



Press Release

16 January 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American artist's life-size paintings of female cowboys offer a feminist view of the Wild West

RE/Western: Felice House 20 January - 24 March 2017 at Blenheim Walk Gallery

Leeds College of Art kicks off a new year of exhibitions with a selection of works by American artist Felice House; featuring paintings of famous western actors such as Clint Eastwood, John Wayne, Gary Cooper and James Dean, reimagined as female cowboys.

Re/Western features seven large-scale portraits taken from iconic scenes from the western genre, but with the leading characters repainted as women. By projecting contemporary women into these heroic roles, House asks us to take a critical view of gender stereotypes and the access of women to power.

The exhibition programme will include two free film screenings of classic western films; 'The Wind' (1928) and 'Jonny Guitar' (1954) Tuesday 31 January at 5pm, and 'Westworld' (1973) Tuesday 21 February at 5pm. The screenings, which are open to the public and free of charge (but booking required) will take place in the Blenheim Walk Gallery.

In collaboration with [Corridor8 magazine](#), the exhibition will also feature a micro-residency by Elspeth Mitchell (PhD candidate, University of Leeds) who will develop an accompanying text alongside the artist and curators.

Re/Western: Felice House is curated by Sharon Bainbridge with Joanna Craddock and Catriona McAra.

Press Invite

Press are invited to Blenheim Walk Gallery, preview on **Thursday 19 January 2017**, from 5pm-7pm. Refreshments will be served and the artist will present to answer questions. Please RSVP to: emma.morris@leeds-art.ac.uk or 0113 202 8044.

Editor's Notes

For more information & images contact: Emma Morris, PR & Communications Officer, 0113 202 8044 or emma.morris@leeds-art.ac.uk

The exhibition will run from 20 January to 24 March 2017 at Leeds College of Art's Blenheim Walk Gallery, Leeds, LS2 9AQ. www.leeds-art.ac.uk

Image credit: Felice House, Liakesha Cooper in High Noon, 2013. Oil on canvas. Image courtesy of the artist.

Exhibition events include:-

Artist talk: Friday 20 January 11am

The Studio Theatre, Leeds College of Art

Film screening 'The Wind' and 'Jonny Guitar': Tuesday 31 January 5pm

Blenheim Walk Gallery, Leeds College of Art

Film screening 'Westworld': Tuesday 21 February 5pm

Blenheim Walk Gallery, Leeds College of Art

About Felice House

Felice House is an American artist living and working in Texas. She graduated with a Master of Fine Arts in painting from University of Texas in 2011, and is now Assistant Professor in the Visualisation Department at Texas A&M University. This is her first exhibition in Leeds.

<http://felicehouse.com>

Leeds College of Art

Founded in 1846 as the Leeds Government School of Art and Design, Leeds College of Art has contributed significantly to the development of art education in Britain and across the world. Today, Leeds College of Art remains one of only a few remaining independent art schools in the UK, leading the way as a centre for art and design education. The College has an impressive history of notable past students, Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth were students in the post war era, enrolling in 1919 and 1920. In later years Damien Hirst, Marcus Harvey, Eric Bainbridge, Clio Barnard and Georgina Starr all studied at the College, known then as the Jacob Kramer College. The College's recent graduates continue to win prestigious international awards year on year and enjoy successful careers in the creative industries.

www.leeds-art.ac.uk