

## OPEN STUDIOS

Tallulah Haddon, Elin Kuo, and Anh Vo  
Curated by Kenneth Tam

December 14, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.

CPR – Center for Performance Research  
361 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211



**OPEN STUDIOS** is a series of work-in-progress showings held regularly throughout the year, organized by guest curators. The program serves as an incubator for new work, and often includes an opportunity for dialogue or feedback in an informal setting, inviting the public into the artistic process.

Artist and guest curator **Kenneth Tam** invites work by Tallulah Haddon, Elin Kuo, and Anh Vo – artists whose curiosity and boldness have made an indelible impression on him in recent encounters. Tam is excited to bring these three artists in dialogue, and hopes their experiments will produce provocative frictions and unexpected entanglements.

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### PROGRAM

#### **Elin Kuo: *Making a perfect rectangle***

As we unfold the map of the United States, Colorado stands out as one of the states neatly mapped in the form of a rectangle. In fact, the state itself is not perfectly in straight lines due to historical and geographic consideration. This design also suggests a pursuit of equilibrium and serenity in our spatial arrangements. Drawing parallels with Feng Shui, where the rectangular shape is embraced for its auspicious qualities, we reflect on the intentional shaping of our surroundings. The performance unfolds as an exploration of scale, blending a work-in-progress short film, with a live origami demonstration. The artist invites the audience to contemplate

the interplay of shapes and dimensions in both geographical and personal landscapes.

#### **Anh Vo: *introjective exhibition***

*introjective exhibition* is a practice of making contact with others' haunted selves, giving them linguistic and bodily forms to be put on public display. Thinking through the Kleinian psychoanalytic concept of "projective identification" and Vietnamese shamanistic rituals of conjuring, both of which presuppose the instability of the individual psychic container, *introjective exhibition* wallows in the risk of losing oneself in communing with otherness. If our ghosts demand to be seen and heard despite our conscious wishes to exorcise them, how can dance and performance create an intimate transitive space that can seduce this necessary loosening of the individual will?

#### **Tallulah Haddon: *Score 1: Tongue***

A creature navigates their way around the space using only their tongue. What new and dangerous experiences will they encounter?

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### BIOGRAPHIES

**Tallulah Haddon** is a multidisciplinary artist from London, working in performance, installation and film. Currently Centre for Live Art Yorkshire's Associate artist, this year they wrote, directed and starred in their first film *I'm Asking You To Eat it*. They are best known for their work in Channel 4's *Kiss Me First*, and Netflix's *Black Mirror*. They were nominated

for a British Independent Film Award for their performance in *Justine*. Their debut show *Rituals in Romance* about the complexities of a trans and queer relationship was commissioned for the internationally renowned SPILL festival. Tallulah has had work at Soho Theatre, Kampnagel and SXSW. Their video and sculptural work with Kasra Jalili as *Mystical Femmes*, has been shown in multiple exhibitions including *Rebel Dykes*. Recently their work *Pulpa* with sound artist Alina Maldonado was shown at El Sur Gallery in Mexico City. Alongside, their training as a fishmonger informs their practice.

As an illustrator, the concept of instant reaction holds a pivotal place in **Elin Kuo's** methodology. Her drawings are often raw, an immediate response to her surroundings that demand attention. Yet, these reactions are not static; her performance pieces evolve these reactions layer by layer, inviting viewers to engage with them within each scale and materiality of internal and external landscapes, often including paper, projection, drawings, sound and body language.

**Anh Vo** is a Vietnamese choreographer and writer based in Brooklyn. Described by the New York Times as "risky, erotic, enigmatic and boldly humorous," their works flesh out the tremulous sexual body as a vessel for apparitional forces. Their most recent performances attempt to communicate the monotonous oppressiveness that is the weather of postwar contemporary Vietnam. Vo

received their degrees in Performance Studies from Brown University (BA) and New York University (MA). They are currently a 2023-2025 Jerome Hill Artist Fellow and will be a CPR 2024 Artist-in-Residence.

**Kenneth Tam** (curator) is an artist based in Houston, TX and Queens, NY. Tam received his MFA in 2010, and has a B.F.A. from The Cooper Union. He works with video, sculpture, installation, movement, performance, and photography. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, he examines themes including the performance of masculinity, the transformative potential of ritual, and expressions of intimacy within groups. Tam often implicates the male body in his projects, using humor and pathos to reveal the performative and unstable nature of identity, and often creates situations that foreground tenderness and vulnerability within unlikely settings. Tam has had solo exhibitions at Commonwealth and Council, Los Angeles; Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA), Berkeley; Ballroom Marfa; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tucson; Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Queens Museum; Madison Museum of Contemporary Art; The Kitchen, New York; Visual Arts Center, The University of Texas at Austin; Minneapolis Institute of Art; and MIT List Center for Visual Arts, Cambridge.

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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