

Introductions and Break-ups

Julie Brixey-Williams MRSS

Mandeep Dillon MRSS

20 – 26 October 2024



Introductions and Break Ups is a research-based project in the SET Ealing Space that will take place over 7 days. Both artists were recipients of residencies on the aa2a Practice Development Scheme 2023-2024 at Bucks New University and will be using the time to appraise, unpick and develop the works.

A recurring theme are materials that have degrees of transparency, and whilst responding to the architecture the artists will explore their subconscious and conceptual draw to the transparent. The large windows of SET Space will become the viewing arena for passersby to watch the process unfold.

This is a process-led project and there will not be a traditional Private View, a soft opening on the final Saturday will be an opportunity to see how the space has changed through the exploration of ideas and interventions.

Julie Brixey-Williams MRSS
Artist Biography/Statement

I define myself as a contemporary sculptor, performer and edge-dweller, who makes artworks that gather stories about places, through a process that I term *A Labour of Attentiveness*.

During my aa2a residency I explored the notion of *Open Sanctuary*: a state of fragility and vulnerability that is tensile and responsive. I introduced metal fabrication techniques into my practice to create off-kilter delicate structures that supported layers of meaning alongside my images and objects. I combined these with experimental print and laser etching on a variety of surfaces, expanding the depth and range of place-responsive images I had previously collected.

Julie Brixey-Williams (born, Essex, UK), graduated Kingston University BA Fine Art (2000) and MA Art & Space (2001), and has a PhD from the University of Reading (2022), exploring connection with place, through performance and material relationality systems operating in psychiatrist R.D Laing's Archway communities. She is a multi-disciplinary artist and member of the Royal Society of Sculptors (2012), and recipient of several residencies including a Leverhulme-funded residency at the Association of Anaesthetists of GB & Ireland (London, 2004); The Observatory (Lymington, 2016); Cove Park Winter Programme (Argyll, 2018); CillRialaig (Ballinskelligs, Ireland, 2022).

Mandeep Dillon MRSS
Artist Biography/Statement

Mandeep Dillon works across disciplines to explore notions of entropy. Her ephemeral sculptures are an ongoing investigation into the transient physicality of human and non-human entities. Conflicted about occupying space and adding to a crowded world, temporality is an integral aspect of her work. Photographs are often the only lasting evidence of an object having existed. Works made primarily of inflatables are inherently fragile. Their physical stability depends on a delicate balance between the inner and outer pressure of their gossamer skins. Reacting to subtle environmental changes, their swollen buoyancy hints at a sense of imminent collapse. Experiencing something both abstract and visceral, the onlooker's presence may trigger a kinetic reaction and an awareness of their embodied relationship with the sculpture.

Mandeep Dillon MA in Sculpture at the Royal College of Art (Distinction 2019) She is a member of the Royal Society of Sculptors. She is won the Madame Tussauds Fine art Prize for her MA show, Ingram Prize shortlist 2022, Orleans House Residency 2022.

She lives and works in Acton and has had a previous career as a documentary filmmaker where she worked on programmes about environmental issues and conflict across the Middle East, Asia and Africa.