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tapes

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Sound Etiquette

Sonia Boyce MBE | Christine Sun Kim | Benny Nemerofsky Ramsay
Curated by Amanda Shore
Produced by Centre for Art Tapes

Opening March 27, 2017 | 5:30 - 7:00 pm
On view March 28 – April 24, 2017 at Khyber Centre for the Arts,
1880 Hollis St, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

The Centre for Art Tapes is pleased to present *Sound Etiquette*, an international group exhibition curated by Amanda Shore, in conjunction with the Local Curatorial Residency.

Through lyric, babble, slam poetry, and soundless closed-captioning, the three video-based works in the exhibition unravel social norms associated with sonic communication. In situations where comprehensible language proves to be insufficient—too linear, too gendered, too exclusionary—these three artists turn to new communication methods.

Christine Sun Kim is a California-born, Berlin-based artist who was born Deaf. She holds multiple MFAs, has been an artist-in-residence at Whitney Museum, and has exhibited at MoMA PS1, MoMA, Frieze Projects (London), and the New Museum. Kim critiques what she calls “sound etiquette”—the social expectation that Deaf people should navigate a hearing world quietly and discreetly. Her four-channel video *Close Readings* pairs visuals from popular films with sound captions by her Deaf peers, highlighting how sound can be apprehended through gesture and text.

Benny Nemerofsky Ramsay is an artist and diarist based in Montréal, whose work contemplates the history of song and the gender of voices. In its North American debut, his video *The Last Song* shows a singer whose voice undergoes a haunting change, shifting from an adult baritone to a fragile boy soprano in a moment of curiosity and discovery. Nemerofsky Ramsay has exhibited extensively across Canada and Europe, and his work is a part of the permanent collection of the National Gallery of Canada and the Kusthistorisches Museum Vienna.

Sonia Boyce MBE is a British Afro-Caribbean artist renowned as a figurative painter, who is represented in the permanent collections of Arts Council England and Tate Modern. Her video *Exquisite Cacophony* (which debuted at the 56th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale) documents an improvisational performance featuring vocalist Elaine Mitchener and rapper Astronautalis. The result is somewhere between a casual conversation, a poetry slam, and a performance about the insufficiency of language.

For press inquiries please contact the curator at amandaraeshore@gmail.com. All images are subject to copyright. Curator’s approval must be granted prior to reproduction. The online catalogue will be viewable at cfat.ca/soundetiquette, and you can join the conversation on social media using #SoundEtiquette.