

Lynn Hershman Leeson: .zip Archive

Curatorial Note: Assembled below are artist Lynn Hershman Leeson's choices of personal images and materials around the *Complete Electronic Diaries*, Room #8, and *Shadow Stalker* (2019), a new commission for *Manual Override*. They are included the direct files sent by Hershman Leeson, each labelled by her, and consist of film set outtakes, images of costume-making and process shots in the creation of the works, and personal photos. A number of screenshots are from the film of *Shadow Stalker*, starring actress Tessa Thompson and singer-actress January Jones. The creation of *Shadow Stalker* began in late 2018, beginning with curatorial conversations around algorithmic surveillance and predictive policing. Throughout the work's construction, Hershman Leeson took up the challenge of creating an accessible work for the general public about the long-term effect of algorithmic decision-making. In abstracting the red square of predictive policing maps, Hershman Leeson makes an argument for understanding gridding and targeting across eras, in line with her many years of art making around themes of surveillance, both genetic and technological.

File Name and Caption List:

lynn as antibody.tif

The artist holds up a vial of the LYNNHERSHMAN antibody, developed in collaboration with Novartis Pharmaceuticals and Novartis lead scientist Thomas Huber.

dna 2.psd

Continuing a life-long interest in archiving and maintenance of one's legacy, Lynn Hershman Leeson embedded her artistic works—films, including much of the *Diaries*—within DNA, which is increasingly valued for its uncanny capacity for computational data storage.

Shed 6 channel video instdtall.jpg

A previous install of the nearly-complete Electronic Diaries, minus the new commission of the final film for the Shed, at KW in Berlin, curated by Anna Gritz. The long central plaza of *Manual Override*—conceived by Giacomo Castagnola and Lucia Sanroman, the exhibition designers—takes its inspiration directly from the elegant KW installation. Each film is intimate and charged with

electronic diary image copy.tiff

An image from the artist's *Electronic Diaries*, in which her self-surveillance of her own image through film, and her playful, intentional editing of that image to split, replicate, and duplicate, was a space to explore multiple selves and voices as a filmmaker and artist.

SEMI TRANSPARENCY_231.tif

Actress January Jones raises her arms in a green screen outtake from *Shadow Stalker*, showing off subtle elements the transparently opaque costumes designed by Nina Hollein.

LSHED 2own your identity LYNN HERSHMAN LEESONPSD.tif

Hershman Leeson created a number of representative images during the filming and editing process. This critical image, is one central to *Shadow Stalker*, in which January Jones is seen partly in green screen. Her face is framed by a red square, and the entire image, by a red line. The call to *Own Your Identity/Own Your Privacy* directly references the interactive part of the work, in which visitors enter their e-mail to get a sense of how much data is immediately available about them—and others with their e-mail—online.

shadow stalker still.png

A still of January Jones raising her hood from one of the turning-point scenes in *Shadow Stalker*. Jones recites a poetic narrative after Tessa Thompson's urgent semi-journalistic report on the basics of predictive algorithms.

ShadowStalker_Image03.jpg

In *Shadow Stalker*, Hershman Leeson helps viewers visually grapple with the unseen, by describing predictive algorithms as 'red square algorithms,' and framing

her actresses and images within red squares repeatedly. The red square is used in PredPol maps by police to determine zones of criminality they will target and head towards throughout a day, before crimes have taken place.

ShadowStalker_Image06.jpg

An outtake from *Shadow Stalker*, referencing financial surveillance, public surveillance as in CCTV, and tracking through smartphones and security cameras, and their live feeds.

capeNina Hollein2.jpeg

A personal photo of Nina Hollein's designed cape for *Shadow Stalker* on a dummy.

ShadowStalker_face060.jpg

A shot of January Jones, actress, her face obscured and partly legible.

ShadowStalker_byPamelaGentile_196.jpg

January Jones on set, displaying the transparent-opaque costume by Hollein.

++Thompson_Hershman_byPamelaGentile+002.jpg

A photo of Lynn Hershman Leeson with Tessa Thompson during the filming of the opening monologue of *Shadow Stalker*.

ShadowStalekr_Image09.jpg

An outtake from *Shadow Stalker*, featuring January Jones during her poetic monologue on strategies of resistance to data extraction and surveillance.

ShadowStalker_byPamelaGentile_300.jpg

A shot from the green screen filming of *Shadow Stalker*.

All images courtesy the artist.