

CONTRIBUTORS

Tom Cornelius is a PhD candidate in the History of Art department at UCL. His project examines the institutionalisation of photography in the 1960s and 1970s through the lens of Stephen Shore's early work, centring Shore's interrogation of the North American landscape and its representations. The PhD is supervised by Dr Stephanie Schwartz and Dr Nicholas Robbins, and is funded by UCL's Critical Histories of Art Studentship. Tom graduated from the University of Manchester with a BA in American Studies and completed an MPhil in American Literature at St Edmund's College, Cambridge.

Philomena Epps is a PhD candidate in the History of Art department at UCL. Her doctoral project examines the relationship between fetishism and sexual difference in the work of Rose English, Alina Szapocznikow, and Hannah Wilke, particularly addressing the relationship between perversion, spectacle, and the commodity form. Her research is supervised by Professor Mignon Nixon and funded by LAHP. Philomena holds a BA in English Literature from The University of Sussex and completed her MA in History of Art at The Courtauld Institute of Art.

Esme Garlake is a PhD candidate in the History of Art department at UCL, supervised by Professor Alison Wright. Her thesis seeks to develop an ecocritical framing of early sixteenth-century North Italian art history, through a particular focus on representations of nonhuman animals and the natural world. Esme's commitment to ecocritical art history is deeply informed by the urgency of today's environmental crisis: over the course of her doctoral research, irreversible tipping points in our planetary systems will have been crossed as a result of human activity. She believes that art history can – and should – play a powerful role in strengthening collective action for a fairer world. Esme graduated with a BA in Modern and Medieval Languages (Spanish and Italian) from the University of Cambridge in 2019 and completed her MA at The Courtauld Institute of Art in 2021.

Marina Seyffert received her BA in Art Theory and Practice and Radio, Television, and Film from Northwestern University in 2019 and completed her MA in History of Art at UCL in 2024. Before coming to UCL she maintained a studio practice in New York, where her work was featured in the group show 'Hands Body Object' at Tramps. Her dissertation, supervised by Professor Mignon Nixon, frames image construction and dissemination as a mechanism of contemporary warfare, particularly in the context of U.S. military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, with a focus on Afghan war rugs and the work of Louise Lawler through a psychoanalytic lens. She currently lives in New York, where she continues her interest in militarism in image culture through ongoing writing and research.

Louis Shankar is a writer and researcher based in East London, whose research practice focusses on the interaction between queer theory, psychoanalysis, and art history, focused primarily on the period 1969 to 1999. They recently submitted their PhD thesis, which focusses on the late art of David Wojnarowicz through a psychoanalytic framework, supervised by Professor Bob Mills and Professor Mignon Nixon. They are also an editor at *The BitterSweet Review*, a magazine dedicated to new queer writing.

Zaena Sheehan is a PhD candidate in the department of History of Art at UCL. Her doctoral research considers the use of biological materials by contemporary artists from 2008 onwards. Examining how this concern for organic processes and vital materiality has emerged amidst the conjuncture of economic and ecological crises, her research brings feminist materialisms, critical race scholarship, and biopolitical theory into dialogue with art-historical considerations of method and form. Her research is supervised by Dr. Cadence Kinsey, and is funded by a LAHP studentship. Zaena completed her BA in History of Art and French at Trinity College Dublin (2019), and obtained an MA in Curatorial Studies from The Courtauld Institute of Art (2020) and an MA in History of Art from UCL (2021).

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