

PERFORMANCE AND THE MATERNAL



ENGAGE.... conversations conceived
across performance studies and the
maternal

Abstracts

Performing Climate, Gender and Maternal
Futures, 20.10.20, 7.30 – 9pm



Performing Climate, Gender and Maternal Futures, 20.10.20, 7.30 – 9pm

Provocation: How might a maternal inclination help us to reimagine the future? What maternal futures might we want to create?

Ben Spatz

Notes for a nonbinary theory of the maternal

This presentation will explore initial steps towards thinking mothering and the maternal within nonbinary gender space.

Antiracist, decolonial, and transfeminist knowledges will be centered as crucial to embodied research in a reopened field of maternal technique.

Rosemary Lee

Rosemary Lee will draw on her experience of creating *Passage for Par*, a two hour work for 30 women on Par Sands beach commissioned by Groundwork, Cornwall. She will share the themes of the work, and the discoveries we made together in the process of making and performing everyday across the ever changing tidal landscape.

Hannah Davey, Liberate Tate

Hannah Davey will explain the history of Liberate Tate is and the conceptual framework of their work *Birthmark*. She will examine the work's roots in the earlier piece *Hidden Figures* - and its evolution as a maternal activism, how that informed *Birthmark*, how the group were open to change with a baby at the heart of it. *Birthmark* is a feminist-led ritual involving tattooing as midwifery and learning together as a magical maternal act. Liberate Tate's radical collective practise was altered and informed by pregnancy and nursing mothers, although they only came to know how radical retrospectively with experience of other parts of the art world. Hannah Davey will explore how a maternal inclination might reimagine a working practise.

Natalie Loveless and Sheena Wilson

This presentation will offer an overview of past and present collaborative ventures between the authors, linking feminist theory/practice, maternal care ethics, and climate change. In addition to presenting their work at the intersections of gender and climate change, Natalie Loveless and Sheena Wilson will, together, reflect on their history of working collaboratively and thinking through the complexities of collaborative feminist labour. Whether to re-sculpt academic political spaces in more sustainable ways, whether to enrich the art and academic work we are each making and making together, or whether to re-shape daily lived reality according to

more ecological form, Natalie and Sheena argue for intersectional and interdisciplinary feminist praxis as a means of resistance and resilience in a time of political and climate catastrophe.

prOphecy sun

prOphecy sun is an interdisciplinary performance artist, movement, video and sound maker, mother and Ph.D. Candidate at the School of Interactive Arts + Technology at Simon Fraser University. In this presentation she will share her work to explore maternal futures.

Chantal Bilodeau

In this age of climate disruption, caring for the planet and for each other cannot be separated from caring for our children. Climate Change Theatre Action, a project that brings communities together to foster conversation around our climate, provides a way to express this care – and act on it.

Chair: Georgina Biggs