

Bridges, Roads and Odes // Nina Stanger / Catriona Beckett

Thursday 11 April 2024

CCA Theatre

Bridges, Roads and Odes is an audio-visual performance by artists **Nina Stanger** and **Catriona Beckett**. Using ambient soundscapes, deconstructed club breaks, and spoken word poetry to transform the virtual urban landscape, which focuses on Glasgow's M8 motorway. The artists show 3D recreations of the motorway, including its well-known unfinished sections, in surreal and distorted photogrammetric imagery, resembling a sci-fi environment. Within this setting, a story unfolds, following a character as they navigate their sensory experiences, grapple with language, and explore the realms of sound and music.

The work is inspired by the unfinished M8 motorway project as a symbol of the unfulfilled civic ambition of the city's post-war Bruce Report. Its suspended sections are compared to mystified cultural artefacts and relics of bygone eras and ideals. Blending criticality with empirical making, Nina and Catriona are influenced by different means of creative resilience such as the Siren and the Selkie, Celtic folk songs and the birth of UK Bleep and Bass music. From prehistoric monoliths, modernist city planning to clubbing culture and Celtic myth, all are referenced through the artists' recreations of Glasgow's post-industrial landscape. The audiovisual experience exudes the experiences of joy, collectivity and both the quiet and loud moments of the club space. Audience members are invited to gather around the performers in the centre of the space as a new but familiar world is projected above them.

As part of this performance the artists are selling links to their tracks on a pay-what-can basis; all proceeds will be donated to Medical Aid For Palestine.

Based in Aberdeen, **Nina Stanger** is an interdisciplinary artist, DJ and motion designer at Fine Day. Her creative practice combines digital media, sculpture and sound in installed space. She translates sound and digital image into physical space to create bodily awareness in participants. Interaction is integral to her creative philosophy, she is inspired by landscape and lore, and its connection with the people and life that inhabit it. She is also an avid record collector with a passion for community development and collaboration.

Working intuitively with writing, painting and sound, **Catriona Beckett** creates compositions and sketches which form an inquisitive, questioning exploration of ideas about semiotics and abstraction which form the basis for developing time-based, narrative performances. She is interested in languageless experiences in architecture and nature; specifically feelings of awe in relation to one's surroundings, a specific composition, set of tones or feeling. Catriona simultaneously draws attention to and mystifies these scenarios: characters grapple with words to describe the sensuality of a landscape or surrealist spaces hint at the inexplicable moods and shapes of a city. Underpinning these ideas is research into city planning and how the strange failures of an urban landscape can be transformed into poetry.

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