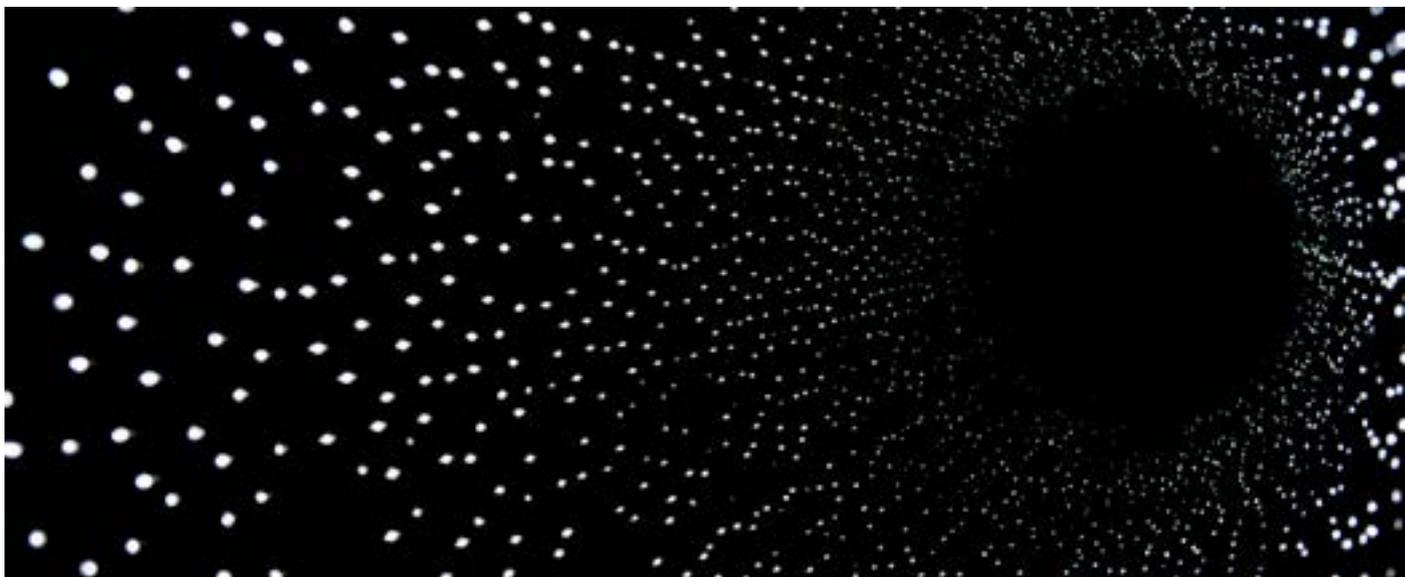


FACT

GHost Hosting 15: Day of the Dead



Monday 28 November / 6pm - 8pm / The Box /
Doors open at 6pm, refreshments will be available

This is the first of three GHost Hostings, convened by Sarah Sparkes, for FACT and Williamson Tunnels Heritage Centre. The GHost Hostings provide a supporting platform on which invited guests can manifest and interrogate the idea of the ghost, and are an integral part of the creative research project GHost.

The GHost at the Feast
Sarah Sparkes

Sarah Sparkes will introduce the next series of her GHost Hostings, posing the question, "Is there a formula for ghost-making?" Referring to her new commission for current exhibition *No Such Thing As Gravity*, at FACT and the Williamson Tunnels Heritage Centre, as well as her on-going research project GHost, she will illustrate some of the ways that the idea of ghosts have been manifested in visual arts and beyond. Her talk will conclude with a brief overview of the world-wide phenomena of the ghost festival, its history, and some of its manifestations.

*Sarah Sparkes is a visual artist. She runs the creative research project GHost, initiated in 2008. Her film, Time You Need, was winner of the MERU ART*SCIENCE Award 2015. She is represented by New Art Projects London and was one of the invited artists presenting at KOSMICA 2016, Mexico City.*

Macario (Roberto Gavaldón, 1959): European Myths and Mexican Storytelling
Dr Niamh Thornton

Dr Niamh Thornton will discuss *Macario*, a film adaptation of *The Third Guest* by the (probably) German-born Mexico-resident and elusive and mysterious writer, Bruno Traven. It is inspired by the Brothers Grimm story *Godfather Death*, and draws on the beliefs surrounding the Mexican Day of the Dead. Thornton will examine *Macario's* approach to the Day of the Dead element of the story as more than a touristic or foreign gaze at a local custom, as it offers a deep understanding of attitudes to death in Mexico through its convincing, albeit fantastical mix of social realism and fairytale elements.

Dr Niamh Thornton is Reader in Latin American Studies at the University of Liverpool. Her primary focus is on the War Story in Mexican Film and Literature, and user-generated content and Digital Cultures.

Electronic Voice Phenomena
Nathan Jones

Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) is an ongoing series of performances, articles and a research project, bringing together artists from poetry, sound, visual arts and performance. EVP was famously documented in the book *Breakthrough...* (1972), in which Konstantin Raudive claimed to hear voices from the dead in electronic noise. Rather than limiting itself to modulations of this exercise, the Electronic Voice Phenomena project works with the inherent potency of voice and technology; the inherent strangeness and otherness in this collusion. In this talk, Nathan presents some of the cultural anthropologies, formal experiments and aesthetic encounters that have happened during the five years of the EVP programme.

Nathan Jones is an artist and researcher based in Liverpool. He is founder of Mercy, a new media and literature agency, and Torque, a publisher examining issues of mind, language and technology. Nathan is currently PhD candidate in English and Media at Royal Holloway University of London.

A new commission by Sarah Sparkes for FACT and the Williamson Tunnels Heritage Centre, in association with National Museums Liverpool. The project has been supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.