespers, Ivan Marković, Leonor Noivo, Ksenia Okhapkina, Isabel Pagliai, Camilo Restrepo, Ana Elena Tejera, Alejandro Telemaco Tarraf, Iryna Tsilyk, Affonso Uchôa, Ana Vaz, Zheng Lu Xinyuan and Ezequiel Yanco.

FoR 2020 features the second edition of PROGRESSIO, a development platform launched at last year’s festival. An initiative of the ICA in association with Cineteca Madrid and Sundance Documentary Institute and with the participation of Kingston University, PROGRESSIO supports independent filmmakers to develop projects and enables stimulating exchanges that engage with the aesthetic and political aspects of their works. Last year’s inaugural PROGRESSIO saw director Javier Fernández Vázquez explore an idea that, 12 months later, has now been fully realised as his full-length feature *A Storm Was Coming*. Supported

by PROGRESSIO from its inception to its premiere in the Forum of the 70th Berlin International Film Festival, the film premieres in the UK at FoR 2020. This year PROGRESSIO returns with two projects from new emerging and exciting voices. Further details of filmmakers and projects will be announced later this month.

A highlight of the festival each year is the symposium, which this year is entitled how to think. Addressing the notion of radical equality in an expansive sense, the symposium explores the deep entanglement of contemporary oppressions, including racism, sexism and speciesism. Participants are invited to cultivate thinking together and share in a diverse range of experimental practices through new modes of listening, practice and relation that ask how we might present more ethical alternatives to the paradigm of mastery of thought. Those taking part include Jason Aday, Hamja Ahsan, Khairani Barokka, Leah Bassel, Laura Cull Ó Maoilearca, Suzanne Dhaliwal, Sheila Ghelani, Alexandrina Hemsley, May Adadol Ingawanij, Omikemi, Raju Rage, Rajni Shah, Julietta Singh and Andrea Luka Zimmerman.

FRAMES of REPRESENTATION 2020 aims to foster collective learning while encouraging its audience to question traditional hierarchies and structures for seeing, acting and doing.

For further information, images and tickets please contact:

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PROGRAMME

Screenings:

Opening night: Panquiaco by Ana Elena Tejera

(2020, 80 min., Portuguese and Dulegaya with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

La vida en común by Ezequiel Yanco

(2019, 70 min., Spanish with English subtitles) – London Premiere

Piedra sola by Alejandro Telemaco Tarraf

(2020, 82 min., Spanish and Quechua with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Los conductos by Camilo Restrepo

(2020, 70 min., Spanish with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Immortal by Ksenia Okhapkina

(2019, 61 min., Russian with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Oroslan by Matjaž Ivanišin

(2019, 72 min., Slovenian with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

The Earth Is Blue as an Orange by Iryna Tsilyk

(2020, 74 min., Russian and Ukrainian with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

IWOW: I Walk on Water by Khalik Allah

(2020, 198 min., English) – UK Premiere

FoR SHORTS #1:

Reynard (Raposa) by Leonor Noivo

(2019, 40 min., Portuguese with English subtitles) – London Premiere

Seven Years in May (Sete Anos em Maio) by Affonso Uchôa

(2019, 42 min., Portuguese with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Tender (Tendre) by Isabel Pagliai

(2020, 43 min., French with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

A Dramatic Film (Un Film Dramatique) by Éric Baudelaire

(2019, 114 min., French with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

A Storm Was Coming (Anunciaron tormenta) by Javier Fernández Vázquez

(2020, 87 min., Spanish and Bubi with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Endless Night (Longa noite) by Eloy Enciso

(2019, 93 min., Galician and Spanish with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

From Tomorrow On, I Will (Chun nuan hua kai) by Wu Linfeng and Ivan Marković

(2019, 60 min., Mandarin with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

The Cloud in Her Room by Zheng Lu Xinyuan

(2020, 98 min., Mandarin with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

FoR SHORTS #2:

Apiyemiyekî? by Ana Vaz

(2020, 28 min., Portuguese with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Aggregate States of Matters by Rosa Barba

(2020, 18 min., Spanish and Quechua with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Sun Dog by Dorian Jespers
(2020, 21 min., Russian with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Closing night: Air Conditioner (Ar Condicionado) by Fradique
(2020, 72 min., Portuguese with English subtitles) – UK Premiere

Events:

Opening night in the ICA Theatre with music and live performances from 10:45pm until 3am

Round table: Spectatorship and Censorship in Eastern Europe, moderated by Jonathan Romney and National Film and Television School students

Artist talk: Harlem – 125th Street/Lexington Avenue with Khalik Allah hosted by Shanida Scotland, Assistant Multimedia Editor for Guardian Culture

In Conversation with Éric Baudelaire

Workshop: The New Avant-Garde in Contemporary Spanish Cinema with Eloy Enciso, Javier Fernández Vásquez and more guests to be announced

Talk: Film Collectives and Film Identities with Tamer El Said, Fradique and more guests to be announced

how to think: Symposium with speakers including Jason Aday, Hamja Ahsan, Khairani Barokka, Leah Bassel, Laura Cull Ó Maoilearca, Suzanne Dhaliwal, Sheila Ghelani, Alexandrina Hemsley, May Adadol Ingawanij, Omikemi, Raju Rage, Rajni Shah, Julietta Singh, Ana Vaz and Andrea Luka Zimmerman

PROGRESSIO 2020 with two projects by emerging filmmakers to be announced

Closing night in the ICA Theatre with music and live performances from 10:45pm until 3am



Iryna Tsilyk, *The Earth Is Blue as an Orange*, 2020



Ana Elena Tejera, *Panquiaco*, 2020



Matjaž Ivanišin, *Oroslan*, 2019



Camilo Restrepo, *Los conductos*, 2020



Ksenia Okhapkina, *Immortal*, 2019



Ezequiel Yanco, *La vida en común*, 2019



Javier Fernández Vázquez, *A Storm Was Coming*, 2020



Zheng Lu Xinyuan, *The Cloud in Her Room*, 2020

NOTES TO EDITORS

The **how to think** symposium is funded by the AHRC Leadership Fellowship project 'Performance Philosophy & Animals: Towards a Radical Equality' led by Professor Laura Cull Ó Maoilearca, and organised in collaboration with Ria Hartley, Astrid Korpmaal, Rajni Shah and Julietta Singh.

The ICA opened its first dedicated cinema when it relocated to The Mall in 1968. Since then, the ICA's film programme has presented the most challenging and underrepresented aspects of international narrative cinema, documentary practices and experimental moving image works that test the boundaries of film and video media, and often of the cinema auditorium itself. The ICA's in-house distribution agency, **ICA CINEMA**, was relaunched in 2016, bringing groundbreaking films from underrepresented and emerging filmmakers to UK audiences. Since 2016 it has distributed over 20 releases, supporting innovative, boundary-pushing work from international filmmakers. Recent releases include RaMell Ross' Oscar-nominated *Hale County, This Morning, This Evening*, Wang Bing's *Dead Souls* and Mariano Llinás' 14-hour long *La Flor*.

Founded in 1946 by a collective of artists, poets and their supporters, the **Institute of Contemporary Arts** is an independent organisation and registered charity which supports the most pressing debates in contemporary culture. The ICA stages groundbreaking exhibitions, performances and keynote lectures by many of the world's leading thinkers. Previously home to the Independent Group, the ICA played a pivotal role in the development of pop art and charted the course of punk, performance art and independent cinema. The ICA staged the first institutional exhibitions by Francis Bacon, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Tacita Dean, Damien Hirst, Mike Kelley, Mary Kelly, Barbara Kruger, Gerhard Richter, Dieter Roth, Cindy Sherman, Nancy Spero, and Cosey Fanni Tutti and early exhibitions by Bernadette Corporation, Robert Mapplethorpe, Steve McQueen and Tino Sehgal; many now historic performances including those by Laurie Anderson, Einstürzende Neubauten and Yoko Ono; legendary concerts by The Clash, Throbbing Gristle, The Smiths, David Bowie and The Beastie Boys; and critical discussions by the likes of Kathy Acker, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Stuart Hall and Homi K. Bhabha. The ICA Cinema and its dedicated artist's film programme continue to showcase independent film and support pioneering filmmakers including Chantal Akerman, Kenneth Anger, Matthew Barney, Derek Jarman, Ken Loach and Laura Poitras. From its home on The Mall – the geographic heart of the UK establishment – the ICA is an organisation in which different modes of cultural production thrive on the mutual engagement with one another, and a programme that speaks to the challenges of the 21st century. www.ica.art



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