

TINTYPE

BETH COLLAR | SOME CHTHONIC SWAMP EXPERIENCE

TINTYPE PROJECT SPACE

27 January – 8 March 2014

She finds the Dionysian in the suburban and the brutal in the innocuous.

Tintype is delighted to announce that our project space artist for 2014 is Beth Collar. Tintype Project Space is an annual event in which an artist is invited to use the gallery as a studio or working space followed by a show. Previous artists include Florence Peake and Tom Woolner.

Working across video, sound, drawing and performance, Beth Collar's practice questions the construction of a collective historical consciousness and the desire to commune with pasts both real and imagined. Her performances – sometimes enacted in front of effigies or piles of earth – draw the audience into a vividly drawn narrative, snaking through the violent histories embedded in landscapes such as the East Anglian Fens.

A recurring theme is underneath-ess, a swampy, hidden, submerged underworld, both physical and metaphorical. For SOME CHTHONIC SWAMP EXPERIENCE Collar takes as her starting point the 'Dyonisian swamp' in Camille Paglia's *Sexual Persona*.

"The Dyonisian is no picnic. It is the chthonian realities which Apollo evades, the blind grinding of subterranean force, the long slow suck, the murk and ooze. It is the dehumanizing brutality of biology and geology, the Darwinian waste and bloodshed, the squalor and rot we must block from consciousness to retain our Apollonian integrity as persons. Western science and aesthetics are attempts to revise this horror into imaginatively palatable form"

Beth Collar commences the inaugural Detroit residency in Bristol on 23 November. This artists'-led initiative supported by Spike Island, is concerned with how and why a work is made – the time and timeliness of art work – what precedes, supports and follows a work. As the residency ends in January 2014, at the exact point that Collar's Project Space at Tintype begins, this enquiry is particularly fitting. It is inevitable and welcome that the work from one will segue into the other.

Beth Collar completed her MA in Sculpture at the Royal College of Art 2012. Recent

selected shows include *From script to reading to exhibition to performance to print* curated by Performance as Publishing and Rowing, at Rowing, London, 2013; Art Licks Weekend festival, performance programme, 2013; *Wendell! Open Your Door*, Café Gallery, London, July 2013; *The Everything and Nothing Problem*, performance event at Jerwood Space in association with Ceri Hand Gallery curated by Rebecca Lennon & Louisa Martin, June 2013; *We Object*, group show curated by Benedict Drew, Aid and Abet, Cambridge, 2013; *Lore of the Land*, CADA, Dorchester Abbey, performance event curated by Holly Slingsby & Matilda Strang, 2013; Residency at the Kurt Schwitters Merz Barn, 2012; *ANCIENT BRITAIN* (solo show and residency) The Woodmill GP, Bermondsey 2012; *Whitechapel London Open*, Whitechapel Gallery, 2012; *Give Me Strength in my Heart*, Copenhagen Place, 2012; *SHREW* (solo show), Supine Studios Project Space, 2010; *East Wing VIII*, The Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset; *Bloomberg New Contemporaries*, 2008.

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