

**ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION INVITES:
FAY ZMIJA NICOLSON: TONE POEM
31 OCTOBER – 15 DECEMBER 2019**



Fay Zmija Nicolson, *Bone, Breath, Gesture*, performance to camera, 2018. Courtesy the artist.

Zabludowicz Collection is pleased to present *TONE POEM*, an exhibition by Fay Zmija Nicolson that brings together new and existing work in a performative configuration. Nicolson works across painting, printmaking and performance to explore aesthetic experience and embodied approaches to education. Her multi-disciplinary practice explores inherent formal connections between sound, colour and gesture using an exploratory approach that she terms 'transaesthetic'. Ideas of the exercise or workshop are important to her practice, which privileges processes of play, training and improvisation over the production of singular objects.

For this exhibition, Nicolson has reimagined an ongoing series of large scale digital prints on silk called, *We Exist! We have the Will! We Are Producing!* These works begin as watercolour paintings on graph paper that Nicolson uses to explore tonal relationships and rhythmic patterns. These paintings are then scaled up and printed on silk to accentuate their sensuality and suggest physical correspondences to the body and architectural space. Nicolson draws from varied research into historic costume and textile design – from Commedia dell'arte to the Bauhaus. These works fluidly drape and hang within the gallery in ways that accentuate their theatrical potential, providing playful suggestions and obstructions to a viewer as they navigate the exhibition.

Nicolson draws connections between this visual material and sound through the development of a new audio work and performance. Drawing from recent research into Bauhaus practitioners such as Gertrud Grunow (who created a 12 tone colour spectrum that mapped onto musical scales) Nicolson explores correspondences between visual and sonic gesture. As with previous works, Nicolson's layered approach to image, sound, texture and movement triggers aesthetic moments that defy conventional disciplines, encouraging the viewer to feel and hear as well as see.

On Sunday 8 December at 3pm and 4.30pm Nicolson will present a new performance *BONE, BREATH, GESTURE* introducing movement and costume into the installation. Through song and gesture Nicolson and invited performers will create a space for 'transaesthetic play' that draws on improvised games and ritual actions.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

BIOGRAPHY

Fay Zmija Nicolson (b. 1984, Derby. Lives and works in London) studied at CSM, 2006 and has an MA Fine Art from the Royal College of Art, 2011. Recent large-scale projects include: *Spa Songs*, song cycle and performance, Commissioned by DKUK for the Brunel Museum, London, 2018; *OVER AND OVER PURE FORM*, performance and video, Kunstraum, London, 2016-7; *PLAY SENSE*, exhibition and symposium, Gerald Moore Gallery, London, 2015. Fay has exhibited and taught internationally and has work in numerous collections.

Zabludowicz Collection Invites: Dedicated to solo presentations by UK-based artists without UK commercial gallery representation.

ZABLUDOWICZ COLLECTION

Zabludowicz Collection is a philanthropic organisation including a growing collection of contemporary art and a programme of international exhibitions, events and artists' residencies. Founded in 1994, the Collection is dedicated to fostering new audiences and a sustainable environment for contemporary art, offering a variety of opportunities and support for artists and art organisations. All of its activities are privately funded and free for the public to access.

The Collection contains over 3000 works of art by more than 600 artists, spanning 40 years of art production. Its focus is on emerging art from the late 20th century to the present day, and it is in constant development. Since 2006, the Collection has been directed by Elizabeth Neilson. In 2007 the Collection opened its main space in London, in a 19th-century former Methodist chapel, where it has worked with artists and curators to produce exhibitions and events examining contemporary art practice in a public forum. The Collection now also runs an international programme of exhibitions, events, residencies and commissions across four permanent venues in the UK, USA and Finland. The programme is directed by Maitreyi Maheshwari.

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Admission: FREE

Thursday–Sunday,
12–6pm or by appointment

Café, Library and Shop

The **Shop** sells limited edition artworks,
50% of the proceeds go directly to the artist.

shop.zabludowiczcollection.com