

TINTYPE

ALICE MAY WILLIAMS | AND NOW...GRANTS FOR IRISH LESBIANS!

16 June – 15 July 2017

Tintype is pleased to announce that Alice May Williams is our project space artist for 2017.

And Now...Grants For Irish Lesbians!, will feature and build upon Williams' previous work *On The 73*, the short film she made for Tintype's Essex Road program. *On The 73* is a tale of unrequited love set on the Essex Road, told through verse and images from seminal lesbian film and tv moments of the 90s and 00s.

Transitioning from the confessional to the communal, *And Now...Grants for Irish Lesbians!* looks further back into the lesser known queer histories of Essex Road and Islington, such as the basement-bar lesbian hangout of the former Carved Red Lion pub. Williams' project is to assemble an informal history of a time and a place.

The title of the show is drawn from a 1985 headline in the Evening Standard, reporting on opposition to funding of 'minority' group activities. Here, the headline is reclaimed as an exhortation to an alternative future in the face of current orthodoxy.

The work takes inspiration from progressive political movements of 80s Islington, such as London Friend and the pioneering work of Islington Council in supporting gay rights. Williams draws together elements from existing archives as well as more informal, personal narratives.

A large-scale text work painted directly onto the gallery wall, a massive fabric banner hanging from the ceiling, paintings and video – Williams use of the project space invokes manifesto, response, re-imagining.

The Tintype project space is an annual event in which an artist is invited to use the gallery either as a studio or working space followed by a show, or for a specific project. Previous artists have been An Gee Chan, Tom Woolner, Florence Peake, Beth Collar, Holly Slingsby, and Nicole Vinokur.

ALICE MAY WILLIAMS lives and works in London; she graduated from Goldsmiths in 2014 (MFA). Williams was a recipient of the Jerwood/FVU Awards 2016: 'Borrowed Time', with her film *Dream City; More, Better, Sooner*. Recent solo exhibitions include *Speke Of The Future*, Speke Hall (with elements at Bluecoat,) Liverpool (2016); *An Unreliable Witness*, Jerwood Project Space, London (2015); *PLU 123*, TAP, Southend

(2013). Recent group exhibitions, events and projects include **Essex Road III**, Tintype, London (2016); **Liberties**, The Exchange, Penzance (2016); MoreUtopia!; **Another Proposal**, ANDOR, London (2016); Artists Film Club @ ICA (2016); Plymouth Contemporary Open, Peninsula Arts, Plymouth (2015); **Liberties**, Collier Bristow, London (2015).

In 2018 Alice May Williams will be showing a new film commission at Knole House in Kent, alongside Lindsay Seers, Emily Speed, CJ Mahony and Melanie Wilson, as part of **A Woman's Place**, a project by Day & Gluckman that aims to question and address the contemporary position of women in our creative, historical and cultural landscape.