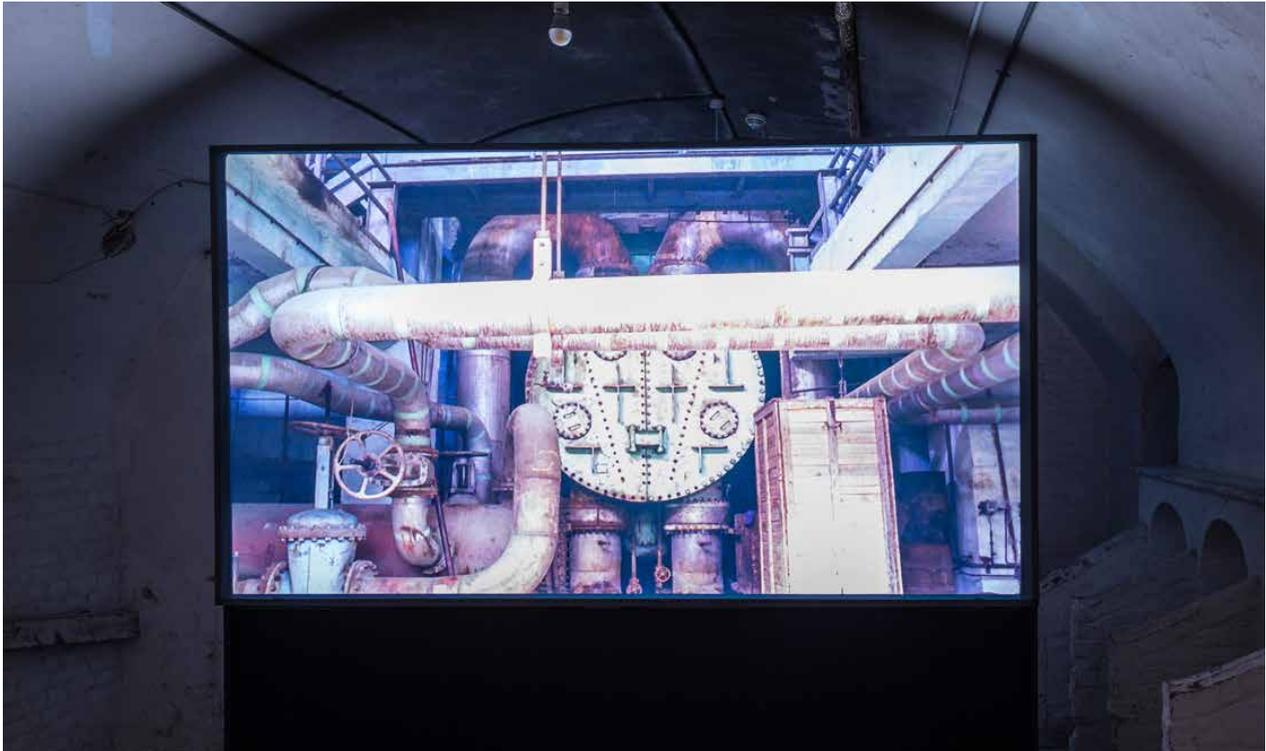


Press Release for immediate release 8 January 2018

## **New exhibition at Phoenix explores the hidden histories of industrialisation from an international perspective**

18 January - 11 March 2018



**Residue by Desire Machine Collective installed at Osterley Park and House as part of the *Changing Places* tour.**  
Courtesy of the artists and Film and Video Umbrella. Photo © Hydar Dewachi

[fvu.co.uk](http://fvu.co.uk) [#PlacesChanging](https://twitter.com/FilmVidUmbrella) [@FilmVidUmbrella](https://twitter.com/FilmVidUmbrella)

Film and Video Umbrella's touring exhibition *Changing Places* arrives at Phoenix, Leicester on 18 January. Presented within the Cube Gallery, three artworks by Imran Channa, Desire Machine Collective and Yasmin Jahan Nupur use video, installation and sound to illuminate Britain's industrial, imperial past from contemporary perspectives. The works are all by artists with a connection to Bangladesh, India or Pakistan and explore threads of Britain's shared history with that region.

Imran Channa's installation *Dust to Dust* consists of actual dust samples, gathered from several historic buildings on the *Changing Places* tour. With many of these sites bearing links to the era of the British Empire, what he presents might be read as a commentary on how even the grandest of empires dwindles to nothing in the end. Accompanying the jars of dust is a large partially-erased drawing of the Crystal Palace, and a soundtrack that tells the story of Channa's tour around England. Inspired by the writing style of the privileged explorers who visited and documented the colonies, Channa's tale returns the favour, elaborating greatly on his journey and creating something resembling a Kipling-era adventure.

Desire Machine Collective's film *Residue* depicts the monumental space of a disused power station outside the artists' hometown of Guwahati in India. Forgotten and crumbling, the architecture is becoming slowly engulfed by the nature that surrounds it. Viewed within the post-industrial St. Georges area of Leicester, the film offers an interesting reflection on regeneration and what we choose to preserve.

*Away From Home* by Yasmin Jahan Nupur presents the reality of a group of workers who have travelled from Bangladesh to Mauritius for work. Exhibited in a city that has undergone huge demographic shifts through the movement of people, the film acts as a reminder of some of the reasons for migration, as well as evoking the history of Leicester's factories and workforces in the area surrounding Phoenix.

The exhibition launch features a curator tour and a screening of additional films from the *Changing Places* tour. From 6.30pm on 18 January. Admission is free.

*Changing Places* is a Film and Video Umbrella touring exhibition, supported by Arts Council England, Canal & River Trust, National Trust, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, Phoenix Leicester, Feltech, Links Signs and Heritage Lottery Fund. Curated by Mariam Zulfiqar.

**Mariam Zulfiqar, Curator, Film and Video Umbrella, said:**

*"The bringing together of these particular works in the post-industrial heart of Leicester offers a different perspective on the intertwined histories of Britain and South Asia, in the hope that we are armed with better tools with which to comprehend our current circumstances."*

*"The recent 70th anniversary of Indian independence is an ideal opportunity to consider some of the industrial architecture that sprung up in the boom years of trade with the Indian subcontinent, and how a model of industrial production that was forged in the Britain of the 19th century has been transported to other parts of the globe. By siting works by artists at a number of sites that embody Britain's imperial industrial heritage, we want to illuminate this experience of change: in the change of use of the buildings themselves, or in the wider urban environments in which they are located."*

[VIEW CURATOR INTERVIEW](#)

**Chris Tyrer, Phoenix Leicester, said:**

*"Leicester is a place shaped by both industry and migration, with Phoenix sitting in what was once the industrial heart of the city. Changing Places sheds light on how these complex and intertwined forces continue to shape communities across the world today from the perspective of artists whose work showcases the legacy of industrialisation in the South Asian region."*

*"Having already toured to a number of sites built between the 16th and 20th centuries, it's fitting that Changing Places should complete its journey here at Phoenix, the most recently constructed building on the tour – one of a number of new cultural buildings sitting amongst the former workshops and warehouses in what is now Leicester's Cultural Quarter."*

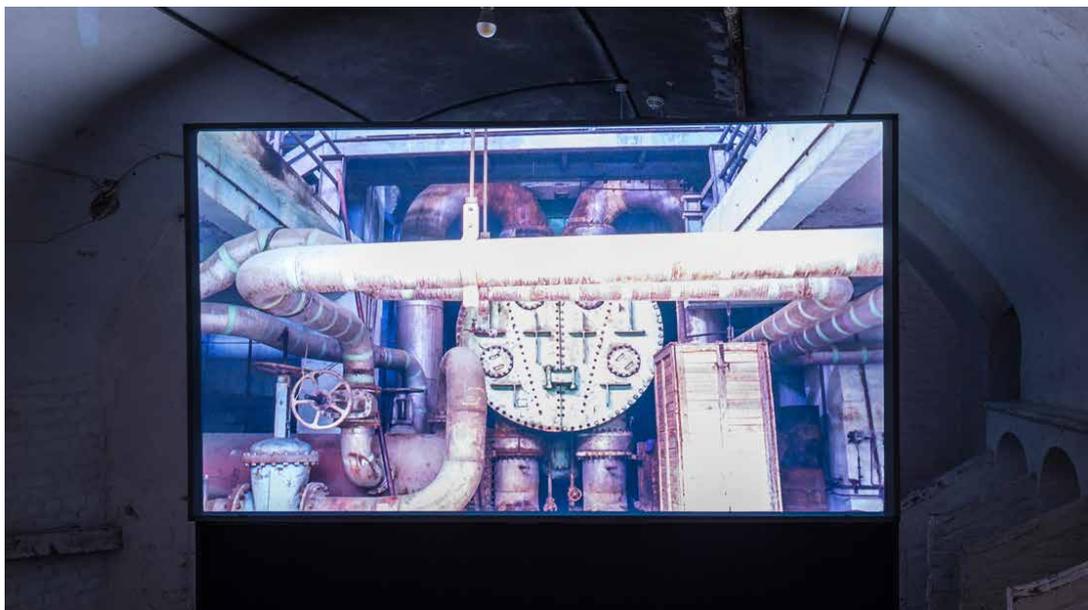
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**Image 1:**

**Residue by Desire Machine Collective**  
installed at Osterley Park and House as part of the **Changing Places** tour.

Courtesy of the artists and Film and Video Umbrella.  
Photo © Hydar Dewachi



**Image 2:**

**Dust to Dust, Imran Channa (installation view)**

Courtesy of Film and Video Umbrella. Photographer: Catarina Rodrigues



**Image 3:**

**Away From Home, Yasmin Jahan Nupur (video still)**

Courtesy of the artist and Film and Video Umbrella.

**Exhibition title:** *Changing Places*  
**Showing at Phoenix:** *Dust to Dust*, Imran Channa (installation of objects, drawing and sound); *Residue*, Desire Machine Collective (video); *Away From Home*, Yasmin Jahan Nupur (video)

**Dates:** 18 January - 11 March 2018  
**Address:** Phoenix, 4 Midland Street, Leicester, LE1 1TG  
**Opening times:** Monday – Friday 9am – 11pm, Saturday – Sunday 10am–11pm  
**Admission:** Free

**Exhibition Launch:** Thursday 18 January, 6.30 - 8.30pm  
Including curator tour and screenings of additional films from the *Changing Places* tour. Please RSVP to [Chris Tyrer](#).

[Read more](#) about the exhibition at Phoenix, Leicester

[Read more](#) about the tour: full national tour dates, Exhibition Guide and details of all artworks and venues.

**Film and Video Umbrella** commissions, curates, produces and presents artists' moving-image works that are staged in collaboration with galleries and other cultural partners. Since the late 1980s, FVU has been at the forefront of this vibrant and expanding area of practice, promoting innovation through its support of some of the most exciting figures on the contemporary scene. During this time, the organisation has commissioned and produced nearly 200 different artists' projects, ranging from ambitious multi-screen installations to shorter film and video pieces, as well as numerous online commissions.

[fvu.co.uk](http://fvu.co.uk)

**Phoenix** is Leicester's centre for independent cinema, art and digital culture. We are a charity. In our two modern cinema screens we show everything from micro-budget independent films to the latest Hollywood blockbusters, and we regularly organise festivals and events. Our regularly changing art programme presents work by local and international artists, and our education work helps people of all ages to learn about, and create their own, film and art. At Phoenix, we believe film and art have the power to enhance our lives. Watching a movie or visiting a gallery can entertain and inspire us, offering new perspectives on our lives and those of others. They deserve to be experienced somewhere special – which is why we work hard to ensure Phoenix is a place everyone can feel welcome and inspired.

[phoenix.org.uk](http://phoenix.org.uk)



A Film and Video Umbrella touring exhibition, supported by Arts Council England, Canal & River Trust, National Trust, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, Phoenix Leicester, Feltech, Links Signs and Heritage Lottery Fund. Curated by Mariam Zulfiqar.



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