

Dani and Sheilah ReStack  
*Cuts in the Day*  
30 Sep 2022/15 Jan 2023

Dani and Sheilah ReStack, Still from *blood and water for FCB*, 2022. Courtesy the artists and Camden Art Centre.



Camden Art Centre is pleased to present a new exhibition, *Cuts in the Day*, by Dani and Sheilah ReStack (b. 1972, Columbus, Ohio; b.1975, Caribou River, Nova Scotia). The artists' first institutional exhibition in the UK will see them build a site-specific installation which expands on their exploration of queer desire, family, climate crisis, and collaboration.

Dani and Sheilah ReStack's work spans video, drawing and photography. Individually and collectively, they push against the constraints of the domestic to yield transformation: employing materials ranging from charcoal, felt, fur and thread, to angle iron, concrete and wood, they create friction and precarity to construct new hierarchies of sense and order.

*Cuts in the Day* features a new commission which responds to the exhibition of work by Forrest Bess showing concurrently at Camden Art Centre. Drawing on Forrest Bess' search for mental and physical transcendence through both painting and reconfigured corporeality, the ReStacks embarked across Ohio on a months-long quest for water, in response to Bess' life in Chinquapin, on the Matagorda Bay of Texas. The ReStack's journey culminated in their own form of transformation, which will be on view in the exhibition as a video projection-installation titled *Blood and Water for FCB*.

Other works featured in the exhibition include a new recording of *Shameless Light*, a performance of love letters by womxn identified queers, originally developed in 2016 after the US election; and a presentation of their acclaimed video trilogy: *Feral Domestic*, which includes the films *Strangely Ordinary This Devotion* (2017), *Come Coyote* (2018) and *Future From Inside* (2021).

The films in *Feral Domestic* blur the line between the banal, the sublime and fantasy to yield new possibilities for daily living. Shot in arid, dry heather amongst the burnt orange boulders of Utah and the parking lot of Smithson's Spiral Jetty; glaciers in Newfoundland and the alleyway of their Ohio home; the sites of the films become characters in the ReStack's environmental fantasy, set against hegemonic culture that dominates almost every aspect of public and private life. The video works remind us that in our collective convention of sex as strictly private, family as heteronormative, motherhood as beautiful and artmaking as singular, we are complicit in and perpetuate mythologies of heteropatriarchal white supremacy. Taken as a whole, the works are their own offering towards new conceptions of radical vulnerability as a strategy of shaking the patriarchy and its traditional narratives.

*Cuts in the Day* also includes drawings by Dani, and photographs and sculptural works by Sheilah. In the drawings, Dani makes marks that express her commitment to Sheilah and the experience of loving their daughters. For Sheilah, her photographic works are a way to make new time and image out of the multivalent experiences of the domestic space and negotiation of identities. In each case the solo works speak to the desire for connection, relation, autonomy, and pleasure as it is found within the mess of daily life. *Cuts in the Day* is an intimacy emergent: a love-story that celebrates what it means to be a queer family in contemporary society.

#### Notes to Editors

For further information, interviews and images please contact:

Sam Talbot, sam@sam-talbot.com // +44 (0) 772 5184 630

Mary Doherty mary@sam-talbot.com // +44 (0) 771 6701 499

#### Dani and Sheilah ReStack

Dani and Sheilah ReStack have embarked on an artistic relationship that is formally and emotionally adjacent to their domestic lives, a quotidian zone they share with their daughter Rose. Both artists have established careers on their own. Neither Dani's video work or Sheilah's multimedia performance and installation work could exactly prepare us for the force of the women's collaborative efforts. – Michael Sicinski, *Cinema Scope*, 2017.

ReStack collaborations have shown at the 2017 Whitney Biennial, Iceberg Projects Chicago, Toronto International Film Festival, Images Film Festival, Toronto, Lyric Theater, Carrizozo, NM, The New York Film Festival CURRENTS, Leslie Lohman Project Space, Gaa Wellfleet and The Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio. They have received grants from the Canada Council for the Arts, and the Hanley Award. They have been residents at The Headlands and the MacDowell Colony.

#### Camden Art Centre

Camden Art Centre is a place for world-class contemporary art exhibitions and education. Situated in Hampstead, North London (charity number 1065829) Camden Art Centre is a place for art and artists; a place for the curious, the novice and the expert alike. It's a place to see, to make, to learn and to talk about contemporary art, whether in our building, attending off-site projects or via our digital forums. Founded by artists in 1965, the Centre continues to be a space for the most vital and diverse mix of practices and ideas and is dedicated to supporting artists at every stage of their careers.