FAMILY AND OTHER TIES

27 October – 9 December 2022

This exhibition celebrates the ten-year anniversary of the Family Ties Network (FTN), a research group of artists, filmmakers, and writers who explore memory, space, place, and the family in photography and moving image. The show features work by seven FTN coordinators alongside photographs and bookworks by nineteen artists, selected from an open call to the wider network. Many of these works reflect on what is meant by family in the aftermath of the global pandemic. Consequently, haunting stories of absence, trauma, and loss are interwoven with notions of cultural identity, feminist visions of personal histories and the celebrations and challenges of modern family life.

FTN was founded in 2012 after the conference, Family Ties: Recollection and Representation, convened by Sally Waterman, as part of her visiting fellowship at the Centre for the Study of Cultural Memory, University of London. Held at the Senate House, the keynote speakers were Rosy Martin and Professor Marsha MacKinnon, Loughborough University, alongside a screening and Q&A with the artist filmmaker, Sarah Miles. The FTN Coordinator group was soon established, comprising of both keynote and conference presenters and have since organised fifteen research seminars held nationally at different universities, art venues and galleries, as well as online during the last ten years.

A research seminar day will be held on Friday 9th December to mark the closing of the exhibition, with a line-up of guest speakers that reflects upon both past and present FTN involvement, as well as looking forward to future directions for the network. The day will include talks by filmmaker Sarah Pucill, visual anthropologist, Professor Shawn Sobers and photographic artist, Andy Wiener, in addition to contributions from FTN coordinators.

FTN coordinators: Suzie Adams, Nicky Bird, Jacqueline Butler, Rosy Martin, Caroline Molloy, Lizzie Thynne and Sally Waterman.

Selected artists: Sara Andredottir, Esther Birn, Beth Bronson, Kate Carpenter, Marysia Dowling, Clare Gallagher, Phil Hill, Miranda Hutton, Rachel Maloney, Celine Marchbank, Heather McDonough, Ines Re, Dawn Rodgers, Assunta Ruocco and Daniel T. Wheeler, Mandy Simpson, Mo White, Amanda Whittle and Andy Wiener.
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