

Hot Desque 11 August 2021 Lansdowne House
57 Berkeley Square
London
W1J 6ER
Contact for editorial: hotdesque@gmail.com

Terrestrial Act

Curated by Hot Desque

6-9pm Saturday 4th September
Free public art exhibition on stage at Theatre Royal
Staged by Hot Desque

Exhibiting artists: Sam Carvosso, Anna Reading, Davinia-Ann Robinson, Hannah Rowan, Harry Smithson, Giorgio van Meerwijk

Staged within the grand yet empty Theatre Royal, the exhibition evokes a future-past landscape while questioning the way we 'act' within the natural world. Without actors to populate the set and bring it to life, the microscopic lives of organic matter perform their own stories under the spotlight. From 3-D printed biodegradable saplings, through to mic'd up clay bubbling, the focus shifts between past and present, staged and unstaged, organic and fabricated. The artworks all point in some way to the role played by the human hand in altering the terrestrial terrain around us. We invite you to step onto the stage and explore the set on 4th September.

The exhibition forms part of a wider project, 'Terrestrial Act', produced by Hot Desque. The exhibited artworks on stage will result in a collaborative artist film, to be screened at artist-led organisation The NewBridge Project in Shieldfield later this year. 'Terrestrial Act' poses questions around the impact of extractive capitalism, and the need to dissolve hierarchical classifications of living matter, at a critical time in the lead up to the COP26 UN Climate Talks in Glasgow, this November.

Founded in 2018, *Hot Desque* is a curatorial partnership by artists Lizzy Drury and Neena Percy, showing emerging and established artists within site-specific exhibitions including a former nightclub. The exhibitions bring artworks together as part of a theatrical mise-en-scène, providing a platform for experimentation and interdependence.

This project has been made possible with the support from Arts Council England, Theatre Royal Newcastle and The NewBridge Project. Poster design by SamTomson.

For more information please contact *Hot Desque*, Lansdowne House, 57 Berkeley Square, London, W1J 6ER, Contact for editorial: hotdesque@gmail.com