



Bella Milroy

Solo Exhibition

Creative Exchange  
Event

Publication

London/Chesterfield

# File Under Female



Supported using public funding by  
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Women's  
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**Goldsmiths**  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

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**Libraries  
Week**  
9-14  
OCTOBER  
2017

**SHAPE  
ARTS**

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**WHITTINGTON**  
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For any access enquiries for  
this event please contact us  
[info@fileunderfemale.com](mailto:info@fileunderfemale.com)

**File Under Female** is a collaborative project created by award winning Chesterfield artist [Bella Milroy](#), Artist in Residence at the [Women's Art Library, Goldsmiths, University of London](#). The project, supported by the Women's Art Library, [Derbyshire Library Service](#) and [Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals](#) and sponsored by [Arts Council England](#), evolved during 2017 into an exhibition, publication and creative exchange event produced from her residency at the Women's Art Library. It explores and celebrates the inspiring qualities of women artists' archives made compelling by additional hand written texts and drawings found on top of, next to and along-side archived materials. Milroy's artwork reveals how discovering such unseen elements brings fresh insight into the careers and lives of those women artists and opens new ways of thinking about her own.

The exhibition at the **Kingsway Corridor, Goldsmith's University of London** 12th October – 3rd November 2017, presents Milroy's original artworks along with publications co-produced with [The White Pube](#) and graphic designer [Keir Mucklestone-Barnett](#). These works explore and respond to the unique archived documentation of the diverse work of women artists from around the world held by the Women's Art Library.

Speaking about the discourse she is seeking Milroy says, "In an a world where most artists have some kind of online platform, I want to

celebrate the importance of physical spaces that hold pieces of unique cultural experience and history, and explore how we can shape the way we conserve, display and promote women's art today." For her, the exhibition is a collaborative engagement that responds to the continuing challenges women artists face; gender biases, often compounded by ethnicity, religion, sexuality, class and disability.

"I want to reflect on our progress, the distance we still have to travel to gain recognition for our work and the unique contribution that archived women's art can make to this journey."

The accompanying publications will also be exhibited in all public libraries in Derbyshire and distributed to be accessible to all libraries across England during national library week 9th October – 14th October 2017.

By working with different artists and with the support of libraries through CILIP, DLS and WAL the project has created an inspiring collaborative cross regional cultural project, working across multiple platforms. She says, "This is something I feel really passionately about in opening up new avenues of art engagement."

The White Pube:

"Maybe I never cared about archive politics because I didn't admit I thought I was important too. Maybe without realising I've thought that where men are buried and made into monuments, women evaporate and are made into secrets or wishes."

Artists [Bella Milroy](#), [Gabrielle de la Puente](#) and [Zarina Muhammad](#) of [The White Pube](#), [Althea Greenan](#), Curator of the [Women's Art Library](#) and [Claire Collison](#) an artist contributing to the Women's Art Library archive, will host a **creative exchange event at Chesterfield Library Lecture Theatre 27th October 2017 6.00 – 8.00 p.m.** (tickets available at [Eventbrite](#)).

Presented as a collaborative engagement they will share their inspiring experience of women's archived artwork and emerging issues that responds to the continuing challenges women artists face. "We are really excited by this Chesterfield event..." Milroy says, "...seeing it as an important element of the whole project, a way of acknowledging important regional creative work and a way of extending the partnership and the possibilities that can support local creative work that might emerge from this, including the development of a local women's art archive with a relationship to the Women's Art Library, Goldsmiths University of London."

#### Accessibility:

We are dedicated to making this event as accessible as possible. If you have any accessibility requirements, please contact the event organiser in advance to ensure we can accommodate your needs at [info@fileunderfemale.com](mailto:info@fileunderfemale.com)

#### Exhibition Information:

[Events Calendar](#) Goldsmiths, University of London.

"**File Under Female**" is a project created by Bella Milroy ©.



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