

GARY MARSHALL-STEVENS

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Trenea
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Artist Statement

Predominantly performance and installation based, my practice is grounded in a sculptural tradition of the physical encounter. Objects, moving image, audio, physical interventions, these become the debris of an attempt. Each bears the marks of passage through space, taking place in and for the moment. Awkward humour is used to interrupt “Common Sense” narratives by a body regarded as a precarious object. Laced with problematic cultural references these crude attempts to stay sane manifest as challenges. Akin to a prank, each is an exploration of a limit, courting probable failure with a dad-joke punchline that may never come.

My current concerns are the fluctuating nature of both territory and identity and how these can shift to allow us to learn to be with and in the world rather than continue to deplete it. My chief ongoing project is an attempt to turn Cornwall into an island by digging from the source of the Tamar to the source of Marsland water. Also a series of performance works under the collective title Sea Saw attempts to expose the hollow nature of commitments made by governments and corporations regarding climate change, specifically rising sea levels. If I can cut across enough rivers, thus separating them from the sea, then it may not rise any higher.

UPCOMING

Gallery 333 Exeter Phoenix

RECENT EXHIBITIONS

LONG BREAK

Kronika Gallery, Poland
November 2022

THEN, AT LAST

The Levinsky Gallery, Plymouth, UK June 2021

SEE THE SUN WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED

Kronika Gallery, Poland
September 2020

SEX, SUICIDE, SOCIALISM, SPIRIT AND STEREOTYPES

Kronika Gallery, Poland
December 2019

ERASURE

Praxis Gallery, Singapore
July 2019

RLB 101

University of Plymouth, UK
May 2019

TRACK [002] NON SENSE

UNIT3 | Cornwall, UK
March 2019

Hard Times

Dower House Gallery | Cornwall, UK
December 2018

TRACK [001]

UNIT3 | Cornwall, UK
September 2018

TRACK [000]

UNIT3 | Cornwall, UK
September 2018

MACAP Group Show

Exeter Phoenix | Devon, UK
May – June 2018

Open Spaces

UNIT3 | Cornwall, UK
May – June 2018

Dickensian

Dower House Gallery | Cornwall, UK
December 2017

RESIDENCIES

KNOWING NOTHING, FEELING EVERYTHING

Residency
Kronika Gallery, Poland, September 2022

SPACE RESIDENCY

2 Week residency
Kronika Gallery, Poland August 2020

RESEARCH RESIDENCY

2 Week residency
Kronika Gallery, Poland September 2019

TROPICAL LAB

2 Week residency
Lasalle College Of the Arts, Singapore
June 2019

SHIP SHAPE

2 Week Residency and Solo exhibition
Mills Bakery | Royal William's Yard,
Plymouth, UK
October 2017

CONFERENCES

Research Ethics Conference The Ethics of Annoyance Presentation performance Exeter University, Devon, UK June 2021

3RD PARALLAX FORUM

Can Barbie Save Europe? Presentation performance ASP, Katowice, Poland September 2019

EDUCATION

MA Contemporary Art Practice
University of Plymouth, 2021

BA(HONS) Fine Art: Sculpture Duncan of Jordanstone School of Art, Dundee, 1995