

Camden Art Centre
Arkwright Road
London NW3
camdenartcentre.org
+44 (0)20 7472 5500

Adam Farah

WHAT I'VE LEARNED FROM YOU AND MYSELF (PEAK MOMENTATIONS / INSIDE MY VELVET ROPE MIX)

10 September – 23 December

Preview: Thursday 9 September

Adam Farah (b. 1991, London, UK) - also known as free.yard - is an artist, composer and sauce-maker. Farah's exhibition at Camden Art Centre is a presentation of their emotional journey through the chaotic depths of heartache and layers of trauma and desire, against the backdrop of a rapidly mutating city during a pandemic.

The artist has spent years roaming the streets of London - dwelling on, searching for and enacting their desires – and their new commission works through healing processes that involve acts of connection, Mariah Carey, the North Circular, iPods, 'magic' mushrooms and WhatsApp intimacy. It is about the artist's 'soul work', how it manifests its meaning through different contexts and is a call out for human connection - through vulnerability, reminiscence, reflection and spiritual criticality; and speaks to seemingly disparate contexts, from their parents' relationship, to the impact of Mariah Carey on their thinking, and the influence of specific technological devices on their adolescence.

Working in a range of media and performative gestures, from moving image, sculpture, poppers, peppers and iPods to walking, cruising and microdosing, Farah aesthetically highlights and dwells on various ephemeral and poetic moments in order to open-up forms of critical reflection and connection. Their work can be seen as a disidentifying vocabulary and as exploring visual and aesthetic sensibilities that enact ways and perspectives of being in the world outside the racial and sexual mainstream, negotiating majority culture by disidentifying from hierarchical determinations of social and aesthetic values. Using outdated audio/visual technologies and situating the internet aesthetics and discourses of Tumblr, Instagram and memes as legitimate cultural and aesthetic movements in art discourse, Farah's work queries received notions of taste and intellect, deploying aesthetic sensibilities and ways of moving in the world that speak to their lived experience of being born and raised in London.

Farah is one of two recipients of Camden Art Centre's Metroland Studios Residency, a 6-month studio residency that forms a new partnership between Camden Art Centre and Metroland Cultures. This inaugural residency provides the artist with a 6-month offsite residency at Metroland

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Studio in Kilburn preceding an exhibition of their work at Camden Art Centre. Supported by Metroland Cultures project in partnership with Brent Council and Arts Council National Lottery Heritage Fund.

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Notes to editors

For further information, interviews and images please contact:

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

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

Camden Art Centre

Camden Art Centre in north London (Registered Charity Number 1065829) is a place for world-class contemporary art exhibitions and education. Founded by artists in 1965, it continues to be a space for the most vital and diverse mix of practices and ideas, with an international reputation for supporting artists at key points in their careers, championing excellence and fostering an open and inclusive environment of ambition, innovation and risk. Through a regular programme of exhibitions, artist residencies, off-site projects, performances, talks and educational projects, we ensure that Camden Art Centre remains one of the UK's most dynamic and respected spaces to see, make and talk about art and ideas.

Camden Art Centre has a long and proud history of nurturing talent, supporting a remarkable cohort of emerging artists in recent years from both the UK and the rest of the world, including Emma Hart, Christian Nyampeta, Ruth Ewan, Jennifer Tee and Haroon Mirza. Often providing their first institutional show in London, Camden Art Centre offers the necessary space, flexibility open-endedness and support for emerging artists to develop their practice; providing an environment in which risk-taking is encouraged within an ethos of learning and debate.

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