

The Agency of Visible Women

The Agency of Visible Women is a fictional institution made flesh for the period 17 February to 14 April 2018 at Beecroft Art Gallery, Southend.

At the Agency of Visible Women we aim to explore the ways that we can address Women's concerns for their visibility even within the intersects of our feminist communities.

We carry out important work at the Agency and our members represent the breadth of our expertise through their extensive department roles.

You may find your first point of contact at the Agency will be with our Human Resources Officer, Fanny Von Beaverhausen. During office hours Fanny can discuss your concerns about your visibility as a woman or femme. Out of hours you are welcome to relax in Fanny's office as you watch Agency approved infomercial 'Blips and Lips'.

Should your interests lie in Public Relations, Amani AlThuwaini's work addresses public misconceptions about the agency of Middle Eastern Women through the medium of traditional embroidery and poetry.

If you're concerned about more down to earth things (literally), you can head to our Highways and Maintenance Officer Lu Williams to examine her proposed solutions for public highway drainage in her series of exquisite (wo)manhole covers.

Or perhaps you'd like to View Eliza Soroga's proposal for effective Pedestrian Management in her collaboration with B Hanusova in the short film entitled 'Breakfast'?

Alternatively our Assistant Architect Dana AlJouder can lead you on a haunting tour through Singapore's high rise development HDB, where she brings the functional and monotonous to life with her presence.

In our online resource department you'll find our Data Analyst Damien Robinson. Here Damien calculates the unpaid labour that women perform and produces beautiful visualisations based on that analysis of data.

Overseeing the online presence of women falls under the remit of Digital Content Curator, Stefania Woznarowycz. Woznarowycz works hard to challenge the male centric view of women through careful digital corruption of stereotypical imagery of women online.

Hard at work in the public eye, Cultural Advisor Elsa James addresses a televised reply to Ron Liddle's infamous claim that the African Caribbean communities in London possess no culture but violence, goat curry and rap music.

Perhaps you're finding yourself a little tired after visiting all these departments. 'Pause' and replenish yourself with Emma Edmondson the Agency's favourite Tea Lady, where making is a way to disengage from the catastrophic world events that take place around us.

After your break you can take a stroll over to our Botanist Leyla Pillai. Here you can examine Pillai's research specimens in close detail.

From here you might like to pay a visit to Hygiene Facilitator Charlotte Hamilton, where frivolous self care and social media get cleaned up with these large scale bath bomb portraits. They're scented, too!

The serious matters of childcare and motherhood can be sensitively explored with our Parent/Teacher Associate Kim Ralston. She puts her craft skills to good use to understand the problems of motherhood and it's impact on women's bodies.

If you've the time for a stop with our caretaker Ruth Jones, you can examine how to take space, share space and take care as a woman.

And don't forget to exit through the gift shop, where you can find Agency made paraphernalia to help you be more visible as a woman.

The Agency of Visible Women takes its role in the community seriously and has partnered up with the non-fictional charity the Essex Feminist Collective. Any donations made by visitors will go to a zine making workshop for survivors of sexual abuse at Southend-on-Sea Rape Crisis.

Any questions regarding the Agency of Visible Women and the important work we do should be addressed to the caretaker, Ruth Jones. You can contact her at ruthkathrynjones@yahoo.co.uk or give her a call on 07793202362

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17 February – 14 April 2018

At Beecroft Art Gallery

Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 6EX

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm