

*away, completely: denigrate*  
curated by **Languid Hands**

(Clockwise left to right)

**Ebun Sodipo**

*although it may seem absurd, the earth also moves*, 2019

Video, colour, sound

10.00', looped

"... serves as an illustration of the putting back together of fragments that the process of black subjectivity seems to be. The individual elements of the work are intended to give an insight into the affective dimensions of my own formation in an image-mediated modernity. To give the feeling of feeling this body, of feeling in this body, of feeling others bodies in my body and mine in theirs. In my experience, the form of knowing that we name blackness comes from and is registered within the body rather than through the logic processes of a rational mind. How do I speak about being then in a way that moves the body, that touches deep in the place where we feel ourselves, and feeling ourselves being with others. Our experience as collective beings is not something that lends itself to language. It can't be spoken and heard so easily. What sutures us is not word or spoken communication but affect, feeling, being that exceeds language. It is in the piecing together that we know each other. It is not in being told but feeling it, experiencing it. I am attempting represent these complex knowings and bodily verberations that manage to communicate a huge tangle of feeling, history, event in a single moment..."

**Libita Clayton**

*spirit*, 2019

5 pairs of drawings,

Graphite on paper,

21 x 29.7 cm

the silence spoke to her nothing  
passing into gaps like after glows  
flash of light humms like mist

( ( *in beautiful sparkling black fugitive dreams* ) )

Inspired by Ben Okri's 2017 novel *Starbook: A Magical Tale of Love and Regeneration*.

**Halima Haruna**

*To Divine*, 2019

Video, colour, sound

8.00', looped

The video focuses on divination, language and mourning for deaths outside the screen. In response to both personal and generational loss, we cry and dance and pray. Using mourning practice and divination to look into and through one another, *To Divine* expresses the personal in Yoruba culture. It is a small poem, an expression of living as one can and again, living out history that has been hidden away. *To Divine* uses personal recordings and public archive footage, and translated Yoruba salutations used during mourning periods and funerals.

*ifa arugba orunmila ase esu opele ikin*

“For the Yorubas, the salutations or “messages” are meant to be helpful in addressing different mourning situations. The death of a spouse, a child, a parent, or a sister call for different salutations. The age of the deceased, the cause of death (real or imagined), and the circumstances surrounding the death are all taken into consideration in whatever is expressed. The appropriate expressions form part of the mourning rituals which help the bereaved feel cared for and supported.” - Adamolekun, “Bereavement Salutations,” 1999.

**Ashley Holmes**

*Space for Listening: The Likeness, 2019*

Sound installation

30.00'

This is a three-channel sound installation that investigates the culture of bootlegging and cover versions within Black musical traditions. The work considers the ways in which the composition and narratives of original recordings are rearticulated and explore new spaces sonically in their reproduction, while retaining an element of familiarity.

The presentation features wooden screens repurposed from a prop used in a previous performance work, with a repeated collaged photograph taken at Ladybower Reservoir, Derbyshire. There is a central seating area where visitors are invited to sit and listen to the audio.

Audio credits: Group of Moore Town Maroons - Here When De Duppy Bawl, Benny Maupin - Excursions, Anna Domino - Trust in Love, Budgie - Never Alone, Smokie - We're Flying High, Jhelisa - Friendly Pressure, Ultra Nate - Free, Womack & Womack - Missin' Person's Bureau (Frankie Knuckles Paradise Ballroom Mix), SWV - That's What I Need.

**Libita Clayton**

*spirit, 2019*

5 pairs of drawings,

Graphite on paper,

21 x 29.7 cm - continues from the previous space

even without form    ruby dark remains

a power invisible    keeps us here

Exhibition installation and technical support from **Joseph Bond Studio**.

**The exhibition is accompanied by a satellite programme of events running in January 2020.**

**Soon to be announced. Follow @languidhands and @narrative\_projects on instagram for updates.**