

m@greyisgood.eu
Artist BA (Hons), MFA, PGCLTHE, AFHEA, FRSA

Other work

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Nut & Nut
Enduring Projects

Martin John Callanan is an artist researching an individual's place within systems.

His work examines how we encounter and understand the world through the systems that organise it: money, language, time, information, institutions and technology. Working across photography, sculpture, print, artists' books, software and installation, he uses the materials and procedures of existing systems to explore what they reveal and what they leave out.

Recurring concerns include the desire to record everything, the relationship between an individual and a collective, and the distance between what can be measured and what can be experienced. In The Fundamental Units, the smallest denominations of currencies become large-scale images; in A Planetary Order, satellite observations become a physical globe; and in Each and Every Command, twelve years of digital editing become a printed record.

His work has been exhibited and published internationally. He received the Philip Leverhulme Prize and was artist in residence at the Bank of England.

Alongside his artistic practice, he has worked in higher education, technical direction, publishing, exhibition production and building renovation. He was a Teaching Fellow at the Slade School of Fine Art, University College London, and spent over ten years as technical director for an artist's studio in Berlin and Dunfermline.

Martin is a citizen of Ireland and the United Kingdom, and holds an e-Residency for Estonia. He lives and works in Scotland.

SELECTED CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Martin John Callanan's artwork has been exhibited and published internationally; he has been awarded the triennial Philip Leverhulme Prize in Visual Art 2014–17, for outstanding research, during which he was artist in residence at the Bank of England. In September 2015 awarded Alumnus of the Year for Excellence in Arts by Birmingham City University.

Solo exhibitions include: Noshowspace, Horrach Moya, Casal Solleric, Baltic 39, and Or Gallery, Berlin. His work has been shown at, White Cube, Galerie Christian Ehrentraut, V2, Arts Santa Mònica, James Cohan Gallery, Es Baluard Modern and Contemporary Art Museum, Whitechapel Gallery, ZKM Karlsruhe, Ars Electronic Centre, ISEA, FutureEverything, Art Exchange, LIFT 2014, Battersea Arts Centre, Kunstverein Springhornhof, Riga Centre for New Media Culture, Whitstable Biennale, Imperial War Museum North, and published by Book Works.

Work is held in collections and archives including the Imperial War Museum, Tate Library Archive Collection, British Library, National Art Library at the V&A and UCL Art Museum.

Exhibition history — Publications and bibliography — Full collections list

AWARDS

2014–2017, Philip Leverhulme Prize in Visual and Performing Art (triennial)
2016, Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA)
2016, Berlin Art Prize (finalist)
2015, Alumni of the Year, Birmingham City University
2011, Live Grand Prix, Finland (honorary mention award best online project)
2011, Screengrab Award, Townsville, Australia (award)
2010, File Prix Lux (finalist)
2004, Next Level Vorsprung durch Technik Photography Awards (finalist)

RESIDENCIES

2015–2017, Artist at the Bank of England, Leverhulme Trust funded
2012, Artist in Residence, Center for Artists' Residencies and Exchanges, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
2009, Researcher in Residence, Simon Faithfull's Mobile Research Station, Berlin Sculpture Park, Germany
2008–09, Artist in Residence, UCL Environment Institute, London
2007, Artist in Residence, At Home In Europe, Riga Centre for New Media Culture RIXC, Latvia

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POSITIONS

2007–2018, Teaching Fellow in Fine Art Media (Digital Media & Print), Slade School of Fine Art, University College London Taught undergraduate and postgraduate students, supporting the development and safe production of complex artworks across digital media, photography, video, print, 3D scanning and fabrication. Member of the Slade Centre for Electronic Media in Fine Art (SCEMFA).

2017–2025, Technical Director, Katie Paterson Studio, Dunfermline Developed and produced complex artworks in collaboration with artists, designers, architects and specialist fabricators, including commissions for Apple. Managed the design and redevelopment of a 500 m² studio in a conservation area, including funding applications, construction and hands-on fabrication.

Visiting, guest lectures and artist's talks

Piet Zwart Institute; UCL History of Art; UCL Graduate School, Interdisciplinary Studies of Evidence; Research Skills Intercollegiate Network, London; Transart Institute; Es Baluard Modern and Contemporary Art Museum; Eye of the Storm (Arts Catalyst conference), Tate Britain; The Dublin Art and Technology Association, Irish Museum of Contemporary Art; The National College of Art and Design, Dublin, Ireland; Lancaster University; May You Live in Interesting Times Festival of Creative Technology, Chapter Arts, Cardiff; Dartington College of Arts, University College Falmouth, UK; Choreodrome Lecture Series, The Place, London, UK; Walsall College, UK, 8th Pixxelpoint, Nova Gorica, Slovenia; University College for the Creative Arts, Maidstone, UK; 9th International Festival for New Media Culture, Latvia; Paraflows, Vienna, Austria

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2016, Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)
2009–2011, Postgraduate Certificate in Adult Learning and Professional Development, UCL CALT
2003–2005, MFA Fine Art Media, Slade School of Fine Art, University College London (AHRC funded)
2000–2003, BA (Hons) Visual Communication (Photography), Birmingham Institute of Art & Design, Birmingham City University

COLLECTIONS

Imperial War Museum
Open Data Institute
City of Hull
Hull NHS Primary Care Trust
Tate Library Archive Collection
Digital Lives (website archive collection), British Library
The British Library (legal deposit)
National Art Library, V&A
UCL Art Museum Collection
UCL Special Collections
Rhizome ArtBase
Salama bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation