

# MIX 2021

AMPLIFIED PUBLISHING

# AMPLIFIED VOICES

PoetryFilm Curation  
with Dr Lucy English  
Sarah Tremlett & Adrian B. Earle



# SARAH'S CURATION

Sarah Tremlett (Poem Film) MPhil, FRSA, SWIP is a British poetry filmmaker, poet and theorist, particularly enquiring into the philosophy of poetry film.

She is co-director of Liberated Words Poetry Film events, editor of Liberated Words online, a curator and judge at festivals, and author of leading publication *The Poetics of Poetry Film* published by Intellect Books and The University of Chicago Press, May, 2021.

With a family history poetry film screening in Reconnections at LYRA poetry festival 2021, she is the creator of an ongoing family history prose, poetry and poetry film project entitled *Tree*. Her family history poem on mediaeval mining *Firewash* is part of *Earth Lines* geopoetry and geopoetics collection (Edinburgh Geological Society, Autumn, 2021).



Sarah looks at how poetry film-makers' express, in different ways, their attunement to the politically and economically disregarded voices of the more-than-human, in our fast disappearing fragile world ecosystems. How do artists show their deep affiliations with other forms of life? Can the aesthetics of the ecopoetry film transcend or disrupt the androcentric viewpoint, and raise awareness of such major issues for the planet? In her writing on the subject, Sarah Tremlett has coined the term 'intraconnective' aesthetics to extend the concept of 'connective aesthetics' (Gablik 1992).



# Construction Site, 2017, USA

Gwendolyn Audrey Foster

'It is interesting to view Nature through the lens of construction sight/ site – after all is Nature itself not the Mother of all construction sites? I wonder if we have always viewed the world as a potential building site? [...] Always remember, Nature looks back while you are watching. We forget that screens reflect on / us in the larger philosophical sense. In remembering this, and in thinking of Nature looking back, we cannot help but become more ecoconscious.'



- Gwendolyn Audrey Foster;

Vimeo notes to accompany the film

Experimental film poet, artist and author, Gwendolyn Audrey Foster is the Willa Cather Professor Emerita of Film Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her work 'explores the aesthetic space between film and video with elements of Surrealism, ecofeminism, punk, queerness, romantic structuralism, and chance editing (automatism).'

<https://vimeopro.com/gwendolynaudreyfoster/experimental-films>

<https://www.gwendolynaudreyfoster.com/articles.html>



Watch Construction Site on Vimeo

<https://vimeo.com/188719797>

# The Fish Prince, 2020, UK

Director: Shifra Osorio Whewell  
Gerrit Rietveld Academie

Shifra Osorio Whewell is a British musician, writer and audio-visual artist working with poetry and performance, and who has recently graduated from Rietveld Academie. She says: 'I like to write around an existing (old) story and from there dramatise it and build a visual language around it with props, costume etc!'

<https://vimeo.com/user97193615>



The Fish Prince is based on the Grimm's fairy tale, 'The Fisherman and his Wife' where a greedy wife asks an enchanted fish for all she desires.

In the film the wife is edited out and the fisherman becomes a female shopper in a supermarket with an enchanted fish in the trolley. Through the unusual medium of a performative, heightened, commedia dell-arte style of magic realism, the film uniquely interrogates the damaging role of the consumer, of consumption itself, and how man has learnt to see 'everything around us as resources to be used!'

Watch The Fish Prince on Vimeo

<https://vimeo.com/505623701>

# Rain Frog Promise, 2016, UK

Poet and film-maker: Dr Meriel Lland

'My poetry explores aspects of biophilia – the instinctive bond between people and other living systems, defined by biologist Edward Wilson as "the connections that human beings subconsciously seek with the rest of life"'

Dr Meriel Lland is a writer, film-poet, wildlife photographer, and artist engaged by the stories we tell of the natural world and the secrets those stories reveal of their tellers. She has travelled with reindeer in Scandinavia, elephants in Africa and camels in Morocco; and her film-poetry explores human and non-human interactions and interdependencies.



[www.meriellland.co.uk](http://www.meriellland.co.uk)

Rain Frog Promise emerged from an understanding of the threats facing the scarlet ibis in Trinidad's Caroni swamp. But the poetry film is not a documentary narrative detailing this understanding – rather it is an imaginative, symbolic representation of how people, including one-time poachers, can connect with the ibis in order to bring about a change of perspective on the birds.



Watch Rain Frog Promise on Vimeo

<https://vimeo.com/222004104>

# i Swallow, 2020, UK

Poet: Caleb Parkin

film-maker: Sarah Tremlett

**Caleb Parkin** is the third Bristol City Poet. He has won or been shortlisted for various competitions, and has

poems in The Poetry Review, The Rialto, Poetry Wales, Magma, Under the Radar, Butcher's Dog and Molly

Bloom. His debut pamphlet Wasted Rainbow is

available from tall-lighthouse, and his debut collection This Fruiting Body is available from Nine Arches Press, 14 October, 2021.

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



'Day-glo, queero, techno ecopoet Caleb Parkin's approach to the more-than-human is to shed a light on all aspects of our ecosystem, whilst thinking through queer ecopoetics. Here the visceral materiality of swallowing flies on a bike ride is re-visited as a poetry film, in conjunction with Sarah Tremlett's selection of footage and film-making.'



**Sarah Tremlett** is a commissioned poetry film-maker, poet and theorist

[www.sarahtremlett.com](http://www.sarahtremlett.com) and co-director of Liberated Words poetry film

events. Her new publication The Poetics of Poetry Film is available in the

UK from Intellect Books, <https://www.intellectbooks.com/the-poetics-of-poetry-film>

Watch i swallow on Vimeo

<https://vimeo.com/445468445>

# Tonight is for the Trees, 2013, CA

poet: Sasha Patterson  
film-maker: Matthew Hayes  
music: Lee Rosevere

Sasha Patterson is a nationally recognised spoken word (slam) poet and musician from Nogojiwanong (Peterborough), Ontario, Canada, where they



also organised monthly poetry slams. In April 2014 Sasha was placed 15th in the country at the Canadian Individual Poetry Slam Competition in Vancouver, BC. In October 2014 they competed at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word in Victoria, BC along with Peterborough's Poetry Slam Team.



**Matthew Hayes** is an educator, researcher, and filmmaker. He currently teaches English and Philosophy at Northern Lakes College. He received his PhD from Trent University, for which he wrote a history of Canada's UFO investigation. He has made a number of films across genres, with a focus on documentary and dance. [www.theonlymatthewhayes.com](http://www.theonlymatthewhayes.com)  
Hayes says: 'During 2014 I worked at Artspace, an artist-run centre in Peterborough, Ontario. I coordinated a poetry film program, teaming up filmmakers, musicians, and poets; the program produced over ten poetry films in total, one of which was Tonight Is for the Trees. The goal was to make it cinematic, to emphasize the visuals and the imagery Sasha created with the poem. I was really struck by how simple and beautiful the concept was.'

Watch Tonight is for the Trees on Vimeo

<https://vimeo.com/101082106>

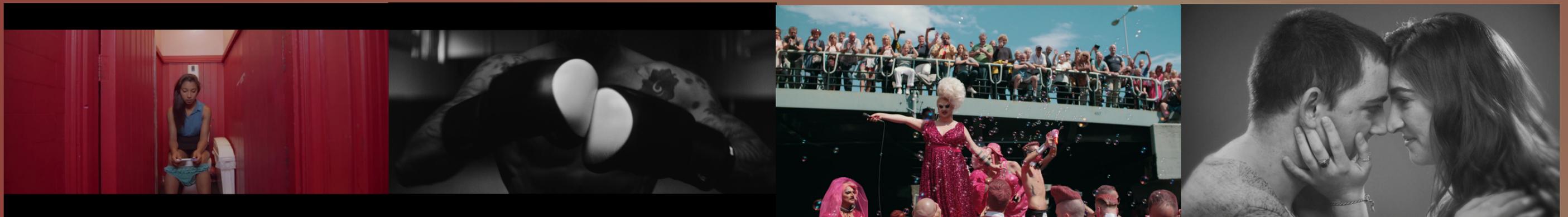
# ADRIAN'S CURATION

Adrian B. Earle is a Writer, Poet, and Media Maker from Birmingham. Interested in innovative ways to tell stories and shape language in new poetic forms. He has taken commissions for Apples and Snakes, Birmingham City University and Beatbreaks on Strange & diverse topics. Mildly obsessed with the 'taste' of a poem, and the things that can be created from the foundation of verse he has been mashing together sonics & syllables, Images & lambs for a while now, experimenting & creating digital poems under the name ThinkWriteFly.

He is Managing Director at Audio & Video Poetry Project VerseFirst Productions, where he produces the podcasts Why Poetry? and Alone Together. He is Creative Development Lead at the Poetry in Place App Overhear and a 2019 member of the Hippodrome Young Poets. Adrian's debut pamphlet is 5000HURTS (Burning Eye Books, 2019) His Poetry Film BOYSHAPEDSPACE was commissioned by Rural Media for BBC New Creatives, winning joint 1st at the Newlyn PZ international Film Festival 2020, and selected for both the Zebra Film Festival 2020 and the Film and Video Poetry Symposium 2020.



"I wanted to look at how contemporary Poetry Film can be used as a tool for Amplification. My curation explores the amplification of voices made distant by place and time. How can translations of ancient poetry be relevant to contemporary audiences? How does our perception of time change in different situations? and how can the particularly temporal media of film and poetry combine to play with that perception of time? How can we reclaim marginal language through poetry film and how does poetry film represent new versions of masculinity? How can the medium explore questions of who gets to speak and what they get to say?"



# Love Song, 2020 UK

Filmmaker: Jack Jewers (InVerse project)

Poet: Based on the poem The Flower Song, Anon. Egypt, c.1400 BCE. (Abridged)

Jack Jewers is a filmmaker and writer. Passionate about telling stories in all media, his body of work crosses film, TV, and digital.

Jack has won several accolades for his film work, including an award from the Royal Television Society and a nomination for Best Short Film by BAFTA Wales. His work has been shown in and out of competition at dozens of festivals, including Cannes, New York, and London's FrightFest. He has been invited to speak about his work at several major film and TV industry events, such as Series Mania in Paris.

In 2014 he developed and directed Night School, a web series based on the popular young adult novels of the same name. It quickly grew from a couple of low-budget short films to become one of the highest-profile British web series to date. Jack's numerous short films as director include the critically-acclaimed Shalom Kabul, a dark comedy based on the true story of the last two Jews of Afghanistan.

You can find out more about Jack at [www.jackjewers.com](http://www.jackjewers.com).

**INVERSE** is a series of short films that explore time and the human condition. Each film takes an old poem and uses it as a prism through which to explore the world today. And when I say old, I mean really old. There isn't a poem in the collection that wasn't first written down thousands of years ago.

But far from being dry, remote echoes of a long-gone age, each poem chosen for the collection feels like it could have been written yesterday. And why shouldn't they? Our dreams are nothing new. Our ancestors had the same hopes and fears that we do. And if we can understand this, perhaps it puts some of the problems of our world into perspective. People are people. Time is an illusion. And hope unites us all.



Watch The Lovers on Inverse Film  
<https://inversefilm.uk/watch/love-song>

A timeless declaration of love and desire, this poem feels as fresh today as it did when it was written – a long, long time ago. The imagery is strikingly sensual; how the narrator describes the sound of their true love's voice as being like the taste of sweet wine; or wishing they were her very clothes, so that they could forever be close to her body. It's passionate, erotic, and quite beautiful.

Production Notes: None of the couples you see in the film had met before they came into the studio on the bright, spring day on which it was filmed – with one exception. The older couple are Alfred and Leila Hoffman, who were 92 and 83 at the time of filming, who have been together for over 60 years. The velvet-voiced narration is provided by Adam Roche, host of the Secret History of Hollywood podcast – required listening for all classic movie fans.

**Narrated by**  
**ADAM ROCHE**

**The Lovers**  
**YASMINE ALICE**  
**MARGARET DANE**  
**NATASHA GREEN**  
**ALFRED HOFFMAN**  
**LEILA HOFFMAN**  
**ASHLEY ROSE KAPLAN**  
**MARLON KAMEKA**  
**ANA MCMORROW**  
**TONY RICHARDSON**  
**JOSEPH SIMPSON-BUSHELL**

**Directed, Produced & Edited**  
**by**  
**JACK JEWERS**

**Director of Photography**  
**TOM BLOUNT**

**Colourist**  
**PAUL FALLON**

**Camera Assistant**  
**EMILY TAIT**

**Makeup Artist**  
**EMILY COLLINS**

**Production Assistant**  
**JUSTINE DUHART**

**Filmed at Mowlam Studios,**  
**Bethnal Green, London**

# The Look, 2020, UK

Filmmaker: Jack Jewers (InVerse project)

Based on the poem Take Care With How You Look from Ars Amatoria by Ovid. Italy, 1st Century CE. (Abridged).



Watch The Lovers on Inverse Film  
<https://inversefilm.uk/watch/the-look>

The Romans knew how to have a good time. The Look is an abridged version of 'Take Care With How You Look,' a chapter from Ars Amatoria ("The Art of Love"), by the poet Ovid. Its themes of rejecting false nostalgia about the past, and embracing the richness of the modern age, sounded to me like a celebration of inclusivity and tolerance. Of course, Ovid was writing about a very different age to our own, but the message holds as true today as it always has been. And what more fabulous harbingers of this message than Drag Queens United?

Production Notes: This is the only INSIGHT short that was put together from found footage, rather than filmed specially for the series. The lovely, colourful, joyous shots of Drag Queens United were taken at Amsterdam Pride in 2017.

**Narrated, Edited & Produced by  
JACK JEWERS**

**Director of Photography  
GUILLAUME VERSTEEG**

**Footage of 'Drag Queens United' at Pride Amsterdam © 2017 G3B Studios  
Used by kind permission of G3B Studios and the Queens Themselves**

**'Lightly Drift'  
by Helen Jane Long  
Published by Audio Network**

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**Find out more at [www.inversefilm.uk](http://www.inversefilm.uk)**

# One Minute, 2014, UK

Filmmaker: Zoe Alker

Poet: Vanessa Kissule

**Zoe Alker** is a writer and director.

She graduated from the University of the West of England in 2016 with a BA(Hons) in Filmmaking. Following graduation she worked with Mike Leigh on his latest film Peterloo until 2018.

In 2019, Zoe released her Cornish language short, Yn Mor (At Sea), into the festival circuit, winning Best Regional Short and Best Ensemble Performance at the Cornwall Film Festival. She also worked with Miles Sloman as part of the BBC New Creatives scheme on their devised short Anoraks and collaborated with musician Orla Gartland on two music video projects for Did It To Myself and Figure It Out.

In 2021 Zoe is working on a feature length script set on the remote island of Bryher off the coast of Cornwall as well as developing a number of other projects. Zoe is part of the Filmmaking department at UWE Bristol. Zoe is currently attending Bristol Old Vic Theatre School to complete a Masters in Drama Writing.



**Vanessa Kissule** is a writer and performer based in Bristol. She has won over ten slam titles including The Roundhouse Slam 2014, Hammer and Tongue National Slam 2014 and the Nuoryican Poetry Slam. She has been featured on BBC iPlayer, Radio 1, and Radio 4's Woman's Hour, Blue Peter, Don't Flop and TEDx in Vienna. She has appeared at an array of literary and music festivals and was Glastonbury Festival's Resident Poet in 2019. She has been invited to perform all over the world from Belgium to Brazil to Bangladesh.

Her poem on the historic toppling of Edward Colston's statue 'Hollow' gained over 600,000 views on Twitter in three days. She has two

poetry collections published by Burning Eye Books and her work was Highly Commended in the Forward Poetry Prize Anthology 2019. She has written for publications including The Guardian, NME and Lonely Planet and has publication credits in pending anthologies with Canongate, Orion and Penguin Random House. She has worked extensively in theatre with Bristol Old Vic, Kneehigh Theatre and Pentabus and her Arts Council supported show 'SEXY' toured nationally in 2017. She was the Bristol City Poet for 2018 - 2020 and will be co-tutor for Southbank Centre's first ever Poetry Collective alongside Will Harris. She is currently working on an essay collection and her debut novel.



Watch One Minute on Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOkRA0buG9Q>

Closer to narrative film than art film, One Minute poetically captures the inner dialogue at a moment of apprehension and decision: the single minute processing time of a pregnancy test dilated to the 4 mins and 17 seconds the film comprises. But the poetic inner monologue makes something 'realler' than a drama would; the lines mapping out each of the possible futures for the protagonist before the suspended ending.

**Starring Adele James**

**With Joe Hesketh and Nicky Ann Walker**

**An Odd Sock Production**

# Carved in Mayhem, 2016, US

Filmmaker: Dan DiFelice

Poet: Johnny 'B.A.N.G' Reilly

'New Jersey born filmmaker based in New York  
Some animation & vfx for a few years  
Some films  
Some awards  
Some mistakes  
Here I am a few years later.'



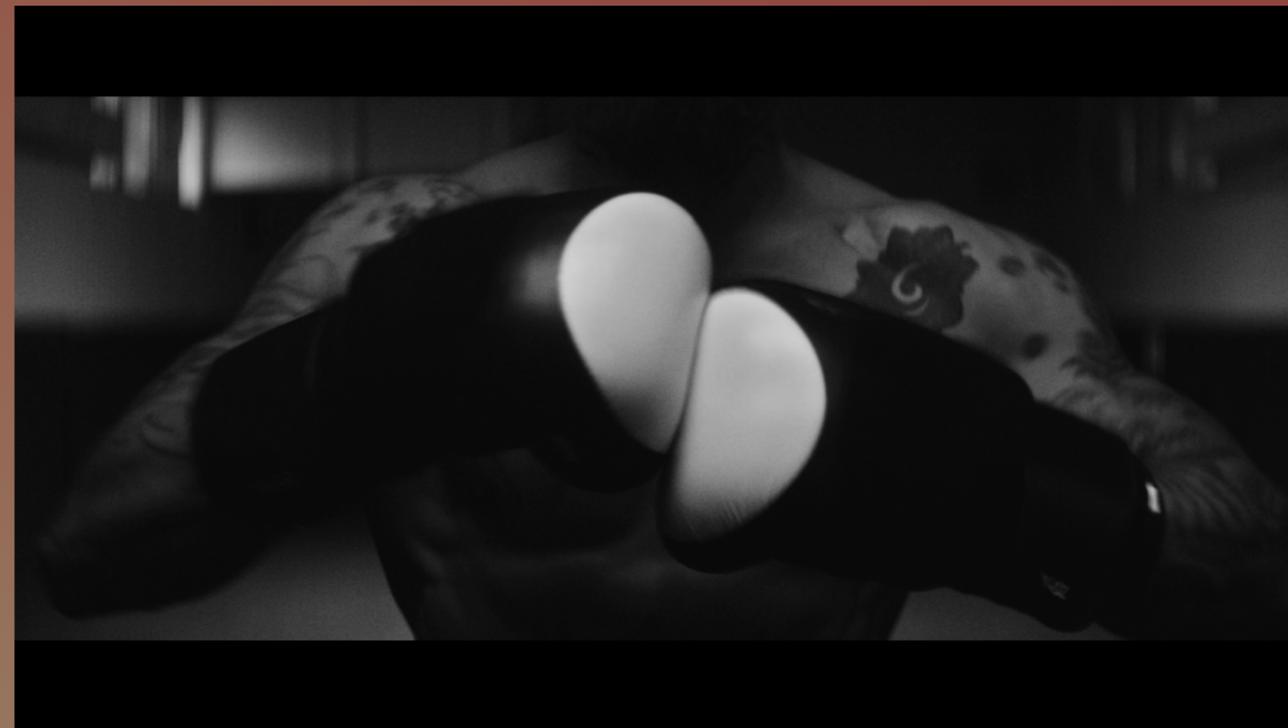
'Johnny Bang Reilly was, in his own words, "a child born into cigarette smoke, canned food, white bread, and beatings." self-trained, self-educated, self-preserved, and ultimately self-destructive.

For Johnny, life is a series of moments that demand a choice. Two paths: Light and Darkness. The turning point came when, in a fit of calculated rage, Johnny decided to actually murder another man. He played it out a thousand times in his head, stalked, and stood at the very precipice of killing; and in that

moment, an epiphany flooded in, that in killing this man, he was going to kill himself. So in that moment, he chose light. He chose to walk away. To start anew, even if everyone around him said it was too late. He wrote a new story.

Today, Johnny is a walking testament to the character that can be crafted out of chaos. At 52 years old, he has chiseled his body into the frame of a 20 year old. Not as a weapon for inflicting pain, but as a reflection of purity. He is a poet and activist, penning words that ascend to something bigger than himself. He is a father, replacing old wounds with fresh hope for the bloodline below him. And above all, he curates the art of light triumphed over darkness. And as Johnny would say, 'we are all the art, the art that vibrates the poem of the heart of our creator and provider.'

A transient poet, filmmaker, voiceover artist, mixed martial artist and business owner, Johnny's life is rich in experiences and full of love. He uses words and movement not just to express himself and keep fit and agile, but as a navigator exploring the spaces around him, making poetry with his body.'



Watch Carved in Mayhem on Youtube  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Fp2l-9RPK9c>

Raw poetic, lyricism on the verge of conscious hip hop. Battle Poetics in the truest sense. Love the almost Hemingway/Bukowski-esque stoic masculinity blended with a vulnerability that isn't over earnest. the central metaphor. that a raw unpolished and unyielding substance can through the deliberate application of force and focus, become something breathtaking, become something else. is key to the film's and the Poets philosophy.

Part of the Saatchi and Saatchi new creators showcase in 2016 the film maker Dan DiFelice has become a bit of giant in the ad and marketing space for creating dream - epic, intensely cinematic & poetic work.

**A Neighborhood Film  
Co. Production (<http://goo.gl/gHVudB>)  
Producer Dan Walser  
Directed by Dan  
DiFelice (<http://goo.gl/Wo1HXC>)  
Poem Written/**

**Performed by Johnny  
Bang Reilly  
Cinematography by  
Khalid Mohtaseb & Dan  
Stewart  
Production Design by  
Joe Sciacca  
Visual Effects by**

**Framestore London  
Original Score by Luke  
Atencio  
Color by Tom Poole + CO3  
Sound Design by 1-Louder  
Edit by Dan DiFelice**

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MONDAY 5TH JULY

