

KATE MACGARRY

Ben Rivers

Born in Somerset in 1972. Lives and works in London.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2026 *We have myth to protect us when history goes mad*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
- 2023 *Ghost Strata and other stories*, Jeu de Paume, Paris, France
It's About Time, STUK, Leuven, Belgium
- 2022 *After London*, Jeu de Paume, Paris, France
- 2021 *Urthworks*, Kunsternes Hus, Oslo, Norway
- 2020 *Look Then Below*, Mattflick, Matt's Gallery, London, UK
Urthworks, Hestercombe Gallery, Somerset, UK
- 2019 *Now, at Last!*, Kate MacGarry Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 *Ghost Strata*, Matt's Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 *Phantoms*, Triennale, Milan, Italy
- 2016 *Urth*, Renaissance Society, Chicago, USA
Islands, Hamburg Kunstverein, Hamburg, Germany
The Two Eyes Are Not Brothers, Whitworth Museum, Manchester, UK
The Two Eyes Are Not Brothers, Marrakech Biennale, Marrakech, Morocco
- 2015 *Earth Needs More Magicians*, Camden Arts Centre, London, UK
The Two Eyes Are Not Brothers, Artangel, London, UK
- 2014 *Things*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
Fable, Temporary Gallery, Cologne, Germany
A Spell To Ward Off The Darkness, Kadist Foundation, Paris, France
- 2013 *Ah, Liberty!*, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Slow Action, Doosan Gallery, Seoul, South Korea
- 2012 *Sack Barrow*, Hamburg Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany
Phantoms of a Libertine, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
Slow Action, Hepworth Wakefield, Wakefield, UK
- 2011 *Slow Action*, Gallery TPW, Toronto, Canada
Slow Action, Western Front, Vancouver, Canada
Sack Barrow, The Changing Room, Stirling, UK
Sack Barrow, Statements, Art Basel 42, Basel, Switzerland
Sack Barrow, Project Space, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
Slow Action, Matt's Gallery, London, UK
- 2010 *Slow Action*, Picture This, Bristol, UK
On Overgrown Paths, Impressions Gallery, Bradford, UK
Origin of the Species, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
Ben Rivers, Indielisboa, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2009 *A World Rattled of Habit*, A Foundation, Liverpool, UK
Origin of the Species, Picture This, Bristol, UK
Subjective Projections, Bielefelder Kunstverein, Bielefelder, Germany
The House and The Woods, Punto de vista, Pamplona, Italy

Selected Solo Screenings

- 2025 *Mare's Nest*, British Film Institute, London, UK
Mare's Nest, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK
Mare's Nest, Thessaloniki Biennale, Thessaloniki, Greece

- Mare's Nest*, Concorso Internazionale, Locarno Film Festival, Switzerland
Bogancloch, British Film Institute, London, UK
- 2024 *The Minotaur*, Art Basel Film Programme, Stadtkino, Basel, Switzerland
Conditions Sessions: Ben Rivers, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK
Ben Rivers: Collected Stories, Close-Up Film Centre, London, UK
- 2023 *Worlds: Selected works by Ben Rivers*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK
- 2020 *Three Films from Ben Rivers*, Media City Film Festival, Michigan, USA
Ghost Strata, Doc Fortnight, MoMA, New York, USA
- 2015 *A Matter of Life and Death*, Harvard Film Archive, Massachusetts, USA
The Sky Trembles and the Earth is Afraid and the Two Eyes Are Not Brothers,
 Locarno Film Festival, Switzerland
Films selected by Ben Rivers, Camden Art Centre, London, UK
- 2014 *Retrospective*, Karlovy-Vary International Film Festival, Czech Republic
- 2013 *A Spell To Ward Off The Darkness*, International Film Festival Rotterdam, The
 Netherlands
- 2011 *Two Years at Sea*, Venice Film Festival, Italy
Inhabited Spaces, Milan Film Festival, Italy
Scope Trilogy, Glasgow Film Festival, Scotland
Artist-in-focus, Underdox, Munich, Germany
Ben Rivers at the Edge of the World, London Film Festival, UK
Utopías Privadas, Xcèntric, CCCB, Barcelona, Spain
Artist-in-focus, Courtisane, Vooruit, Ghent, Belgium
Tribute, VIS, Vienna, Austria
A World Rattled of Habitt, LA Film Forum, USA
This Is My Land, Yerba Buena Centre of for the Arts, San Francisco, USA
The Poetic Horror of Ben Rivers, Other Cinema, San Francisco, USA
On the Nature of Affinities, Union Theatre, Milwaukee, USA
A World Rattled of Habit, Conversations at the Edge, Gene Siskel Centre, Chicago,
 USA
Omaggio a Ben Rivers, Pesaro International Film festival, Italy
- 2009 *Serpentine Cinema: Ben Rivers and Javier Téllez*, Gate Picturehouse, London, UK

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *Simon Moretti: Hereafter*, The Swedenborg Society, Swedenborg House, London,
 UK
- 2024 *National Treasures: Constable in Bristol "Truth to Nature"*, Bristol Museum, UK
CONDO hosting Bureau, New York, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
- 2022 *Somewhere from here to heaven*, Azkuna Zentroa, Bilbao, Spain
Hollow Earth: Art, Caves & The Subterranean Imaginary, Nottingham
 Contemporary, Nottingham, UK
TWENTY, Kate MacGarry at No. 9 Cork Street, London, UK
After Work (with Céline Condorelli and Jay Bernard), South London Gallery, London,
 UK
Our Silver City, 2094, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, UK
- 2021 *TOI 700d*, Galerie Les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, France
- 2020 *Yebisu International Festival for Art & Alternative Visions*, Tokyo Photographic Art
 Museum, Tokyo, Japan
Taiwan International Video Art Exhibition, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2019 *Utopia Dystopia*, Annely Juda, London, UK
Expanded Plus: Utopian Phantom, Jeonju, South Korea
La Rivière m'a Dit, Le Plateau, Paris, France
- 2018 *Museum of Clouds*, Tate Modern, London, UK
Affective Affinities, Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
A Visibility Matrix, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

- Thailand Biennale*, Krabi, Thailand
Explorers, Tate Liverpool, UK
Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice, Italy
Eye Art & Film Prize: Hito Steyerl, Ben Rivers, Wang Bing, Eye Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Wilderness, The New Art Gallery Walsall, UK
Truth: 24 Frames Per Second, Dallas Museum of Art, USA
- 2017 *FIFTEEN*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
A Green and Pleasant Land, Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK
Plant Scenery of the World, Inverleith House, Edinburgh, UK
Jaguars and Electric Eels, Julia Stoschek Collection, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 *The Inoperative Community II*, Muzeum Sztuki, Lodz, Poland
The Distant Unknown, OCAT, Shanghai, China
- 2015 *Quaypurlake*, Hauser & Wirth, Somerset, UK
- 2013 *New Worlds (Ben Rivers/Ben Russell)*, Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Switzerland
Someone Else, Landes Galerie Linz, Austria
Insomnia, Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, Spain
Public Diary, Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo, Japan
Someone Else, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, New Zealand
- 2012 *ArtsMine*, East Pool Mine, Cornwall, UK
Man in the Holocene, MIT List Visual Art Centre, USA
Flaherty Seminar, Colgate University, New York, USA
Scultura fantasma, Baginski Galeria, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2011 Frieze Art Fair, London, UK
Spectrums of Light, Temporary Gallery Cologne, Germany
 Mardin Bienalle, Mardin, Turkey
- 2010 *Interrupted Landscapes*, Champion, Austin, Texas, USA
FasoFiso, Cermodern, Ankara, Turkey
- 2009 *Practical Truths*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK
- 2009 Serpentine Screening Series – with Javier Tellez, Gate Cinema, London, UK
Out Of This World, St Paul St Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
An Entangled Bank, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
Artprojx/FLAMIN Matinee, Prince Charles Cinema, London, UK
For Robert Frank, National Gallery of Art, Washington, USA
Figuring Landscapes, ArtSway, New Forest; Tate Modern, London, touring to: Dundee Contemporary Arts, Scotland; FACT, Liverpool; Vivid, Birmingham; Showroom Sheffield; Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff; Site Festival, Stroud Valley Artspace, England; Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney; Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia
- 2008 *SYNDICATE*, Rokeby, London, UK
Wild Shapes, Cell Projects, London, UK
 Claremorris Open, Claremorris, Ireland, UK
If - People and Places in recent film and video - Bloomberg Space, London, UK
Art With Strangers - Turnpike Gallery, Leigh, UK
We Can Not Exist In This World Alone, Two-person touring show with Ben Russell, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth; SOFA gallery, Christchurch; Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney; OtherFilm, Brisbane, Australia
Tank TV presents, Artprojx, London, UK
Soundtracks, ICA, London, UK
- 2007 Kyoto Media Art Week, Kyoto Art Centre, Japan
 Biennial of Moving Images, Geneva, Switzerland
Mayflies, Site Gallery, Sheffield; Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK
 European Media Art Festival, Osnabruck, Germany
Prizewinners Show (with Tomas Chaffe), Surface Gallery, Nottingham, UK
A Ses Parents, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland

A Certain Tendency in Representation, Cineclub, Thomas Dane Gallery, London, UK
Open Show, Surface Gallery, Nottingham, UK
New Work UK, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK
Without Boundaries, European Artists Film and Video, Watershed, Bristol, UK
Ways of Worldmaking (with Jeremy Butler), Permanent Gallery, Brighton, UK

Awards

- 2025 Pardo Verde, Locarno Film Festival
2016 EYE Art & Film Prize, Eye Filmmuseum
2014 Tiger Award for Short Film, The International Film Festival Rotterdam
2013 Robert Gardner Film Award, Film Study Center, Harvard University
2011 FIPRESCI International Critics Prize, Venice Film Festival
Baloise Art Prize, Art Basel
2010 Paul Hamlyn Foundation Award for Artists
Jarman Award Shortlist
2008 Tiger Award for Short Film, , The International Film Festival Rotterdam
2007 London Artists Film and Video Award

Bibliography

Selected Publications

- 2023 *Collected Stories*, Ben Rivers et al., Fireflies Press, Berlin
2016 *Ways of Worldmaking*, Ben Rivers, ed. Bettina Steinbrügge, Camden Arts Centre, Kunstverein Hamburg, The Renaissance Society, La Triennale di Milano
2015 *The Sky Trembles and the Earth is Afraid and the Two Eyes Are Not Brothers*, Artangel (on the occasion of Ben Rivers: *The Two Eyes Are Not Brothers*, The Whitworth, Manchester)
File Note no.99, Ben Rivers: Earth Needs More Magicians and Edgelands, Camden Arts Centre (on the occasion of Ben Rivers: *Earth Needs More Magicians*, Camden Arts Centre, London)
2013 *Ah, Liberty!*, Ben Rivers, Douglas Hyde Gallery (on the occasion of Ben Rivers: *Ah, Liberty!*, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin)

Selected Press

- 2025 'Ben Rivers interviewed by María Palacios Cruz', *Art Monthly*, December
J. Smith, 'A Freedom of the Imagination: Ben Rivers on Mare's Nest', *In Review Online*, 21 October
H. Gonzalez, "'Mare's Nest' Uses Words as Lifelines in a Crumbling World", *InSession Film*, 18 August
P. Bradshaw, 'Mare's Nest review – an opaque, challenging reflection on the end of the world', *The Guardian*, August 2025
A. Pham, 'Ben Rivers on the Locarno, Toronto-Selected 'Mare's Nest' and Reinventing a Future Without Conflict, as Film Gets a Trailer', *Variety*, 8 August
L. Felperin, 'Bogancloch review – the further adventures of a Scottish hermit in Ben Rivers' beguiling essay', *The Guardian*, 27 May
2024 J. Bleasdale, 'Bogancloch: Ben Rivers' glorious new film continues his fascination with a Scottish forest-dweller', *BFI Reviews*, 14 August
L. Goi, 'Locarno Review: Ben Rivers' Entrancing *Bogancloch* Invites Contemplation and Defies Comprehension', *The Film Stage*, 26 August
M. Dimitroiva, 'Ben Rivers's *Collected Stories*', *e-flux*, 1 May

- 2023 V. Onwuemezi, 'Still No Sound of the Hour Striking', *ArtReview*, 14 November
 B. Tarr, 'The World of Slow Cinema: 10 Great Films That Foreground Stillness', *High On Films*, 22 December
- 2020 J. Cronk, 'A Slippage In Time: Ben Rivers and Anocha Suwichakornpong on "Krabi 2562"', *MUBI*, 29 May
- 2019 K. Blokhina, 'Ben Rivers in Conversation with Filipa Ramos – homage to a slow animal', *FAD Magazine*, 24 March
 T. McMullan, 'This Year's London Film Festival Is Wild at Heart', *Frieze*, 15 October
- 2016 P. Bradshaw, 'The Sky Trembles and the Earth Is Afraid and the Two Eyes Are Not Brothers review – brutal essay on orientalism', *The Guardian*, 5 May
 S. Johnson, 'Talking to Ben Rivers about art film 'Urth' and how it's finding an audience', *Chicago Tribune*
 R. Macfarlane, 'Walking in Unquiet Landscapes', *Tate Etc.*
- 2015 E. Balsom, 'Erika Balsom on Ben Rivers's The Two Eyes Are Not Brothers' *Artforum*, 1 October
 B. Rivers, 'This was my town', *Art Quarterly*, Autumn
 D. Kidner, 'The Long and Short', *Frieze*, September
 S. Kent, 'Ben Rivers: Earth Needs More Magicians, Camden Arts Centre', *The Arts Desk*, 30 September
- 2014 M. Gronlund, 'Ben Rivers's "Things"', *Art Agenda*, 3 October
- 2013 'Ben Rivers and Ben Russell Talk About *A Spell to Ward off the Darkness* (2013)', *Artforum*, November
 C. Fitzgibbon, 'Ben Rivers', *BOMB Magazine*, Autumn
- 2012 A. Picard, 'A Man Apart', *Sight & Sound*, 1 May
- 2011 S. Sherwin, 'Artist of the week 125: Ben Rivers', *The Guardian*, 10 February
 M. Schlegell, 'Somerset or, A Glance at the Deep Future of the Avant-Garde', *Frieze*, September
 E. Halter, 'Into the Wild', *Mousse Magazine*, May
- 2010 D. Trigg, 'Ben Rivers', *Art Monthly*, February
 J. Griffin, 'Ben Rivers', *Frieze*, January/February
 L. McLean-Ferris, 'Enduring Portrait of the Wilderness Years', *The Independent*, 23 April

Education

1990-93 BA Fine Art - Falmouth School of Art

Teaching

2009-2020 Various visiting lecturer appointments including Harvard University, School of Art Institute of Chicago, CalArts, Goldsmiths, Royal College of Art, Slade School of Art, Falmouth School of Art, University of London, Cornell University, Kingston University, De Ateliers, Amsterdam and DOCNomads, Brussels

2010-2020 Various film curating - BFI, ICA, Harvard Film Archive, LUX, Courtisane, Ghent

2014-2015 Radcliffe Fellowship – Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

2012-2013 Visiting Professor - Le Fresnoy, Studio National des Arts Contemporains, France

1996-2006 Director/Programmer - Brighton Cinematheque

Public Collections

Arts Council Collection, UK

Bristol Museum & Art Gallery, UK

British Council, UK

Fonds d'art contemporain de la Ville de Genève, Switzerland

Royal Pavilion & Museums, Brighton & Hove, UK