

PRESS RELEASE

A NIGHT OF EXPERIMENTAL POETRY, ALL THE WAY FROM OZ

[DATED] | For immediate release

Acclaimed Australian artist Hazel Smith, known around the world for her poetry, performance and new media work, will headline an evening of live performances by leading, experimental poets at Leeds Gallery, Munro House on 19th July 2012.

Other performers on the night will include Ryan Ormonde (London) and Tom Jenks and Chris McCabe whose collaborative work *Gnomes* was published in 2011, and who will premier a new work.

The event is organized by Manchester based *The Other Room* who are returning to Leeds following the success of their first event in 2011, which saw a legend of the sound poetry scene, Steve McCaffery, performing to a packed audience in the Tiled Hall at Leeds Art Gallery.

The event will kick off at 7pm in Leeds Gallery, an independent art gallery and creative event space that opened on the Ground Floor of Munro House in autumn 2011. A licensed bar will offer refreshments to guests throughout the evening.

This event is free and open to all, whether it's your first venture into the world of experimental poetry, or you're a connoisseur looking for an opportunity to see world-class work being performed by the author.

Visit www.otherroom.org for more details or book your tickets through EventBrite: <http://otherroom33.eventbrite.com>

ENDS

EDITORS NOTES:

To arrange an interview, or request publicity images, please contact:

Simon Zimmerman

Telephone: 07834 070 040

Email: sz@roomman.co.uk

The Other Room is a programme of events organised by James Davies, Tom Jenks and Scott Thurston at The Castle in Manchester. The Other Room, now into its fourth year, presents work by 'experimental' writers from all over the world.

Information as Material is a York-based independent publishing imprint and was established by artist Simon Morris in 2002. It continues to publish and exhibit work by artists and writers who, as their website explains: "reuse existing material - selecting it and re-framing it to generate new meanings - and who, in doing so, disrupt the order of things." Information as Material has just completed a year-long residency

at one of London's leading visual arts galleries, The Whitechapel.

Hazel Smith is active in the areas of poetry, performance and new media. Her work has appeared in numerous international literary magazines and in literary, musical and multimedia anthologies. She has published three volumes of poetry: *Abstractly Represented: Poems and Performance Texts 1982-90*, Butterfly Books, 1991; *Keys Round her Tongue: short prose, poetry and performance texts* Soma, 2000 and *The Erotics of Geography: poetry, performance texts, new media works*, Tinfoil Press, 2008.

Hazel has also, with Roger Dean, made three CDs of her performance work, *Poet Without Language*, Rufus Records 1994; *Nuraghic Echoes*, Rufus Records, 1996 and *Returning the Angles*, Soma Recording and Publishing 2001. Her performance collaborations, are showcased on many poetics websites such as PennSound, and in internet journals such as How2.

Hazel is a currently research professor in the Writing and Society Research Group at the University of Western Sydney. She is author of *The Writing Experiment: strategies for innovative creative writing*, Allen and Unwin, 2005, which was shortlisted for the Australian Publishing Awards for Excellence in Educational Publishing, and *Hyperscapes in the Poetry of Frank O'Hara: difference, homosexuality, topography*, Liverpool University Press, 2000. She is co-author, with Roger Dean, of *Improvisation, Hypermedia And The Arts Since 1945*, Harwood Academic, 1997. She is also co-editor with Roger Dean of *Practice-led Research/Research-led Practice in the Creative Arts*, for Edinburgh University Press (2009).

Chris McCabe was born in Liverpool in 1977. His published books are *The Hutton Inquiry* (Salt, 2005), *Zeppelins* (Salt, 2008) and a play *Shad Thames, Broken Wharf* (Penned in the Margins 2010). He has also recorded a CD with The Poetry Archive. His third full collection, *THE RESTRUCTURE*, was published in May 2012. He works as a Librarian at The Poetry Library, London.

Tom Jenks has two collections, *A Priori* and ***, published by if p then q (<http://ifpthenq.co.uk>). His work has appeared in a range of digital and print publications including *Department* magazine, *onedit*, *Cleaves*, *Blackbox Manifold* and the *18s* anthology. He organises the avant objects imprint *zimZalla* (<http://zimzalla.co.uk>) and co-organises The Other Room reading series and website (<http://otherroom.org>). *Gnomes*, a collaboration with Chris McCabe, was published by The Red Ceilings Press in 2011.

Ryan Ormonde is one of the four poet performers who collaborate as 'press free press' in various live publishing and writing projects; the others are Becky Cremin, Sejal Chad and Karen Sandhu. Alone, Ryan is interested in finding an intuitive writing method that is evidence of reading two or more different texts, or that is the written outcome of making a text from criteria suggested while sitting somewhere outside, or from walking around. Ryan has a chapbook and a book-book published with The Knives Forks and Spoons Press. The book-book is called 'The of of the film of the book and the of of the book of the film'. Ryan is the longest serving member of staff at a certain West End cinema. See his websites at <http://poeticpracticejournal.blogspot.co.uk/> & <http://www.pressfreepress.com/>