Vanishing History Dub

‘Vanishing History Dub’ is a remix for live reading and print of a single item of art-historical ephemera: ‘The Vanishing History of Performance Art’, a brochure published in 1997 by the then Arts Council of England. The reading, for PROVISIONAL on 21 October 2021, a generation later, comprised a list of all 114 artists, writers and artist-led organisations named in the original brochure.

‘Dub’ is used here, with gratitude for the life and work of Lee ‘Scratch’ Perry (20 March 1936–29 August 2021), in the sense – as in reggae music – of a stripped back and manipulated version of the original; remixed to provide a sense of the individual artists named:


Alongside the reading for PROVISIONAL, a compressed and distorted A4 photocopy of the original brochure was used to produce a single A7 artist’s book, which forms the basis of this edition.

‘Vanishing History Dub’ is printed in a numbered limited edition of 100 copies, and 9 x signed proofs.

Notes:

PROVISIONAL, 21 October 2021, was an online, magazine-format, live art event, devised by Roney Fraser-Munro and Simon Poulter, and featuring performances of up to five minutes duration by Poulter, Fraser-Munro, Vader, Bronač Ferran, Tony White, Chantelle Boyle, Jon Dovey, Claudia Memourim, Simon Munnery, Rose Ruane, Gary Marshall-Stevens, Pete Gomes, Katrina Brown, Mike Stubbs, Stefan Szczelkun, and Bane Her Film Theatre.

‘Tony White's deliberately lo-fi and generous-spirited Piece of Paper Press.’ TLS
‘The Vanishing History of Performance Art’ was published in 1997 by the former Combined Arts Department of the then Arts Council of England to publicise new critical publications in the field of live art that had been funded by the Department. Commissioned by Bronač Ferran, then Senior Live Art Officer, edited by Tony White, and designed by Jennie Smith; the five-fold, A5 concertina pamphlet was distributed to the ICA mailing list, and to Art Monthly subscribers.

PIECE OF PAPER PRESS was created by author Tony White in 1994 as a low-tech, sustainable artists’ book project to commission and publish new writings, visual and graphic works by artists and writers. Each book is made from a single A4 sheet that is printed on both sides and then folded, stapled and trimmed by hand to create the book. Piece of Paper Press titles are (usually) published in a limited edition of 150 and always distributed free, with a small number of copies archived.

- Copies of some Piece of Paper Press titles are held in accessible collections at: UCL Small Press Collections; Chelsea School of Art Library; The Arnolfini archive, Bristol; and the Live Art Development Agency Reading Room.

TONY WHITE’s latest novel The Fountain in the Forest is published by Faber and Faber. White is the author of five previous novels including Foxy-T and Shackleton’s Man Goes South, as well as numerous short stories published in journals, exhibition catalogues, and anthologies. White was creative entrepreneur in residence in the French department of King’s College London, and has been writer in residence at London’s Science Museum and the UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies. He recently contributed to the Inventive Podcast series uniting authors and engineers, and from 2010–2018 chaired the board of London’s award-winning arts radio station Resonance 104.4fm. Tony White would like to acknowledge the support of Arts Council England through the Arts Council Emergency Response Fund: for individuals.

‘... White hasn’t shifted from the radical ground to the conservative but finds new juice in the underground rivers of radical art streams and writing that continue to roll out like a sacred river, kind of measureless.’ 3am Magazine, 2014

Previous titles from Piece of Paper Press:

- POPP.001—Tony White, Title Track
- POPP.002—Stephanie Fawbert, Glancing
- POPP.003—Jane Gifford, Dream Diary
- POPP.004—Tim Etchells, About Lisa
- POPP.005—Penny McCarthy, Bedrooms
- POPP.006—Peter Bunting, Seven Views of Geneva
- POPP.007—Mikey Cuddihy, untitled
- POPP.008—Gordana Stanisić, On Moles
- POPP.009—Artist/Writer, Default: 1
- POPP.010—Rose Frain, Between 12 Noon and 2 PM
- POPP.011—James Pyman, The Adventures of Lion through the Moon
- POPP.012—Tony White, A0
- POPP.013—Suzanne Treister, Vibrators from the House of Brodsky
- POPP.014—Pavel Büchler, Good Guys
- POPP.015—Elizabeth Magill
- POPP.016—Christopher Hewitt, Hollywood Leather
- POPP.017—Borivoj Radaković, Posjetiteljeva Kniga (Visitor’s Book)
- POPP.018—Bruce Gilchrist, Drawing from Perplexity
- POPP.019—Alison Turnbull, Black Borders 1994-2006
- POPP.020—James Pyman, The Adventures of Lion: The Book of Hours
- POPP.021—Stevie Deas, Cleanskins
- POPP.022—Halford + Beard, Ozar 52 Crash
- POPP.023—Tony White, London Palm
- POPP.024—Barbara Campbell, News Haiku
- POPP.025—Liliane Lijn, ATOMANOTES
- POPP.026—Tony White, A Porky Prime Cut
- POPP.027—Michael Moorcock, A Twist in the Lines
- POPP.028—Tony White, The Holborn Cenotaph
- POPP.029—Joanna Walsh, Stiklovsy’s Zoo
- POPP.030—Steven Hull, CARNEVIL
- POPP.031—Ian Bourn, Subjective Interfaces
- POPP.032—Susana Medina, The Bowie Neurotransmitter
- POPP.033—Sheena Rose, HOME IS ON MY MIND...
- POPP.034—Joolz Denby, Dandelion
- POPP.035—M John Harrison, Real Dreams
- POPP.036—Courtla Newland, That Small Death
- POPP.037—Selina Thompson, 12 Race Card Answers
- POPP.038—Leaving Present Prototype (for Jane Rolo)

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