

UnMasked

"The mask is the new face"

A collaborative multimedia
design installation

- . New technologies
- . Live performances
- . Art talks



Always present in every society, often used as a means of connection with the divine, the mask has now become an engaging and confronting fetish and trend, a fear; straddling fashion and art, for a game in which being and appearing are reversed and alternated.

About

One of the founders of the European enlightenment, Rene Descartes, asked us to “always go masked”.

Masks fascinate, whether in theatre or in the anthropological projections we cast on them. What if we considered that we think we hide our selves behind masks but they are also ourselves? A mask hides the self but calls attention to an identity we believe we can control.

Masks collide with others in the age of the **#Selfie**. What if we reflected on the feeling of being masked?

We explore these, and related themes in *UnMasked*. *UnMasked* features new body-centred technologies, creating a shape-shifting dialogue between Sharka Bosakova’s 3D printed performative objects and visual body landscape. We juxtapose traditional techniques with high technologies.

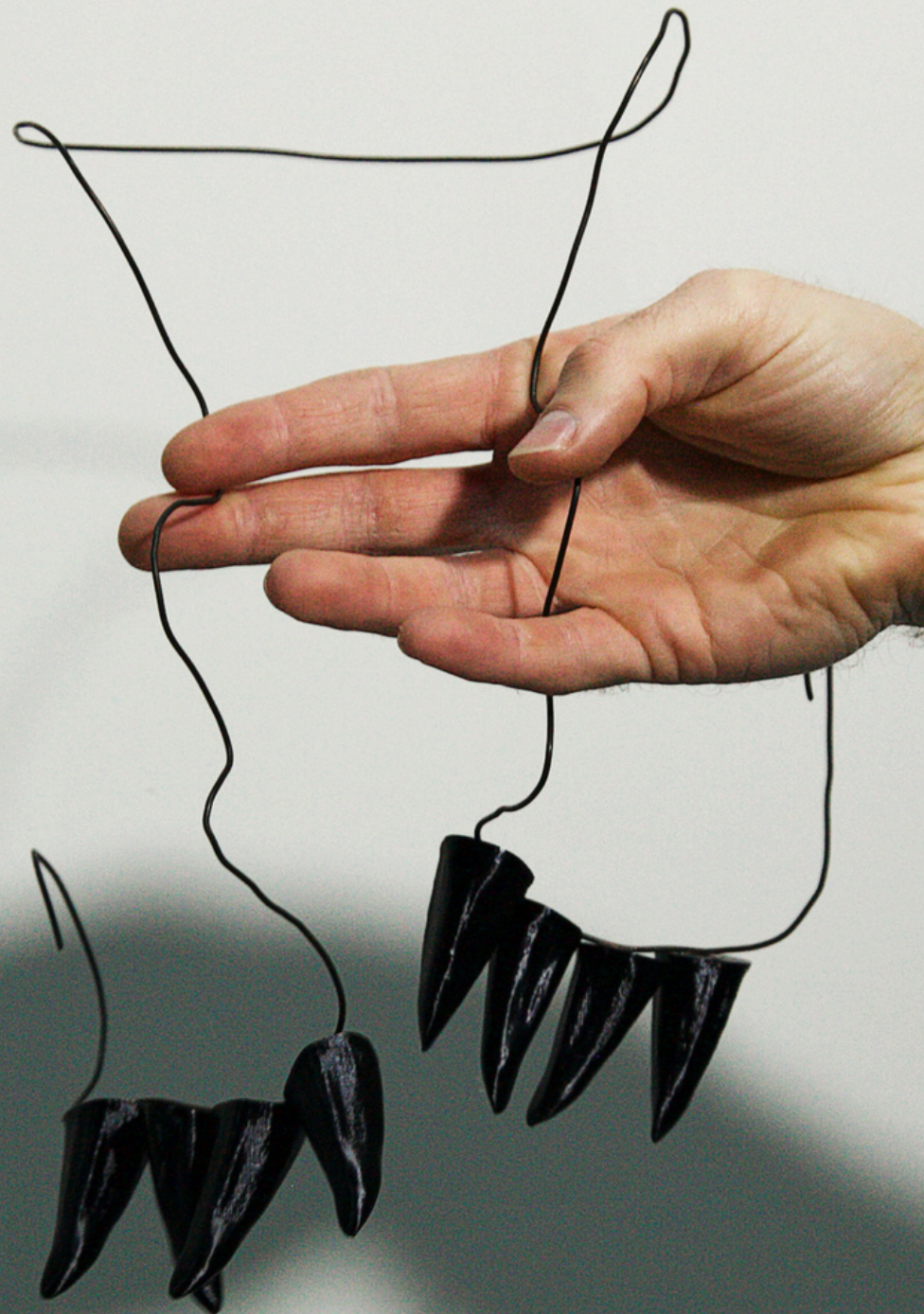
The objects and installations will be activated by live dance performances with live soundscapes and video projection.

UnMasked creates a rich and engaging space which will stimulate self awareness, question norms and enhance our understanding of how masks define and outline our social engagement and embodied selfhood in the age of the Selfie and COVID-19.

Taking place at QCA's Grey Street Gallery in 2020 and Logan Art Gallery in 2021.

Note: Interaction and touch will conform to a COVID-19 safety protocol.

Space



The exhibition includes installation of 3D printed magnetic objects and component walls where people can create their own #Unmasked selfie behind a transparent safety wall. Participants can stream an image 'wearing' their self created masks on social media and a digital screen; dismantling the gallery walls and opening them to wider publics.

Via the visual body landscape projections we begin to touch the interior body; what is at the core. The body construction protrudes, taking its shape on the surface, outside and beyond.

Sharka Bosakova's performative 3D / OVA jewellery stands for confrontation and resistance, expressing the urgency of contemporary phenomena in the self reflection of **UnMasked**.

The space will feature large semi-transparent textile banners - created by paint, water and wind, and CLUSTERS of natural and fabricated 'nearly soft sculptures'.





Featuring - Sharka Bosakova

'My first dress was an umbrella'

Sharka Bosakova is inspired by kinetic forms where the object has more than one function, different modes of appearance, including movement or interchanging positions. Sharka encourages the observer to respond, engage in a physical action.

Leaving the opportunity for individual creative expression.

MASK – Identity – BODY

with collaborators

Dr Mark Bahnisch

Mark is a sociologist, writer, creative and educator.

Robert Lort

Robert has been an art critic for over a decade writing for various publications including RealTime and Eyeline. He has reviewed multi-media, new music and performance art practices in a multitude of contexts.

Thomas Oliver

Thomas is a photographer and videographer.

Megan Janet White

+ RAW Bodies

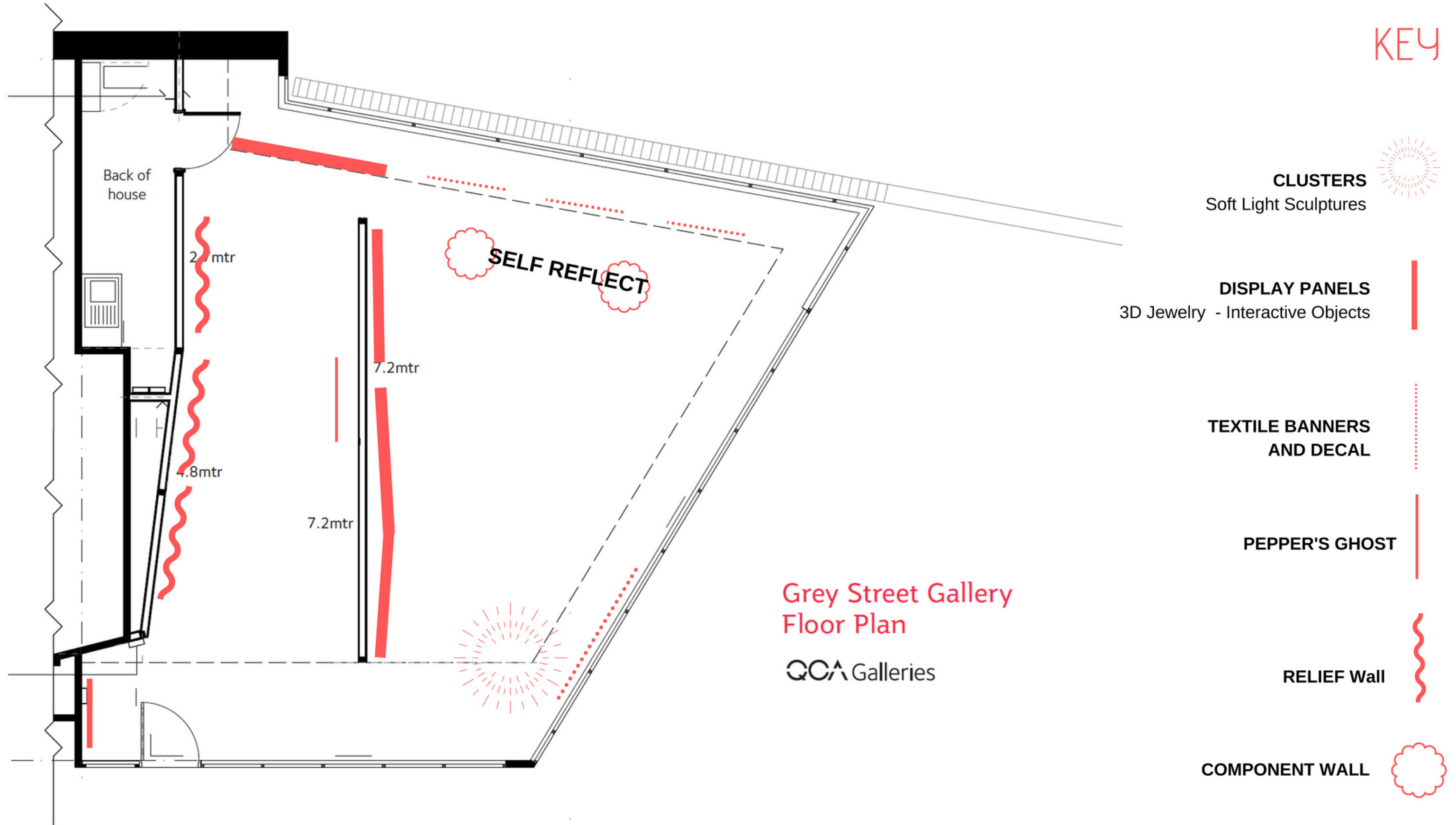
Megan Janet White is a movement, costume and installation artist, drawing on Butoh Dance, Oki-do Yoga and contemporary pop-art fusion. She is the co-founder of 'Theatre of Thunder' Sonic Butoh performance troupe, a company member of OzFrank Theatre, and creative director of HAIKU Arts. RAW BODIES is a project of Megan's.

Paul Young

Orthotyp-a is the dark ambient project of Paul Young - a composer, sound artist, curator and performer. Orthotyp-a's debut album 'Care' was released on hellosQuare Records in 2018.

Paul and Robert will accompany Megan Janet White in the live performance taking place as part of UnMasked.

Exhibition Floor Plan



CONTACT

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