



For immediate release

Rachel Maclean's new work *Feed Me* to premiere at British Art Show 8

A delirious confection of multi-layered digital images, whipped into even more extravagant form by the artist's trademark multi-character theatrics, Rachel Maclean's *Feed Me* is a parable of the pleasures and the perils of excess. Produced by Film and Video Umbrella, this is Maclean's most ambitious project to date: an intricate and audacious 60-minute film, scripted by the artist, and in which Maclean, made up to the hilt, and wrapped in various costumes and prosthetics, plays all the roles.

The characters she enacts run the gamut of contemporary obsessions, and personify much of the selfishness, avarice and indulgence of the times in which we live. Constantly changing guises, Maclean deftly nails (and wickedly skewers) some of these celebrated faces of today: the pre-teen social media addict, the starry-eyed child-performer, the silver-fox media entrepreneur, the entertainment industry svengali.

Part fairy tale, part hyper-modern fantasia, 'Feed Me' revels in its colourful, candy-coated surface but it also has caustic and satirical bite; lamenting the commercialisation (and sexualisation) of childhood, and a corresponding infantilism in adult behaviour. As we continue to feed the monster of contemporary consumerist desire, Maclean's film is a record of all the little monsters that are created in its wake.

Commissioned by Film and Video Umbrella (FVU) and Hayward Touring for British Art Show 8. Supported by Arts Council England and Creative Scotland. The work will premiere as part of British Art Show 8 at Leeds Art Gallery from 8 October 2015 - 10 January 2016, before travelling to Edinburgh, Norwich and Southampton.

- Ends -

**For further information on 'Feed Me' by Rachel Maclean, please contact Vicky Norton
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Notes to Editors

Credit line

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Images available on request. Please use image caption:

Still, 'Feed Me' Rachel Maclean (2015). Courtesy the artist and FVU.

Exhibition dates:

LEEDS

Leeds Art Gallery

9 October 2015 - 10 January 2016

EDINBURGH

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh, and Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

13 February - 8 May 2016

NORWICH

Norwich University of the Arts and Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery

24 June - 4 September 2016

SOUTHAMPTON

John Hansard Gallery and Southampton City Art Gallery

8 October 2016 - 14 January 2017

Rachel Maclean (born 1987 in Edinburgh) received her BA (Hons) from Edinburgh College of Art in 2009. This year she undertook a residency at the Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge. Recent solo exhibitions include *Moving Pictures*, British Council Touring (2015), *Please Sir...* Rowing, London (2014), *The Weepers*, Comar, Isle of Mull (2014), *Happy and Glorious*, Centre of Contemporary Arts, Glasgow (2014), *I HEART SCOTLAND*, The Travelling Gallery, Scotland (2014). In 2013, Maclean received the Margaret Tait Award. Selected group exhibitions include *Anatomy of Anxieties*, Edouard Malingue Gallery, Hong Kong (2014), *Over (Drive+Flow)*, Galerie Olivier Robert, Paris (2014), *Focus on Film*, Royal Scottish Academy Annual exhibition, Edinburgh (2014), *Costume: Written Clothing*, Group show, Tramway, Glasgow (2013), *Microstoria*, The Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh (2011), *RSA New Contemporaries*, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh (2010), *Bloomberg New Contemporaries*, Cornerhouse, Manchester / A Foundation, London (2009). She lives and works in Glasgow.

Film and Video Umbrella commissions, curates, produces and presents film, video and other moving-image works by artists that are staged in collaboration with galleries and other cultural partners. Since the late 1980s, Film and Video Umbrella 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. www.fvu.co.uk

