## I AM I GALLERY

## Opening & ARMSEYE Magazine Launch October 15, 2016 | 6-10pm

Los Angeles — **KollActiv** are pleased to present *Concrete Plastic*: an assemblage of alien hybrids constructed through artistic responses to the decoding of 'archive'.



## Featuring works by Michael Bizon, Sinéad Bligh, Chris Cawkwell, Patrick Coyle, Dana Berman Duff, Annabel Frearson, Steve Klee, Anne Guro Larsmon, and Kim Schoen.

Nine USA and UK artists are invited to engage in an experiment stimulated by the malleable, digital infrastructure of an LA host archive alloyed with the tactile materials of a London based collection. Not limited to these systems or stimuli, artistic and curatorial responses consider where an object's value lies and what defines an 'original' versus a digital translation. Ungoverned by law or authority and unconcerned with striving towards the finite appropriation of material, what becomes of 'archive'? While current trends revisit and reinstitute established systems of archival practice, *Concrete Plastic* produces an experimental platform for performing alternative relationships with these networks. Resultant artworks act as alchemical composites, which are deposited across the gallery space. Manifested first in the printed pages of **ARMSEYE Magazine**, *Concrete Plastic* now inserts these foreign archival forms into exhibition architecture.

A select carousel of *Concrete Plastic* responses: Michael Bizon's large immersive installation reinterprets the impulses of the archive itself, reflecting the search for locality and identity. Steve Klee's '*The rubber hand illusion (instruction piece)*' combines neuroscience with instruction art; his interactive piece questioning what is real and what is prosthetic. Kim Schoen's 'hired' prop photograph from the Omega Cinema Prop library is repurposed as 'artwork', the object's function and value shifting within the durational context of an exhibition. Annabel Frearson presents an expanded catalogue of new compound words collectively titled *Wollstonochlincraft*, *1791-1971*; a fusion of two texts mirrored by their dates and content: *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (Wollstonecraft, 1791) and *Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists* (Nochlin, 1971).



Los Angeles based practices: Michael Bizon (MFA Sculpture, Rhode Island School of Design) shown throughout the US: Monte Vista (LA), Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit, UCLA Wight Gallery (LA). Dana Berman Duff (MFA Post Studio, CalArts) films screened at international festivals: Toronto, Rotterdam, Edinburgh, Cairo; exhibited: Whitney Museum, New Museum. Anne Guro Larsmon (MFA CalArts) exhibitions: Michael Thibault Gallery (LA), Kunstnernes Hus (Norway), IAC Malmø (Sweden), Charlottenborg Kunsthal (Denmark). Kim Schoen (MFA Photography, CalArts) internationally exhibited: LAXART (LA), Diane Rosenstein Gallery (LA), MMoCA (Madison), South London Gallery; published: Los Angeles Times, Art in America.

London based practices: Sinéad Bligh (Student on MLitt Archives & Records Management, University of Dundee) archive assistant & researcher for Barry Flanagan Archive, Chelsea Arts Club Trust Research Fellow; recent solo exhibition: ArtLaunca (London). Chris Cawkwell (MA Fine Art, Wimbledon College of Arts, UAL) co-founder of ArtLacuna (London); shown: Bohunk Institute (UK) and internationally (Japan, Germany, Italy, India). Patrick Coyle (MFA Art Writing, Goldsmiths) recent performances: White Rainbow, Danielle Arnaud, Tate Modern, ICA (London); resident of Hubbub, Wellcome Collection. Annabel Frearson (PhD Arts Practice, Goldsmiths) exhibitions: Camden Arts Centre (London), LUX/ICA Biennial of Moving Images, V&A Museum, Whitechapel Gallery (London), ohrenhoch (Berlin). Steve Klee (PhD Arts Practice, Goldsmiths); Lecturer in Fine Art University of Kent; solo exhibition: Five Years (London); group show: Perpetual Liquidity (Kent); symposium: Art, Politics, and the Philosophy of Tristan Garcia (ICA, London) and writing for Third Text.

KollActiv, co-curators Kirsten Cooke (PhD, UK) & Ann Harezlak (MA, USA), activates a collaborative platform for response: the host archives acting as catalysts are East of Borneo Collective Archive Online in Los Angeles and Special Collections, Chelsea College of Arts Library at University of the Arts London. Armseye Magazine, headed by artist and writer Kathryn Drury, is an international artist-run publication based in Los Angeles focused on engaging with artists and culture makers to bring educational and provocative discussions to the public. Kollactiv.com I Armseyeart.com

Concrete Plastic is non-for-profit and made possible through the support of LAM Gallery, The Office for Contemporary Art Norway and LACA, whose support includes subsuming project outcomes into its archive.

