

Thu 27 Feb
6.30-8.30pm

Denzil Forrester

In the documentary short *Denzil's Dance* (2019, HD Video, colour, sound, 25'), director Julian Henriques takes Forrester to Jamaica and follows his sketches of dancers and DJs inside Kingston Dub Club and Uptown Mondayz sessions. In the film, Forrester soaks in Kingston's ever energetic dancehall culture and shares his technique of gestural drawing with a younger generation of Jamaican artists.

Following this screening, in a vinyl-illustrated talk, Henriques discusses Forrester's drawings and paintings, touching on ways of thinking, seeing and becoming through sound.

The evening continues with an in-conversation between Forrester and Sam Thorne, Director of Nottingham Contemporary, about the artist's life and work: from his student days, exploring the nightclubs and sound-systems of East London, his time in New York and Rome in the 1980s, to his more recent relocation to Cornwall. The conversation traces 40 years of the artist's work as a painter, as well as educator and curator, by way of his enduring themes: echo, refrain and being together.

Denzil Forrester is a Grenada-born British artist based in Cornwall, UK. Starting in the late 1970s, his works trace the reggae and dub nightclub scenes of London, producing intimate records of the Afro-Caribbean experience in Britain. Recent exhibitions of his work have been held at: Stephen Friedman Gallery, London (2019); Jackson Foundation, St Just, Cornwall (2018); White Columns, New York; and Tramps, London (both 2016). Forrester's work is held in major public collections, including Tate. In 2019, Forrester unveiled a large-scale public commission for Brixton Underground Station, London, which is on view until later this year.

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Julian Henriques is convener of the MA Scriptwriting and the MA Cultural Studies programmes, director of the Topology Research Unit and a co-founder of the Sound System Outernational practice research group in the Department of Media, Communications and Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London. Prior to this, Henriques ran the film and television department at CARIMAC at the University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica. His credits as a writer and director include *Babymother* and *We the Ragamuffin*. His sound sculptures include *Knots & Donuts* (2011), which was presented at Tate Modern, and his books include *Changing the Subject* (1998), *Sonic Bodies* (2011) and *Sonic Media* (forthcoming, 2020).

Colophon

Curator: Sofia Lemos

Programme Assistant: Ryan Kearney

Technicians: Jim Brouwer and Craig Parr

Event Assistant: Catherine Masters

Gallery Assistant: Tom Chamberlain

Related Events

Sonic Continuum: Histories of Listening

Sat 28 Mar, 12–8.30pm / Sun 29 Mar, 11am–5pm

This event series explores themes of our long-term research strand investigating the pulsing rhythms and sonic narratives of our times.

Through talks, poetry and listening sessions, this two-day programme explores global histories of labour and rhythm as a social language. Artists and speakers include: Space Afrika, Manuel Ángel Macía, Diana McCarty, Jota Mombaça, Diana Policarpo, Tabita Rezaire, Salomé Voegelin, and more.