

Press Release: Ecclesia/Synagoga - Exhibition/live performances by award winning artist collective, Wilson-Eflerová

For immediate use



Fresh from the extraordinarily success of 'Faces,' which headlined the Portsmouth Festivities' in 2014, award winning artist collective Wilson-Eflerová have successfully secured funding from Arts Council England, triumphantly returning to their home city of Portsmouth, creating an extraordinary opportunity for locals and visitors alike to enjoy engaging with their unique contemporary artworks.

From 2nd April 2015 onwards, Wilson-Eflerová's engaging live performances, 'Ecclesia/Synagoga' have been taking place at Buckland United Reformed Church in Portsmouth, together with the showcasing of Wilson-Eflerová's compelling video installation 'Anima/Animus' which has toured galleries and sacred sites including Winchester Cathedral and Osek Monastery, Czech Republic.

The 14th April 2015 sees both the live performance works and exhibition move on to Portsmouth Cathedral in Old Portsmouth.

Audiences are invited to participate with Helena as she is performing at the venues on selected days during the exhibition opening hours. Allowing for visitors to observe and slow down with her, to contemplate and test their own endurance for a few minutes or the entire time of the performance (six hours).

Visitors have the opportunity to engage in different ways, passively watching Helena performing the two different characters or becoming active participants by using their own bodies to mirror her actions such as standing, sitting still, walking extremely slowly, or to use their own creative skills to draw, take photographs or write poetry in response to the performances.

Helena's embodiment of the symbolic characters of Ecclesia and Synagoga through durational live performances, allows them to live once again in the public imagination, revealing their significance for today's society, while enabling fascinating exploration of the past.

The 'Anima/Animus' installation shows the looped video with portraits of the Ecclesia and Synagoga characters (also being performed live in-situ at the venues on selected days), projected onto a custom built, free-standing screen, which reflects a Norman arch medieval window shape.

Both the live performances and video artworks have been made in response to the medieval statues of Ecclesia and Synagoga, which are often found, situated either side of Cathedral and Church entrances. The works also reference Carl Jung's 'Anima/Animus' personality archetypes of the unconscious mind.

Kye Wilson explains further "It is really important to Helena and I that our artworks in sacred spaces are sympathetic to visitors and respectful of peoples' beliefs. We welcome this opportunity to reach new audiences of all ages and have a range of activities for people to enjoy including our video installation, live performances and art & craft workshops."

Kye and Helena are delighted to welcome visitors to their exhibitions and always happy to answer any questions regarding their artwork and inspiration behind it.

'Ecclesia/Synagoga' has been supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

About Wilson-Eflerová

Wilson-Eflerová are intermedia artists Kye Wilson and Helena Eflerová who combine installation, performance and video mediums to create inter-disciplinary artworks that explore themes of embodiment and the human condition. Wilson-Eflerová, have been collaborating since 2008 and have exhibited nationally and internationally.

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Notes to editors

Promotional image attached. Ecclesia/Synagoga © Wilson-Eflerová, photograph by Ally Aleri.

Interviews can be arranged with the artists involved in the project.

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Venue details and notable dates

Buckland United Reformed Church, 174 Kingston Road Buckland Portsmouth PO2 7LP

Exhibition dates: 2/04/2015 - 12/04/2015.

Opening/closing times: 10am-6pm daily (unless stated otherwise).

11/4 – Ecclesia durational live performance (10am-4pm).

12/4 – Synagoga durational live performance (2.30pm-20.30pm).

Portsmouth Cathedral, High Street Portsmouth PO1 2HH

Exhibition dates: 14/04/2015 - 29/04/2015.

Opening/closing times: 9am-6.45pm daily (unless stated otherwise).

16/4 – Ecclesia durational live performance (9am-3pm).

17/4 – Synagoga durational live performance (9am-3pm).

22/4 – Ecclesia durational live performance (9am-3pm).

25/4 – Group Felting workshop (9am-3pm).

25/4 – Closing event – (6-8pm).

28/4 – Self-portraits in ceramic workshop (9am-3pm).

29/4 – Synagoga durational live performance (9am-3pm).

Keep in touch:

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