



Image: Taking an X-ray

A Gentle Visual Fire - Book Launch

Main Hall, Marx Memorial Library and Workers' School,
37a Clerkenwell Green, London, EC1R 0DU

Thursday 30th November
7pm-8:30pm

A Gentle Visual Fire is a new book work by artist Amy Feneck, made in response to the Spanish Civil War photographic collections held in the archives at the Marx Memorial Library.

The book comprises a series of the artist's photographs in parallel with a narrative text. Together they imagine alternative ways of understanding and experiencing the histories held within the photographs from this unique archive.

Amy Feneck will give a short reading from her book, followed by a conversation with writer and curator Gareth Evans. There will also be an opportunity to visit the Marx Memorial Library Reading Room and the Lenin Room, see some of the original photographs from the archive and hear more about the Spanish Civil War collection from Library manager Meirian Jump.

Drinks will be served and the book has a special launch price of £5 (normally £7.50).

7pm Drinks in the Main Hall, short tours to the Reading Room and Lenin Room

7:30pm Introduction from Meirian Jump, followed by short reading by Amy Feneck

7:45pm Conversation between Amy Feneck and Gareth Evans

Places are limited, to reserve a place please book online [HERE](#).

Amy Feneck is an artist whose work spans photography, writing, moving image and participatory projects. She collaborates with Ruth Beale on The Alternative School of Economics (ASE), whose recent projects include co-founding *Rabbits Road Institute* in Newham, London and running a two year programme of talks, events, exhibitions and workshops including *Lantern Lecture* with Shami Chakrabarti and the exhibition *The Rich as a Minority Group*. The ASE has also done events at the Hayward Gallery, ICA, V&A and with Arts Catalyst. Amy has also exhibited work at the Whitechapel Gallery, Gasworks, London and Spacex, Exeter. She graduated from MFA at the Slade School of Art in 2014, and was the recipient of the the UCL Art Museum Prize.

Gareth Evans is a London-based writer, editor, film and event producer and Whitechapel Gallery's Adjunct Moving Image Curator. He is also co-curator of Flipside Festival (Snape Maltings), Swedenborg Film Festival and Whitstable Biennale, and a contributing curator to Forum of the Future, Porto.

He conceived and co-curated the year-long Utopia 2016 at Somerset House and curated the moving image programme, including the new feature commission by US film-maker Jem Cohen (*World Without End*) for the inaugural Essex and Kent festival Estuary in 2016.

He created and programmed PLACE, the annual cross-platform festival at Aldeburgh Music, is Co-Director of production agency Artevents and has curated numerous film and event seasons across the UK (e.g. J.G. Ballard, Portugal, Roma Cinema, Armenia, at the Barbican, ICA, Institut Francais, Arnolfini and Watershed among many others). He conceived and curated the cross-arts London season John Berger: Here Is Where We Meet in 2005 and co-curated All Power to the Imagination! 1968 and Its Legacies in 2008. He regularly hosts events at institutions nationally and internationally.

He produced the essay film *Patience (After Sebald)* by Grant Gee as part of his nationwide arts project *The Re-Enchantment* (2008 - 2011) and has recently executive-produced the feature-length works *Erase and Forget* (Andrea Luka Zimmerman, Berlinale Panorama 2017), *Unseen* (Dryden Goodwin for Royal Museums Greenwich); *By Our Selves* (Andrew Kottling and Iain Sinclair for Soda Pictures); *In Time: an Archive Life* (Lasse Johansson) and is in development with Fly Film and the BFI for *The Lighthouse* (directed by Grant Gee and written with Sasha Hails). He commissioned *Things* by Ben Rivers, which won the 2015 Tiger Award at Rotterdam International Film Festival.

Marx Memorial Library & Workers' School was founded in 1933 with the aim of advancing education, knowledge and learning in all aspects of the science of Marxism, the history of Socialism and the working class movement. At the heart of the British Labour Movement for over eighty years, the Library is home to a unique collection of published and archival sources on related subjects including the trade unionism, peace and solidarity movements and the Spanish Civil War. <https://www.marx-memorial-library.org>