



Evidence in Camera



Exhibition commissioned for the centenary of
the formation of the RAF

Researcher's Name: Mandy Lee Jandrell

Research Programme:

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Project Details

- Solo exhibition commissioned by The Collection Museum and Usher Gallery , Lincoln in 2017 to coincide with the centenary of the RAF
- Two part exhibition consisting of the installation 'Le Bibou n'est pas un Éléphant/ The Owl is not an Elephant' and the film 'The Blue Hour'

300-Word Supporting Statement

The exhibition responds to the role women played in the war effort (particularly in 2nd World War) through their contribution to reconnaissance activity in the interpretation of aerial photography and through their work as British Special Operations Executives in occupied France.

Jandrell's two-part exhibition makes reference to aerial reconnaissance photography, and uses codes, fragments, deception and theatricality to interrogate our relationship to these images. Jandrell's interest in surveillance photographs stems from an interest in their ambiguity, and the way in which they serve to trick our perception.

The installation 'Le Bibou n'est pas un Éléphant / The Owl is not an Elephant', explores the ambiguity of aerial reconnaissance photographs, playing on the use of decoys to create deceptive images staged to mislead. The installation uses mirrors and ambiguous reflected imagery to create a theatrical set, which alludes to the illusive nature of photographic images and the way in which they serve not only to

trick our perception, but also to show us things that our eyes are incapable of seeing.

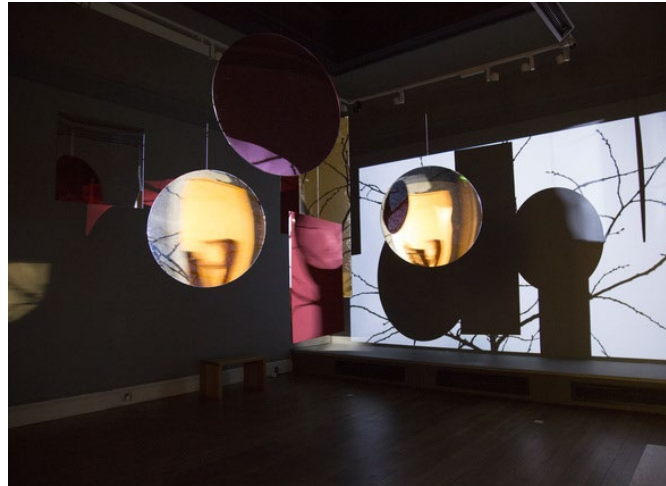
In the film 'The Blue Hour', Jandrell creates a fragmentary and disorientating narrative, using mirrors and light. The film uses unintelligible and fictional coded mirror- and torch-signals inspired by the secret coded signals used by the women of the Special Operations Executive, stationed in occupied France, to communicate with incoming RAF planes in World War 2.

Research Output

—
Installation Le Bibou n'est pas un Éléphant

Video documentation of installation

Running time: 3:23. Click on image below to play



Research Output

The Blue Hour – dual channel video

Click on image to play



Installation of The Blue Hour

Dissemination

[Usher Gallery 26th May – 09 Sept 2018](#)

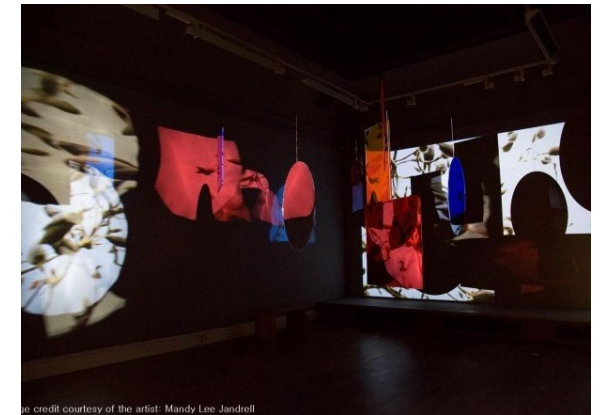
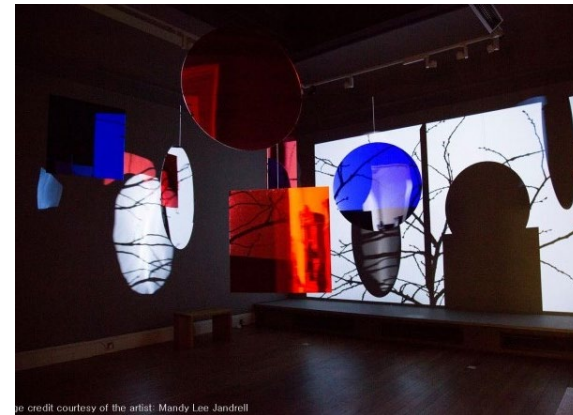
Contextual Evidence

Gallery write-up and images:

Mandy Lee Jandrell's exhibition 'Evidence in Camera' takes its title from the book of the same name by Constance Babington-Smith, published in 1957.

Then Head of Photographic Interpretation at RAF Medmenham's Central Interpretation Unit, Babington-Smith was one of several women – including the archaeologist Dorothy Garrod – involved in the highly-skilled interpretation of aerial reconnaissance photography during the Second World War.

[Click for more](#)



Acknowledgements

The Blue Hour

Editing

Tina Punnerud for mayn-creative.com

Sound Design and Arrangement

Adam Lieber at Shtik.tv

Violone and Tenor Viol

Joanna Levine

Piano

Raph Levi

Mandy Lee Jandrell

