

Wheel 'n Come Again - by Legacy Film UK - 13th & 14th December 2016 at FABRIICA

Artist Carla Armour presents **'Collecting Receipts': Finding Sanctity**
A Spoken Word Performance Installation

Inspiration:

Responding to the central themes in the different films offered by the programmers of the 'Wheel 'n Come Again project, I was inspired to offer a message of solidarity. My work speaks to the multiple elements of the female's life; fragmentation and growth, sacrifice and indestructible love and the sheer imperishable determination to survive. The search for safety and security, respect and recognition, the development of survival rituals to create and claim our space, our sanctity. On a visit to Tate modern I was further inspired by a quote from Louise Bourgeois which states, "*I have paid my debt to the past and I am liberated*"

The Work:

My Installation piece, **'Collecting Receipts; Finding Sanctity'** offers a pause for contemplation within a micro-sanctuary, an ode to the belief that to 'lay your burdens at the altar' brings healing. The space invites and inspires audience to become part of the artwork. Audience will be able to share in love and solidarity, their written or artistic expressions in the form of drawings, prose, poems, prayers or keepsakes of their lives. These will become 'receipts' proof of their contribution to life's journey, therefore making the Installation a collection of the 'receipts' an 'altar of liberation'.

The work process will also be shared on online media so that 'receipts' can be collected via messages and posts.

The structure of the Installation will include an old chest of drawers covered with pieces, items of past experiences with drawers stuffed with memories both good and bad, items collected from audience, and myself, basically evidence or receipts of our contributions. The chest will sit on a Hessian (prayer) rug upon which will be placed shoes (symbols of crossroads) and more tokens from the past as well as have sewn into it cotton squares/flags with poems and prayers written on them.

The Artist will perform a purification and thanksgiving ritual, claiming her space while she recites and performs the word and poems, reveals items from the drawers and hangs them to nearby structures, creating a bunting effect intending to make a celebration of having been liberated from the past.

Definitions of receipts:

The action of receiving something or the fact of its being received. A written or printed statement acknowledging that something has been paid for or that goods or services have been received.

Program:

Installation of the interactive Installation artwork at Fabrica - noon on Tuesday 13th December and will continue to collect receipts until 10pm on Wednesday 14th December 2016.

A focussed **sharing space** will be held on:

Tuesday 13th December 2016 - 4 – 5:30pm

Wednesday 14th December 2016: 1 – 2:30pm

Title: 'A Gathering to collect Receipts' – This process makes up part of the Performance & Installation piece titled '**Collecting Receipts**'; **Finding Sanctity** by Carla Armour.

The public are invited to gather within the Installation space at Fabrica to share stories, prose, poems, thoughts, artwork and mementos about their life journeys. Participants will be making something, writing something, leaving something, taking something... sharing in love and solidarity. All of which will feed and nourish the Ritual & Spoken Word Performance taking place on both evenings of the 13th & 14th December.

Ritual & Spoken Word Performances on 13th & 14th December 2016: 7:45 – 8:00

Carla ARMOUR - Artist Bio: - Carla Armour is a visual artist currently living in Brighton. After graduating from Parsons School of Design (NYC) in the 80's she returned to her Caribbean Island, Dominica where she immersed herself in the island's Art scene finding her message through abstract symbolism in mixed media paintings, fashion, Conceptual and Installation art, poetry and spoken word performances. Armour continues to work within her Lifelines series; employing tribal symbols and prehistoric glyph images and markings. Her current work '*Resonance*', explores the use of ritual elements and sacred spaces and objects to imbed messages into her pieces.

She has participated in shows and exhibitions over the years in the Caribbean, US, Europe & Namibia, some of which included the International Art Project '*Women of the World, a global collection of Art*', submissions and readings for Literary Festivals, an International Artist Exchange, '*Carambolage*' with 8 artists from Austria and Dominica. She is currently participating in '*Wheel 'n Come Again*', a dynamic Film & Arts programme managed by Legacy Film UK. It brings together 8 black female film programmers and artists working in different media to create new art works in response to the selected films.

Generally, my work is meditative. I want it to be emotive.

When I am painting or writing it is purely about the medium the message reveals itself. I enjoy manipulating the words and the rhythm, finding the imagery and tempting the senses to see, taste or feel the patterns in the words which then inspires the visual. I love the actual act of creation, playing with the material and the effects I can produce, I work with colour and their meanings, with automatic writing and drawing and the liberation I feel from my first markings to my last.

For the program at Fabrica in December 2016 as the culmination to our Wheel 'n Come Again project I have taken this process further as I have been inspired to continue the journey into the live space where audience become participants within an Installation piece that is constantly being developed through spoken and written words, mementoes and articles of our journey.