



Royal College of Art

Postgraduate Art & Design

School of Arts and Humanities



NAFAE RESEARCH STUDENT CONFERENCE 2019

LIVING RESEARCH: THE URGENCY OF THE ARTS

15 March 2019, 9.30am – 8pm

Gorvy Lecture Theatre
Royal College of Art
Dyson Building
1 Hester Road
London SW11 4AN

NAME: Bec Wonders
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INSTITUTION: Glasgow School of Art

PHD TITLE: Frauenkultur: a systematic documentation of secondwave feminist prir

YEAR OF STUDY: 2019-2021

SUPERVISOR: Dr. Marianne Greated, Dr. Susannah Thompson, Dr. Laura Guy

STRAND (Please tick one)

N.B. If your paper is thought to be more suitable for a different strand you will be notified of this at the point of acceptance.

Collaboration	<input type="checkbox"/>	Documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Me	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reenactment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Entanglement	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ABSTRACT:

Unravelling feminist periodicals

ABSTRACT (300 WORDS):

The term document is here taken in the sense of feminist books, magazines, periodicals, zines and other ephemera. More particularly, I focus on the decades 1970-1990 when secondwave feminism saw a surge in women's publishing, and I look at the periodicals of which the publishing process would have been controlled entirely by women. This provides me with material that stems from a publishing context with the fewest barriers and inhibitions for women to freely express theory and aesthetic choices. Following an archival methodology in which I use the Glasgow Women's Library for primary source materials, I combine this with a materiality-of-knowledge approach in which a theory of women's struggle for equality can become better understood by taking account of circulated documents and other material factors, objects, relations and sites that structure women's lives. The importance of women's unique relationship with documentary archives and a reshaping of their public sphere through publishing has not been adequately addressed by a majority of feminist and book historians. Expanding on Matthew Stadler and Michael Warner, I argue that publishing is not merely a tool for transmitting information, but beyond that can reclaim a space of conversation that beckons a feminist (counter-)public into being. I maintain that the recirculation and resurfacing of feminist periodicals shows how a counterpublic can have activity and duration. The female writers within this publishing circuit prioritized communication rather than assertion, which led to a shift in publishing philosophy.

FORM OF PRESENTATION:

Paper Workshop Performance Other (please specify below)

Poster N.B. There will be limited space for the display of posters for delegates not allocated a timed presentation.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD LAST NO LONGER THAN 15 MINUTES

WHAT EQUIPMENT WILL YOU NEED?

AV Equipment YES NO (If yes please select from the list below.)

Monitor Projector Speakers

INSTITUTIONAL NAF AE MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL NAF AE MEMBERSHIP

Please email completed form to admin@nafae.org.uk no later than 6 January 2019

Queries regarding the conference should be directed to nafaestudentconference@rca.ac.uk