

CHELSEA space

Collaboration with Kit Poulson for his *Mutter* Exhibition
25 January – 3 March 2017



Kit Poulson, still from *Mutter*, 2016. Image by Ben Owen

CHELSEA space is pleased to announce the first exhibition in 2017 will be with the artist and writer **Kit Poulson**, who is a library residency artist during 2016/17 through a collaborative new commission platform initiated by **Book Works** with **Chelsea College of Arts Library** and **CHELSEA space**.

Poulson has taken peculiarities of technology as a starting point for his residency, with the aim to develop from it an idiosyncratic working method to investigate the library at Chelsea as a physical and dynamic space. Using the underlying motif of an analogue synthesizer, the Roland 303, to explore anti-systemic, intuitive and improvisational working methods. The project asks what 'knowledge' might be and how it is communicated.

Exhibiting painting, sound works and objects alongside a series of short films, a collaboration with the filmmaker Ben Owen — which explore improvisational practices well understood by musicians, alongside Poulson's writing, the show explores a different way of thinking about libraries and archives, beyond fixed static spaces, but as dynamic, emotional spaces, sites of chance or extempore encounters. Poulson is interested in books' materiality; not in the well explored sense of the printed artefact as a structure to be played with but rather in seeing a book as a solidification of the flux of consciousness, that can be explored through a range of mediums, wilfully misunderstood and that resists dissolving into ideas.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a reading room selected from the library's archives and collections. A live performance drawn from the forthcoming publication commissioned as part of this project is planned for the opening night, with Kit Poulson, Ben Owen and musicians who have contributed to the film.

Poulson has been working with librarian Gustavo Grandal Montero and **BA Fine Art** and **MA Curating and Collections** students at Chelsea to produce and curate materials that will be incorporated into a display in the library and the exhibition at CHELSEA space. A new publication with Book Works, supported by the Henry Moore Foundation, will also follow later in 2017.