

Flesh and Time: Lynn Hershman Leeson, Feminism and Performances of the Life-like

Speaker:
Lotfi Gouigah
McGill University

The English Restaurant
52 Brushfield Street
Spitalfields
London
E1 6AG

15 May 2017
7.00-8.30pm
FREE and open to all



For the third talk in our new series of Art History in the Pub in London 2017, we welcome Lotfi Gouigah, a doctoral student at McGill University, specialising in the convergence of new technologies and late twentieth century American Art. In his talk Lotfi will reflect on the career of pioneering American performance and multi-media artist Lynn Hershman Leeson (b. 1941).

Leeson, over five decades of groundbreaking media art, has become a key figure in understanding the social implications of technology on identity, yet her oeuvre was relatively unknown in this country before her solo exhibition at Vilma Gold, London, in 2016: 'Trans Genesis: Evaporations and Mutations'. Lotfi's timely research will discuss three aspects of Leeson's work: her contribution to American Feminist Art and how it stands out from her contemporaries such as Judy Chicago or Eleanor Antin; her pioneering use of new media art (which decades ago discussed issues now commonly associated with the impact of information technologies on privacy); and her 1970s years-long performances during which Leeson lived her life as the fictional persona of Roberta Breitmore.

Art History in the Pub talks are always very informal. The talks are of general interest, and anyone is welcome to come along and listen and ask questions. The talk will last for about 30 minutes, with a break for getting extra drinks, followed by general discussion. This event is free of charge. The talk will take place upstairs from the main bar area, and the pub does food for those wishing to eat before the event.

Art History in the Pub is organised by the Association for Art Historians. For details about future or past events, visit: aah.org.uk/events/art-history-in-the-pub



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Art History in the Pub, London

Image: Lynn Hershman Leeson, Roberta's Construction Chart 1, 1975, archival digital print and dye transfer, 58.4 x 43.2 cm © Lynn Hershman Leeson, all rights reserved