

UCCS-IASP Presents: New Media Series
ARK: A CRITICAL APPROACH TO VR

Sept 10, 2021, 2-3pm MST (Mountain Standard Time)

In collaboration with Colorado College, VAPA, and the GMI Program

This public event is being recorded and video-proceedings would be posted on you-tube.

Agenda: 2:00 pm - Event Opens on Zoom

2-2.10: General Introductions – introducing speakers

2.10-2.45: Kathryn Hamilton and Deniz Tortum present ARK.

2.45 - 3.00 Q&A

ARK is a series of works that consider the relation between computational thinking and the climate crisis. ARK: 2-channel is a video and sound installation that considers the nascent 3D archive of objects and beings, and considers their impact on the physical world. Shadowtime, a VR experience, places the development of virtual reality aesthetics against the ongoing collapse of the environment, and examines how virtual reality technology stands in for and distracts from loss and absence in the physical world. OUR ARK, a short film, considers the appeal of Simulation Theory in the face of impending climate crisis.

Kathryn Hamilton, aka *Sister Sylvester*, is an artist and self-taught microbiologist making work in New York and Istanbul. She is a current resident at ONX studio, a new media workspace created by the Onassis foundation and The New Museum in NYC; a 2019 Macdowell Fellow; an alumnus of the Public Theater Devised Theater Working Group, and Public Theater New Works program. Recent work includes ARK: Shadow Time, at Kiraathane Istanbul, as part of Protocinema's multi-city exhibition, A Few In Many Places; The Eagle and The Tortoise, at National Sawdust, NYC; The Fall, Yale University, and Under The Radar, NYC; Three Rooms, Shubbak Festival/Arcola, London; Bozar, Brussels; Frascati, Amsterdam; Recent video work has shown at MoCA Toronto, 601Artspace NYC, MUTEK festival and Humboldt University, Berlin. She teaches a bio-hacking performance class, The School of Genetically Modified Theater, and has taught that and other master classes at Colorado College, Princeton, UCCS, Columbia University, Bogazici, Istanbul. Her work has been reviewed by Artforum, The New York Times, The New Yorker, Performance Art Journal, Telerama, and she spent the years 2013-15 in disguise as a french diplomat in New York.

Deniz Tortum was born in Istanbul in 1989. His films have screened at many film festivals including Venice Film Festival, Rotterdam, SxSW, Sheffield, True/False and Dokufest. He worked at the MIT Open Documentary Lab focusing on VR research. He curated and produced the new media sections of !f Istanbul and Camden Film Festival. Among his work are the first Turkish film screened at SxSW, ZAYIAT (2013); VR project created with Çağrı Hakan Zaman and Nil Tuzcu, that told the story of Istanbul Pogrom, a government-initiated organized attack on the minorities of Istanbul on September 6-7, 1955, called September 1955 (2016); the documentary If Only There Were Peace (2017), co-directed with Carmine Grimaldi; FLOODPLAIN (2018) which was inspired by the world portrayed in Emre Yeksan's Yuva; the roadtrip/music documentary Anatolian Trip (2018) co-directed with Can Eskinazi; and PHASES OF MATTER (2020) which had its world premiere in January at the Rotterdam Film Festival.

Q&A Moderators after the presentation by: Dr. Sudhanshu Kumar Semwal, Computer Science, UCCS. Dr. Ryan Platt (Theater, Colorado College), Jessica Hunter-Larsen (Innovation, Colorado College), Dr. Kevin Landis (VAPA, UCCS)

UCCS-IASP Hosts: Dr. Karen deVries (co-host), Carol Pina (co-host), Jason Taylor (UCCS-Event Services), Bradley Plesz (UCCS-Event Services), SK Semwal (Host).

Please provide feedback at <https://iasp.uccs.edu/contact-0>

or directly contact Carol Pina (cpina@uccs.edu) or Dr. SK Semwal (ssemwal@uccs.edu)