

# FROM THE KITCHEN TABLE Drew Gallery Projects 1984-90

Lake Gallery & Dilston Gallery // 16 May – 30 June 2019 // Thurs – Sun, 11am – 5pm Preview // Sunday 12 May // 3 – 6pm

Judith Ahern, Phyllida Barlow, Brian Catling, John Cobb, Maureen Connor, Jody Culkin, Bonita Ely, Catherine Elwes, Rose English, Rose Finn-Kelcey, Laura Ford, Hamish Fulton, Judith Goddard, Jason Hartcup, Ron Haselden, Andy Hazell, Wendy Howard, Tina Keane, Rob Kesseler, Sharon Kivland, David Mach, Katharine Meynell, Joanna Mowbray, Jayne Parker, Zoe Redman, Mira Schor, Maryrose Sinn, Yoko Terauchi, Marion Urch, Alison Wilding, Julia Wood, Maeve Woods, Jerliea Zempel.

Throughout the 1980s Australian curator Sandra Drew staged a series of ground-breaking exhibitions in locations in and around Canterbury, inhabiting what at the time were deemed as unusual public sites such as crypts, theatres, empty shops, town squares and graveyards; all orchestrated from the epicentre of Sandra's kitchen table in her family home, under the guise of Drew Gallery Projects.

Drew Gallery Projects existed to support artists in the early stages of their careers, often experimenting with new media and installation, which didn't resemble what was broadly accepted as 'sculpture' at the time. Sandra has, until now, remained a significant yet overlooked figure in the history of British Contemporary Art.

This major touring exhibition, curated by Southwark Park Galleries' Director Judith Carlton, brings together original commissions and related works from these ambitious and impactful shows, and source material from the Drew Gallery Projects archive; gifted to and digitised by UCA, Canterbury, to be enjoyed by generations of artists past and present, for many years to come. The show highlights Sandra's revolutionary take on public art, site specificity, and feminist sculptural practice. The exhibitions and accompanying publication, celebrate Sandra Drew's vision, and the artists she championed, to a whole new generation.

Sandra's curatorial legacy has until now remained modestly observed and yet passionately upheld by those artists, students and communities who directly benefited from Drew's revolutionary spirit during the 80s and 90s.

The new publication, From the Kitchen Table, has been published by Southwark Park Galleries (formerly CGP London) and was launched at the first iteration of the show at the Herbert Read Gallery, UCA Canterbury in October 2018. This new title features essays by artist Sharon Kivland; John Carson, artist and Professor of Art at Carnegie Mellon University (Art Angel Production Director 1986-91); Thalia Allington-Wood, art historian; Edward Chell, artist and Reader in Fine Art at UCA Canterbury; a conversation between Sandra Drew and UCA Head of School of Fine Art Professor Terry Perk; with an introduction by Judith Carlton. An insightful collection of 40 Artists Voices are included in the publication, sharing personal testimonies from the participating artists.

But at that time, in 1986 that exhibition, and what and who it represented, signaled an energy to challenge authority, to become a voice which had to be heard and yes, that voice has not been silenced...

- Phyllida Barlow, on Threat (1986). From the Kitchen Table: Drew Gallery Projects 1984-90. London, 2018

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## **EVENTS PROGRAMME**

**Screening Event:** Jayne Parker, *Almost Out* (1985) Saturday 8th June, 6-8pm At LUX, Waterlow Park, London N19 5JF Free, booking required.

Finissage Panel Talk: Saturday 29 June 3pm



#### TOURING EXHIBITION INFORMATION

Sandra Drew & panel: Celebrating Drew Gallery Projects Archive, chaired by Judith Carlton with Sandra Drew, Caroline Douglas, Sofia Niazi and Sue Jones, & June 2018, Umbrella Community Centre, Whitstable Biennal

Herbert Read Gallery, UCA Canterbury, CT1 3AN 6 October – 9 November 2018

**In Conversation:** Laura Ford and David Mach with Dr. Kate McGown, 18 October 2018, Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury

**Symposium: From the Kitchen Table**, speakers included Karen Di Franco, Katharine Meynell and Kay Watson, 2 November 2018, Cragg Lecture Theatre, UCA Canterbury

# Bonita Ely | We Live to be Surprised

Brewery Tap UCA Project Space, Folkestone, CT20 1JR 16 November - 9 December 2018

Bonita Ely in conversation with Jennifer Thatcher, 15 November 2018, Brewery Tap

### ABOUT SOUTHWARK PARK GALLERIES

Founded in 1984 by The Bermondsey Artists' Group, Southwark Park Galleries (formerly CGP London) is a non-profit art organisation set across two contrasting spaces in the heart of Southwark Park, Bermondsey. Over the past 35 years Southwark Park Galleries has commissioned over 160 free exhibitions by emergent, overlooked and established British and international artists. Southwark Park Galleries is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation. It exists to champion artistic practice across all disciplines, supporting the careers of both artists and curators alike.













