



PRESS RELEASE

Lumen Prize-winning artist Esther Rolinson gives new insight into her creative process in an exhibition at Watermans this June

Award-winning artist Esther Rolinson exhibits her drawings and light installation *Flown* together for the first time, at Watermans this June. Seeing both together give a new insight into her creative process.

FREE Public Launch Event - Wednesday 7 June

Esther will be in discussion with the V&A's Senior Curator of Digital Art, Douglas Dodd, in Watermans' theatre. This event is presented in partnership with the Computer Arts Society.



Esther Rolinson: *Gravitate* is the next exhibition in Watermans' year-round programme of cutting-edge contemporary digital art. All exhibitions are free and open to all.

In *Gravitate*, Esther shows her drawings together with her light installation *Flown* for the first time. This gives an insight into the development process in Rolinson's wide ranging practice: from quickly rendered sketches to detailed meditative works and experimental large scale drawings; and the way

she further develops studio work by collaborating with world-class experts and technicians in their field. We can see how her work uses rules and structures to explore sensation, abstracted memories and connections ‘between all things’.

Originally commissioned for York Light Festival, *Flown* was further developed in collaboration with artist and programmer Sean Clark, winning two international awards: the prestigious Lumen Global Digital Arts prize for Sculpture and 3D, and the Art-CHI Award San Jose California.

The launch event is a free event in Watermans theatre, in which Esther and the V&A’s Senior Curator of Digital Art discuss Esther’s work. Free exhibition launch events introduce each exhibition at Watermans, giving the public the chance to discover the work for themselves and deepen their understanding.

Esther’s career spans 20 years, working nationally and internationally. As well as multiple awards, examples of her drawings and prints have been acquired for the collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The exhibition will take place from Wednesday 8 June – Wednesday 26 June, and is open 10am-9pm every day. This is a FREE exhibition open to all.

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Bio – Esther Rolinson

Esther Rolinson is an award winning UK based artist who makes light installations and sculptural works through drawing. Over the last 20 years she has worked nationally and internationally making major permanent public space commissions and exhibiting her large scale works. Her installations are immersive, extendable structures that can be adjusted to fit diverse environments from light festivals to art galleries. She has worked extensively with world class professionals to achieve her complex works, including architects, choreographers, programmers and filmmakers. In 2016 she was awarded The Lumen Global Digital Arts Prize Sculpture and 3D Award, and the first prize at the inaugural International Art CHI Exhibition, Computer and Human Interaction Conference, San Jose, California for *Flown* developed in collaboration with artist and programmer Sean Clark. Examples of Esther's drawings and prints have been acquired by Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

About Watermans

Watermans is West London’s leading arts centre. It attracts over 230,000 visits a year to its thriving and inclusive programme of independent cinema, family and Asian theatre, regular weekend festivals, exhibitions and courses. Watermans runs a year-round programme of cutting-edge digital arts for which it receives National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England, and has done so for many years.

Watermans also leads several other major projects outside its venue. These are primarily concerned with broadening access to high quality arts in communities that engage little, if at all, in the arts, to support community cohesion and economic regeneration:

- **Bell Square**, the outdoor arts venue in Hounslow Town Centre, now in its third year. It attracted 34k visitors to Hounslow Town Centre in 2015, just under half of whom said that these events were the primary reason for their visit and that they would go onto spend money elsewhere in Hounslow. 72% say they are more likely to return to the town centre because of these events
- **Circulate**, a London-wide outdoor arts touring network that regularly brings free events to Hounslow including to Bell Square and the Brentford Festival
- **Creative People & Places Hounslow**, Arts Council England's major investment in increasing arts capacity in underserved areas, working in Feltham, Heston and Cranford, and central Hounslow

For more information please contact Marketing Director Erica Weston on Erica@watermans.org.uk



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