

Lisa Risbec

West Yorkshire, UK

www.lisarisbec.co.uk

lisarisbec@hotmail.co.uk

Visual artist working with archives, materiality, memory, and gesture, with a focus on how objects carry meaning and how archival actions—sorting, arranging, and preserving—function as creative and performative acts. Combining installation, moving image, sound, and text, often using found, collected, and crafted objects to examine how histories are stored, activated, and reinterpreted.

Research focuses on creative approaches to archiving artists' papers and objects, as well as the relationship between archives and the body. Interested in how artists' materials are classified and preserved, informing exploration of creative methodologies that challenge traditional archival structures.

Selected Exhibitions and Projects

2024

The Organised Body (MA Show), Hanover Building, Preston

The Weight of It All (Interim Group Show), The Birley, Preston

2023

Permission to Breathe (Group Show with Karen Bertonasci), PR1 Gallery, Preston

Everything I Didn't Want, The Cutting Room Exhibition, Leeds Art University

2022

Holding Pattern Exhibition, Imaginary Wines

2021–2022

Arts Council England Developing Your Creative Practice Grant – Research project exploring the link between archiving, collecting, and artistic practice

2020

Anything Could Come Out of That Egg! (Group Show), Postcards from the Futuro, Todmorden TIC

The Anne Brontë Exhibition, South Square

2019

Group Show, 9A Gallery

Co-Curator, *Your Truth is Not My Truth*, Pool Arts Exhibition, The Horsfall, Manchester

Co-Curator, *Resilience*, Pool Arts Exhibition, Manchester

2018

Good Luck Charm included in *The Art of Magic* Group Show, The Horse Hospital, London; Robinwood Mill, Todmorden; Analogue Farm, Rossendale

Co-Curator, *RHYTHM: The Work of Akinyemi Oludele*, The Horsfall, Manchester

Curator, *Three Chord Zen* (Lee Hadfield Exhibition), Cass Arts, Manchester

The Earth Runs Red included in *Diptych, Triptych and Polyptych* Group Show, PS Mirabel, Manchester

Residencies and Commissions

2017

Let's Talk: Conversations Through Making as part of *A Day and a Night*, IMAA Group Show/Event

Painting the Town Workshops and Commissioned Animation, Manchester Histories

2016

Doremifasolasido Residency, Florence Arts Centre, Cumbria

IMPACT *Representing Data* Visual Art Commission

Our Streets Animation Commissioned by Cartwheel Arts

2015

Islington Mill Art Academy Residency, Regents Trading Estate

IMPACT *Representing Data* Visual Art Commission

Professional Experience

Imaging Assistant, John Rylands Library and Research Institute, Manchester (Jan 2024 – Present)

Retrieving and assessing materials for digitisation, collaborating with photographers and special collections teams.

Applying knowledge of copyright, metadata, and archival structures to support digital accessibility.

Historical Project Photographer, Manchester, UK (Jan 2020 – Dec 2023)

Photographed archival materials using high-end imaging equipment, ensuring accuracy and preservation.

Worked within archival settings, documenting historical collections for digital records.

Creative Facilitator and Mentor, Various Organisations

Led arts and health projects, exhibitions, and creative workshops for over 10 years.

Developed participatory projects, toolkits, and resources for organisations including Cartwheel Arts, Pool Arts, and ARC.

Resource Development, Cartwheel Arts

Co-developed Art for Transition and Wellbeing Dominoes, supporting mental health and social integration.

Education

MA Fine Art, University of Central Lancashire (UCLan), Preston (2022–2024) *Distinction*

BA (Hons) Photography with Audio Visual Media, UCLan, Preston (2002–2005) 2:1