



Thurs. 26th October 2023, 11am to 3.30pm
UCA Farnham, Room RG21

A bookRoom Study Day curated and hosted by David Rule and Emmanuelle Waeckerlé for the Fine Art and Photography programme at UCA Farnham.

Emma Lambert, Victoria Cooper-Pedrote, Smin Smith, Wiebke Leister and Christiane Monarchi explore with us what kind of meaningful encounters the artist book / photobook / zine can generate with readers and with other mediums; how to facilitate such encounters; and why they matter. Together we are looking at both the making and making-public of photobooks, zines, and other 'on the page' works, focusing on their potential to act as connecting or disruptive social objects across various disciplines (still image, text, performance).

We have taken as a starting point Emma Lambert's practice-based PhD research (UCA / bookRoom) on the potential of the photobook to be "a conduit for change and create opportunities for people to learn about themselves and others through making". (Silvergrass Press manifesto).

Schedule

- 11am **David Rule** Introduction
- 11.15 **Emma Lambert** (PhD)
Where are you a local? vol 2 (Silvergrass Press, 2023)
with Terry NG & Edwin Chuk Yin Man (Hong Kong): six thousand miles, three collaborators, one question: a photobook publishing experiment.
- 11.45 **Victoria Cooper-Pedrote** (bookRoom A.I.R)
Sacred Touch (self-published, work in progress)
Fingertips and the page: touch to listen, touch to feel, touch to observe, touch to understand, touch to expand.
- 12.00 **Smin Smith** (UCA researcher)
Encounters with Queer / Feminist Science Fiction
Could collective encounters with science fiction texts—including zines, artist books and other visual publications—encourage us to demolish, salvage and rebuild our worlds anew?
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 **Emmanuelle Waeckerlé** Introduction
- 1.45 **Wiebke Leister** (Researcher, RCA)
Echoes & Callings; A Hannya Manifesto (Ma Bibliothèque, 2023)
Demonic Manifestations from Japanese Noh Theatre in photographic performance and on the page.
- 2.10 **Christiane Monarchi** (Photomonitor, editor)
A discussion with **Wiebke Leister**
- 2.30 **Wiebke Leister**
Video of a performance of Echoes & Callings
- 2.45 **Closing Remarks / Round table discussion** (all presenters)

Biographical information of contributors:

Victoria Cooper Pedrote is a Surrey-based visual artist and photographer, and current bookRoom A.I.R. originally from Andalucía, who intimately explores her own identity through her work. Her practice and skills are focused on analogue photography, artist's publications, designing and curating. As part of her residency, Cooper Pedrote is working on her second publication "Sacred Touch", after discovering the realm of Artist's Publications through her first one, "The in Betweens" (2022), developed as her final project as a UCA Photo graduate of 2022. @mismuert0s__

Emma Lambert is an artist and lecturer on the BA and MA Photography programmes at Coventry University. Her photographic practice considers the role of the image in the representation of place, the home and the 'local' through long term projects, using alternative processes, and experimental publishing. Her research interests combine materiality, craft and process with the social and collaborative potential of the photobook, of making and making things public. Her current practice-based PhD research, supported by bookRoom, examines the photobook as a social object and encounter. Her publishing imprint, Silvergrass Press, is focused on a series of collaborative publications that ask, 'Where are you a local?'. Emma has contributed to photo festivals, symposia and conferences exploring different areas of her research, from visualising the home, community and place, to the role of independent publishing and the photobook as a social object.

<https://silvergrasspress.co.uk/site/> <https://www.emmalambert.co.uk>

Wiebke Leister is a German artist and researcher. She studied Photography, Typography and Media Theory at Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen, Germany, and gained a PhD in Photography from the Royal College of Art in London. Her research challenges the limitations of mimetic representation and individual likeness, often focusing on the human image as a canvas, a medium or an agent. Working across theory and practice, both her current artistic and academic work focusses on intersections of photography, writing and theatre by way of developing a performative understanding how movement enters the structure of the still image. Before working at the Royal College of Art, she was Course Leader for MA Photography at London College of Communication, University of the Arts London. She also taught intermedial strategies and artistic research at Fachhochschule Bielefeld, Folkwang Universität der Künste and The Photographers' Gallery in London.

<https://mabibliotheque.cargo.site/Wiebke-Leister-ECHOES-CALLINGS-2023>

<https://researchonline.rca.ac.uk/5258/>

Christiane Monarchi is the founding editor of the online magazine Photomonitor, which has published more than 1,400 features since 2011. In 2020 she co-founded Hapax Magazine, a bi-annual print publication commissioning new photographic ideas. She regularly reviews artists' portfolios, mentors artists and has served on the boards of several not-for-profit art institutions, including Photofusion. Currently she is a Trustee of the Centre for British Photography. Christiane writes on photography for a variety of publications, has lectured at photography programmes including Central Saint Martins, Coventry, Sotheby's Institute, UCA Rochester and Westminster.

www.photomonitor.co.uk <https://www.hapaxmagazine.com>

Smin Smith is a science fiction artist and a PhD researcher and lecturer at UCA. Their artistic practice includes zine publishing, photography, styling and writing. Their doctorate project, titled 'Queer Feminist Science Fiction Art', addresses contemporary artworks as forms of science fiction. They are the founder and editor of 'Science Fiction Art & Fashion' (FKA Vagina Dentata Zine), a publication which celebrates still-image science fiction from marginalized artists. They are member of the [Beyond Gender Research Collective](#), a group of researchers, activists and practitioners who see science

fiction as a means of imagining new worlds and ways of being Smin's work has been featured in i-D, Dazed, Dazed Beauty, It's Nice That and VOGUE Italia, and exhibited in zine collections at Somerset House, Tate Modern, V&A, The National Trust, and BFI Southbank.

<https://smismith.co.uk>

<https://www.uca.ac.uk/about-us/our-staff/smin-smith/>

David Rule is a *Senior Lecturer in Photography at UCA Farnham*. He studied at the Slade School of Fine Art, his practice, almost wholly on the page, looks to preserve the ways we share stories, look back, make plans, offer advice, enthuse on things – the ways we communicate each day with each other through words, images and other means. David has great knowledge and expertise in photography, experimental writing, layout, design and bookmaking and has been involved with bookRoom from the beginning.

<http://www.davidrule.co.uk>

<https://www.uca.ac.uk/about-us/our-staff/david-rule>

Emmanuelle Waeckerlé is a reader in Fine Art and Relational Practices and director of *bookRoom* at UCA. Her practice and research evolve across multiple interconnected work zones – conceptual writing, performance, new musical composition, artist-publishing, curating (here.here concert series, Cosy Nook) and manifests as literary, poetic, and sonic compositions, occasions for their activation (installation, performance, workshop) and resulting image, text or sound works. Her music and scores are distributed by Wandelweiser editions.

www.ewaeckerle.com

<https://www.uca.ac.uk/about-us/our-staff/emmanuelle-waeckerle/>