

Artists' Film International: Murray Hewitt, Eric and Marc Hurtado, Bengü Karaduman, Rahraw Omarzad, Hong-An Truong and Morgan Wong

17 October – 12 January 2014

Whitechapel Gallery, Zilkha Auditorium

Admission Free

The Whitechapel Gallery presents six new works as part of *Artists' Film International*, a touring programme of film, video and animation selected by 15 organisations from around the world. This season's works look at geopolitical concerns and changing cultural histories from Afghanistan, Hong Kong, Morocco, New Zealand, Turkey and Vietnam.

In *The Downfall of Light* (2011) the artist **Murray Hewitt** reflects on the culture and politics associated with the sacred site of Te Urewera National Park in New Zealand. Filmmakers and musicians **Eric and Marc Hurtado**, founders of the French group Etant Donnés, present their recent film *Jajouka, Something Good Comes to You* (2012). The work weaves together documentary and fiction in an exploration of the ancient rituals of native musicians from Jajouka, a village in Morocco's Rif Mountains.

We Are All in the Same Boat (2012), an animation by **Bengü Karaduman**, describes large-scale processes of production and consumption, featuring an imaginary industrial boat to represent the damage current political economic systems inflict on our environment. **Rahraw Omarzad's** film *Gaining and Losing* (2012) considers the destruction of archaeological artefacts at the Kabul National Museum of Afghanistan over the last decade and the process of rebuilding the country's cultural infrastructure. In *The City & The City* (2010) by **Hong-An Truong** in collaboration with Dwayne Dixon and **Morgan Wong's** *Plus-Minus-Zero* (2010), the artists link Tokyo and Saigon and Hong Kong and Sapporo respectively whilst reflecting on socio-political change, urbanism and time.

Rahraw Omarzad is selected by Center for Contemporary Arts Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan; Morgan Wong by Para/Site Hong Kong; Eric and Marc Hurtado, Cinémathèque de Tanger, Tangier, Morocco; Murray Hewitt by City Gallery Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand; Bengü Karaduman by Istanbul Modern, Istanbul, Turkey; Hong-an Truong by San Art/ Hanoi Doclab, Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Notes for editors

- The 15 *Artists' Film International* organisations are: Ballroom Marfa, US; Belgrade Cultural Centre, Serbia; Center for Contemporary Arts Afghanistan, Afghanistan; Cinémathèque de Tanger, Morocco; City Gallery Wellington, New Zealand; Fundacion PRÒA, Argentina; Galleria D'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Italy; Hanoi DOCLAB, Vietnam; Istanbul Modern, Turkey; KINOKINO Centre for Art and Film, Norway; n.b.k. Video-Forum, Germany; New Media Centre, Israel; Para/Site Art Space, Hong Kong; Project 88, India and Whitechapel Gallery, UK.

Visitor Information

Opening times: Tuesday – Sunday, 11am – 6pm, Thursdays, 11am – 9pm.

Admission free. Whitechapel Gallery, 77 – 82 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX. Nearest London Underground Station: Aldgate East, Liverpool Street, Tower Gateway DLR. T + 44 (0) 20 7522 7888 info@whitechapelgallery.org

Press Information

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Press Release

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