

Imperial College London

Suzi Morris

28 April – 29 April 2018

Imperial College
South Kensington Campus

Of Blooded Things

PRESS RELEASE

"Morris has coined the phrase 'the viral sublime' for her painterly investigation of viral landscapes, these hidden, almost fantastical worlds that will either support or destroy the organism that hosts them...By inhabiting the viral sublime of her imagination, her paintings take us into 'a far more than her', an immensely rich seam of knowledge at a new turning-point in medical science which is rarely represented in visual art. Morris' anti-Romantic reworking of the sublime keeps terror, or at least an unsettling queasiness, in mind, rather than surrender totally to awe and beauty. We are always aware that while the beauty she creates is undeniably seductive, it can be fatal. Morris builds a unique and stunning visual vocabulary out of that dynamic paradox".

'Of Blooded Things: the paintings of Suzi Morris' by Cherry Smyth.

As viruses are now digital avatars in genomic medicine, one of Morris' objectives is to highlight how genomics is revolutionising mainstream healthcare and what it will mean in general medical practice. The implications of these modifications are vast, generating questions about the proximity of Huxley's Brave New World where the natural processes of birth; ageing and death are no longer recognisable.

"Art has many functions, and I have increasingly come to understand to varying degrees, that my paintings are the result of a process of embodying my imagination's relationship with what I experience within my body."

Suzi Morris

The annual Imperial Festival returns for its seventh year on 28-29 April at the College's South Kensington Campus. There will be the opportunity to go behind-the-scenes and explore more than 150 exhibits highlighting the latest research and innovations from Imperial College London through interactive demonstrations, workshops and live experiments. Creativity and culture will also be at the forefront with live musical and dance performances and a theatrical performance exploring the boundaries between medicine and the arts. The sciences of virology and genomics capture Morris' imagination in multifarious ways and have become a medium through which decisions are made in her painting. Meet **Suzi Morris in conversation with immunologists Beak-San**

CHOI Christopher Chiu and Jessica Strid on Saturday 2.00 – 4.00 pm and Celia Johansson and Beak-San CHOI on Sunday 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Dr Suzi Morris was born in Ayr and originally studied Illustration and Design at Kingston University. The City & Guilds of London Art School marked her commitment to full-time painting, where she completed an MA in Fine Art before undertaking a practice based Professional Doctorate in Fine Art at the University of East London in 2017. Formerly an art director in film, in 2016 she co-founded the da Vinci Artists Residency and has since been awarded a da Vinci Artists brush in her name. She now lives and works in London and features in 'The Residency', a documentary to be released in summer 2018. Her work has featured in several exhibitions in the UK and Germany with work held in private collections including the Imperial Arts Collection, USA, France, Germany, Thailand and the UK.

Exhibition Facts

Opening Hours: Saturday 12.00 am – 6.00 pm & Sunday 12.00 am – 5.00 pm

Imperial Festival is free and open to the public.

You will need to register to attend: <http://bit.ly/Impfest2018>.

For further information about Imperial Festival, visit:

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/festival>

Location: Queens Tower Rooms, Cure-iosity Zone, South Kensington Campus, Imperial College London, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2AZ

Exhibition Tel: +44 (0)20 7589 5111

<https://www.artsy.net/noonpowell-fine-art/artist/suzi-morris>

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