

SEE ME: (An almost) autobiography
Performance Poetry Films by Lee Campbell
July 26–31, 2022 Pop-Up Exhibit

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BOSTON, MA – Beginning July 26th, Fountain Street will present the week-long pop-up exhibition “SEE ME: (An almost) autobiography,” a collection of short performance poetry films by Lee Campbell. Campbell shares his personal history as a working-class gay British man to confront the politics of seeing and underline how validating seeing can be as well as the difficulty of not being seen. In this collection, Campbell presents a journey through different relationships including as a teenager to his dad (“Let Rip: The Beautiful Game”), with grandparents (“See Shells”), teachers, school peers, work colleagues (“Let Rip: Teenage Scrapbook” and “Head Boy”), the gay community (“SEE ME: A Walk through London’s Gay Soho”), his alter ego (“Camp-Belle”), partner (“Rufus”), and spaces of queer imagination (“The Tale of Benny Harris, Cottage”).

While Campbell’s films can be viewed as one person’s narrative, they represent different voices layered to talk about wider levels of experience, with references to cultural contexts that anyone can relate to: football matches, George Michael, late night TV, bad porn, fancying schoolteachers, and doing things to fit in.

Lee Campbell's moving image film practice brings together drawing, painting, photography and performance. His films are often made by repurposing personal archival material and sound and moving image recordings. Collage has become a major tool in his practice, reinvigorating paintings and drawings from nearly twenty years ago and juxtaposing them with current photographic and performance work for the camera.

Campbell is an artist, poet, experimental filmmaker, and writer. He is Senior Lecturer at University of the Arts London. He curates the regular performance poetry night POW? Play on Words in South London and is the founder of Homo Humour, the first-of-its-kind project on contemporary queer male film and moving image practices that explore humor and LGBTQ+ storytelling. Campbell's experimental performance poetry films have been selected for many international film festivals including Queerbee LGBT Film Festival, The Gilbert Baker Film Festival, Kansas, HOMOGRAPHY, Brussels and STATES OF DESIRE: Tom of Finland in the Queer Imagination, Casa de Duende, Philadelphia, USA. In Boston, Campbell's films have been screened at WICKED QUEER 2021 and at Fountain Street's "Beyond Words", juried by Gabriel Sosa, and in its Sidewalk Video Gallery.

Image Information:

Lee Campbell, *SEE ME: A Walk through London's Gay Soho*, video still

About Fountain Street

Fountain Street is a contemporary gallery in the SoWa Art + Design District of Boston. We exhibit a wide array of media from over 30 emerging and mid-career artists in our main and annex galleries, and 24/7 at our Sidewalk Video Gallery. Founded in 2011, our passion has always been about connecting art seekers and makers through thoughtfully curated exhibitions, juried shows, collaborative projects and installations. Our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is reflected in the media that we exhibit, artists and curators that we promote, and audiences that we seek to engage.

Contact

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