

MMX 2011
WRITING DIGITAL
POETRY FILMS

10th-12th July

Commons, Newton Park

Bath Spa University



PoetryFilm

BATH
SPA
UNIVERSITY

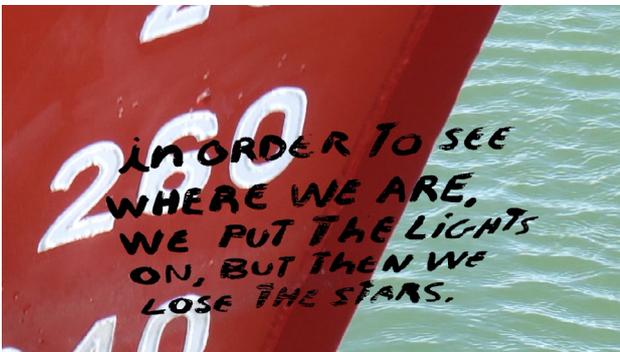
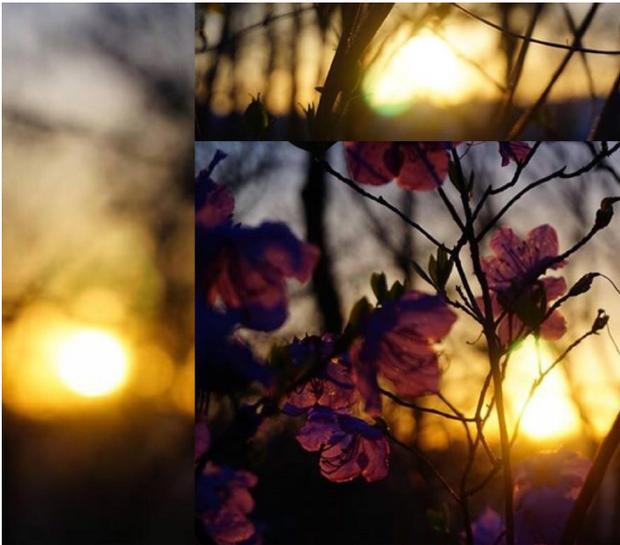
Introduction

2017 is a year which marks many significant anniversaries; political, sociological and creative. In 1517 Martin Luther nailed his Disputation to the church door in Wittenburg. Jane Austen died in 1817. 1917 marked the start of the Russian Revolution. In 1967 Sgt. *Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* was released by the Beatles and kicked off the Summer of Love and in 1977 everything went Punk.

To celebrate the human capacity for renewal and experimentation combined with deep thought, the themes for MIX 2017 are revolutions, regenerations, reflections. We asked artists/poets and digital writers to submit poetry films/ film poems/video poetry, responding to these themes. Twenty films have been selected from an international cohort and they will be screened in our Viewing Theatre throughout the duration of the conference.

This selection has been curated by Lucy English, Reader in Creative Writing at Bath Spa University, co- founder of Liberated Words which creates, curates and screens poetry films and Zata Banks, founder of PoetryFilm,





Stills from *Song for Disobedient Youth*, *Carpet 1* and *Illumination*.

Source: Thomas Becker, Finn Harvor and Valerie LaBlanc.

an influential research arts project and film screening series. Assistant curator is memory collector, live art and installation practitioner, Yiota Demetriou. She is also the Postdoctoral Research Assistant for *Making Books: Creativity, Print Culture and the Digital* at Bath Spa University and initiator of the festival *Performance and Live Art Platform Cyprus*.

‘It was a pleasure to review and co-curate this selection of film artworks for MIX Conference. The submissions represented a thoughtful orbit of approaches, styles, and topics, ranging between the silence of Shuhei Hatano’s *Seventh Window*, the split frames of Matthew Griffith’s *Pain in Colour*, the biology of Marie Craven’s *Anatomy*, the sound design and jigsawed visuals of Andrew Demirjian’s *Tremble with Anticipation*, and the kinetic concrete poetry of Jim Pomeroy’s *Words*.’



PoetryFilm

Zata Banks

FRSA

EVERY GENERATION NEEDS A NEW

REVOLUTION

THOMAS JEFFERSON

If We Must Die

Othneil Smith

Jamaican-born Claude McKay was one of the most prominent poets of the Harlem Renaissance. This sonnet was written in 1919 in response to a wave of attacks on African-American communities. This film uses imagery from a 1970s Blaxploitation film to highlight its theme of resistance.

Song for Disobedient Youth

Thomas Becker

Song for Disobedient Youth is an exhortation to embrace unfettered joy and chaos before the agonies of adulthood set in. It invites the viewer to momentarily indulge in the fantasy of youthful rebellion, self-discovery, recklessness, love, disregard, dream and contempt.

Electric Roses

Lemar Barrett

Electric Roses explores how technology has heavily influenced what we define as 'natural'. The poem focuses on how this new technological revolution has reshaped the way people interact with each other.

Untitled

Jordan T. Caylor & Leslie Lyons

An unnamed woman in an undefined metro station finds transcendent beauty in another passenger and the transcendent beauty in letting the moment pass. In her momentary musing she exalts the other into goddess form.

No Pais Dos Sacanas

Manuel Vilarinho

What is it to be a crook and a half in a country of crooks?

THE REGENERATION OF SOCIETY IS THE

REGENERATION

OF SOCIETY THROUGH INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION

JEAN DE LA BRUYERE

Words

James Pomeroy

The film was created as a visual interpretation of the poem. As the poem is about language so the film is also about language, the language of the poem; the visuals are based upon and reflect graphically the text of the poem treating the letters and words as pure graphic gestures.

Anatomy

Marie Craven

Based on an erasure poem by Dave Bonta, who has for many years been creating poetry in this way from *The Diary of Samuel Pepys*. This particular piece reflects on the powerful world of the internal body. It asks how we can mistake our meagre external spaces for the whole of reality.

Road to Damascus

Cindy St Onge

This remix, based on a poem which references the conversion of apostle Paul, is a meditation on faith, its attendant fetishes, stripped down revelations, and the raw yearning to align and have dialogue with a cosmic, loving constancy.

Grassland

Dave Bonta

This video remix combines a poem by American poet Sarah Sloat with footage of fibre optic tips and a field recording from an Oregon prairie. Titling reproduces the lines of the poem on the page, their timing guided by audio of a reading which was left out of the final mix.

Pain in Colour

Matthew Griffith

A translation of a lyric poem by Patrizia Cavalli about pain and invisible disability, this video poem features an intimate and colourful performance fragmented across two screens, inviting the viewer to look at rather than look through.

SINCE EVERYTHING IS A

REFLECTION

OF OUR MINDS, EVERYTHING CAN BE CHANGED BY OUR MINDS

BUDDHA

The Multi-Storey Car Park in Trenchard Street

Damon Moore

The narrator arrives at Level 10 of the multi-storey car park in Trenchard Street following treatment for cancer at Bristol Royal Infirmary and a psychiatric referral. The poem, on a theme of regeneration, describes his decision to make a clean break with the past.

Seventh Window

Shuhei Hatono

'I thought that the scenery from this window could not be touched.'

Illumination

Valerie LeBlanc & Daniel Dugas

For this collaborative work, we have juxtaposed texts to appear as graffiti on the hull of a boat. The left and right hands both speak to the challenges of forging a path through life. The audio, wind from the sea, speaks for everyone.

Objects I Cannot Touch

Sophie Seita

First performed at The Serpentine Gallery in London, at the invitation of *The White Review* in May 2014. *Objects I Cannot Touch* was commissioned as a video for the *Words into Image* exhibition, as part of *The Avant: Contemporary Arts Festival* in Cork, Ireland, July 2014.

Oracle of a Found Shoe

Angie Bogachenko

Will you really lose your love if you rediscover yourself?

Shop

Cheryl Gross

Shop explores the role of motherhood in a modern world. This is a film from Lucy English's [Book of Hours poetry film project](#).

The Carpet 1

Finn Harvor

Two brothers live in their separate homes. One is slowly dying, killing himself with booze, as he tries to 'self-medicate' the demons in his mind. Meanwhile, the mother of the brothers, who also is battling demons of the mind, is making the alcoholic brother's drinking worse.

Tremble with Anticipation

Andrew Demirjian

This piece is a video poem that remixes subtitled film stills from dozens of foreign language movies to construct a novel poetic text. The work features meticulously selected frames that are orchestrated into verses that juxtapose gesture, light and setting, creating a new dialogue across films.

A Mouse's Prayer

Kate Flaherty

A performance poem by Kate Marshall Flaherty from the perspective of a mouse, whose hope for simple needs to be met and trust in a benevolent moon watching over, remind us of the universal need to sustain ourselves, but not at the expense of another. Scottish Poet Robbie Burns wrote a similarly themed poem in his 'Poem to a Mouse'.

Andrew Demirjian

Andrew Demirjian is an interdisciplinary artist who creates experimental assemblages of image, sound and text. Andrew's work has been exhibited at The Museum of the Moving Image, Eyebeam, Fridman Gallery, Fieldgate Gallery and The MacDowell Colony, Puffin Foundation, Artslink, Harvestworks, Bemis Center and the LMCC have supported his work.

Angie Bogachenko

Angie Bogachenko is Ukrainian illustrator, designer, filmmaker and essayist. She was born in Donetsk, grew up in Mykolaiv and currently lives in Kyiv. Her films have been shown at the following international videopoetry and film festivals: *CYCLOP*, *ZEBRA*, *Sadho*, *MOLODIST*, *OIFF*, *Rabbit Heart*, *Liberated Words*, *Ó Bhéal Poetry-Film* and many more.

Cheryl Gross

Cheryl Gross is an illustrator, painter, and motion graphic artist living and working in the New York area. She is a professor at Pratt Institute and Bloomfield College. Her work has appeared in numerous poetry festivals including: *ZEBRA* and *The Whitney Biennial 2017*.

Cindy St Onge

Multimedia poet Cindy St Onge's video poems have been screened at film festivals in the US and Europe, and showcased at *Moving Poems* and other online sites. Her poems have been published in *Dappled Things*, *Right Hand Pointing*, *Timberline Review*, and other print and online journals.

Damon Moore

Damon's poetry has appeared in *RAUM Magazine*, *Eyot*, *The Litterateur* and *Forage*. Poetry film media offers an ideal platform for extended and narrative forms in which Damon has a particular interest. Extracts from 'Primrose Hill Blue' were included in the *Kindlings: Writer's Edit* debut anthology of new creative writing.

Daniel Dugas

Daniel H. Dugas is an interdisciplinary artist. His practice includes video, photo, interactivity, audio, music, graphic design and writing and seeks to address social and political issues. He has participated in festivals and literary events as well as exhibitions and performances internationally. His ninth book of poetry, *L'esprit du temps / The Spirit of the Time*, was published in December 2015 through Éditions Prise de Parole, Ontario, Canada.

Dave Bonta

[Dave Bonta](#) is a poet and web publisher based in rural central Pennsylvania, USA. He has been blogging about videopoetry and poetry film since 2009 at movingpoems.com, combing Vimeo and YouTube five days a week for the best poetry videos on the web.

Finn Harvor

Finn Harvor (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies) is an artist, writer, filmmaker and musician. His writing has appeared in many journals, and his visual work has been shown in Canada, the US, the UK, Greece, and Korea. Academically, he has presented in Oxford, Berlin, Liverpool, Dubrovnik, Seoul, Yongju, and Osaka.

James Pomeroy

James Pomeroy is a Winnipeg-based filmmaker and teacher. He has taught for both the Department of Philosophy and the School of Fine Art at the University of Manitoba. He is a long-time member of the Winnipeg Film Group. His works have been screened at events/festivals internationally.

Jordan T. Caylor

Jordan T. Caylor was born in Madison, Wisconsin, USA, the son of a Methodist

minister mother and poet father. He refers to himself as a 'creative professional in media production' as he has filled the shoes of director, cinematographer, editor, VFX-er, sound/music designer, and writer. Working in both the United States and Europe, he is currently teamed up with a production company in Cádiz, Spain.

Kate Flaherty

Kate Marshall Flaherty and Mark Korven have worked together with MicroFilms on several poetry to music on film projects, one of which, *Far Away* about a grandmother's dementia, was acclaimed by the Alzheimer's Society of Canada. Kate is an award-winning poet with five books of poetry, and Mark is an award winning composer for film

Lemar Barrett

Lemar Barrett, 'the Animated Poet', has been recognised for his unique approach to performance poetry. His interaction with LIVE film and animation has allowed him to immerse audiences in new worlds. Previously, Lemar has worked on animated music videos and continues to perform in theatres around England.

Leslie Lyons

Leslie Lyons is an American

contemporary artist using photography, text, video and her own voice to communicate with the universe. At the foundation of her inspiration is poetry and literature; classic text, contemporary works, song lyrics, graffiti. This piece, *Untitled*, is Leslie's first work of recording the voice inside her head.

Manuel Vilarinho

Manuel Vilarinho was born in Porto, Portugal in 1974. He graduated in Audiovisual Communication Technology in IPP, Polytechnic Institute of Porto, in 2004. Since 2000 he has been working as an Audiovisual technician. His work has been featured in several poetry festivals including *Ó Bhéal Poetry-Film*, *Festival Silencio*, *Weimar* and *ZEBRA*.

Marie Craven

Marie Craven assembles videos from poetry, music, voice, stills and moving images by various artists around the world. Since 2014, Marie has put together around 50 video poems, all essentially collaborative in nature. She has been involved in filmmaking since the mid-1980s, with many international screenings of her work.

Matthew Griffith

Matthew Griffith is a PhD Student

at Harvard University in Romance Literatures and Critical Media Practice. His video-making has formed in conjunction with his scholarly research on emerging forms of literary expression and their relationship to moving image art. He holds an MA in Italian Studies from the University of Toronto.

Othneil Smith

Othniel Smith's work as a writer includes eight episodes of children's television series *The Story of Tracy Beaker* (CBBC), the stage play *Giant Steps* (New Welsh Drama II, Parthian Books, 2001), and a number of BBC radio dramas. He has a doctorate in Independent Film from the University of Glamorgan.

Shuhei Hatono

Shuhei is a filmmaker born in Tottori, Japan in 1980 and currently living/working in Tokyo.

Sophie Seita

Sophie Seita works with language on the page, in performance, translation, and through research. More info on books, performances, and other projects [here](#). She's currently based at the University of Cambridge, where she is a Junior Research Fellow in English and finishing a monograph

on avant-garde little magazine communities.

Tommy Becker

Tommy Becker attended the San Francisco Art Institute as an undergraduate before receiving his MFA in Film/Video/Performance from California College of Arts. A poet and musician trapped in a camcorder, Becker continues to blend music and poetry into his never-ending saga, *Tape Number One*. His video poems have

screened nationally and internationally.

Valerie LeBlanc

Interdisciplinary artist and writer, Valerie LeBlanc has presented throughout Canada, the United States, Europe, Australia and more recently in Sao Paulo, Brazil and Kisii, Kenya. Personal and public aspects of the human condition are often the subjects rooted in her projects. Her works travel between video poetry, fiction, performance, visual and written theory.

Image Sources

[Fight Trump – Start a Punk Band](#) by Bill Hanscom ([CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#))

[punk-stencil](#) by Marc Argelich Trigo ([CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#))

Songs for Disobedient Youth by Thomas Becker

Carpet 1 by Finn Harvor

Illuminations by Valerie LeBlanc