

An introduction from Flo Brooks & Polly Wright

Polly: Working together since May 2020, Flo and I created *Daily Winds*, a project using methods of social engagement to inform the public programme which sits alongside Flo's exhibition *Angletwich* at Brighton CCA.

Flo: The films we've selected for this programme touch on particular themes and tones arising from *Daily Winds*, our collective research on ruralism, as well as those more specific to my own painting practice.

Both: The many conversations and ways we've found to continue communicating in what has been a year of closure and delay - a new experience of time - have become reflections on the importance to listen, to grow slowly and adapt. This set of film screenings continues that work, a farewell for now as the project comes to rest.

Leeds Animation Workshop is a not-for-profit, cooperative company, run by women, which produces and distributes animated films and films on social and educational issues. The films are all produced in consultation with organisations and individuals involved in the relevant field. As well as production and distribution, the Workshop has been involved in many other activities, such as organising screenings and providing workshop sessions in basic animation for adults and young people.

*All Stressed Up* (1993) centres on workplace stress and *Waste Watchers* (1996) is a short animated film designed to encourage energy conservation in the home.

What initially drew me to these two films, were how they approached tackling important social, political and economic issues through animation. A medium I really love, both to watch and to get ideas from which I might later use in a painting. To me these films have a buoyant, vibrant, sometimes kind of cheeky sensibility, which feels very of its time – they're 25-28 years old – but are just as visually and thematically striking today. I love the quality of the hand drawn and painted illustrations, the clear unpretentious narrative, and importantly knowing each film were made in consultation with the related individuals and organizations. The characters feel real, like people I know or conversations I've been privy to.

I'm really interested in the relationship between collective organising, skill sharing and production, and in this instance doing so through the medium of animation. I like thinking about how animation is about making things move, with the subject of these films addressing societal 'progress'. I feel these two videos help to reflect on a number of formats and methods of engagement we thought about when creating *Daily Winds* and *The Daily Winds Tourist Information Centre*. We cite the TIC as a part fictional, part functional mechanism from which to continue and share research in public. I especially love the moment in *Waste Watchers* where they show the newsletter and this led me to think about our *Daily Winds* newsletter, these traditional modes of sharing and opening up research. If you'd like to read the *Daily Winds* Newsletter you can do so on the Brighton CCA website.

We very much hope you enjoy these two films and each booklet, originally produced to accompany these animations. We've selected a number of Flo's fictional adverts

to include in this bundle as we continue to think about graphic means of distributing research and reflections.

Huge thanks to Terry Wragg and Leeds Animation Workshop for agreeing for the titles to be part of the programme and available online.

Special thanks to Fen, Cron, Harriet, Izzy, Lise and DUBAIS for working with us from Summer 2020. Thanks to all who have been involved in the project, we're grateful for the ongoing support and energy.