

**Luke Fowler and Mark Fell**  
**To the Editor of Amateur Photographer**  
**The Modern Institute, Aird's Lane**  
**30 May – 4 July 2015**  
**Preview Friday 29 May, 7-9pm**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*To the Editor of Amateur Photographer*, a new film by Luke Fowler and Mark Fell revolves around the testimonies and collected documents linked to the complex and often contested history of Pavilion in Leeds, the UK's first feminist photography centre. Examining a radical shift in photography whilst also foregrounding the problems of presenting history through archival fragments and personal recollections, the film mediates through a fragmented narrative, further distanced by its intense electronic soundtrack.

Pavilion was founded in 1983 by a group of women artists, art historians and cultural workers in Leeds. Operating out of former park premises within the 1980s and 90s, Pavilion was formed with the aim of being the first photography centre dedicated to representing and supporting the production of women's photography. Committed to challenging dominant forms of representation and the specific biases within photography, against a backdrop of heightened social, political and economic conflicts, Pavilion engaged in a collective struggle towards destabilising the prevalent patriarchal image culture.

The first decade of the organisation's activity is archived as part of the Feminist Archive North, housed within Special Collections at the University of Leeds. Today, Pavilion is a visual arts commissioning organisation producing ambitious new work with contemporary artists across diverse sites and locations.

Luke Fowler (b. 1978, Glasgow) is an artist, filmmaker and musician based in Glasgow. His films have been described as "para-documentary" and often interweave archival footage with his own camerawork and sounds. Fowler's film portraits often hinge on controversial figures or movements which have often been marginalised, erased or misrepresented by contemporary culture. Fowler studied at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee, from 1996-2000. He was nominated for The Turner Prize in 2012, and received the inaugural Derek Jarman Award in 2008. In 2014, Fowler was one of the recipients of Artists and Archives: Artists' Moving Image, a unique residency programme based at BBC Scotland. In November 2015, Museum of Modern Art, New York will feature Fowler as part of their 'Filmmaker in Focus' program.

Fowler has exhibited and shown his films internationally; recent screenings include: Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt; Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema (both 2015); Hyde Park Picture House, Leeds (2014); Film Museum, Vienna; ICA London; Glasgow Film Festival; and Berlin Film Festival (all 2012).

Selected solo exhibitions include those at: The Hepworth, Wakefield (2012); Inverleith House, Edinburgh (2012); CCS Bard Galleries, New York (2011); Serpentine Gallery, London (2009); and The Modern Institute, Glasgow (2009); Fowler has participated in numerous group exhibitions including: The Turner Prize, Tate Britain (2012); and The British Art Show 7, Nottingham Contemporary; The Hayward Gallery, London; Tramway, Glasgow; Plymouth

Arts Centre (2010-11). In addition to presentations at: Secession, Vienna; CAC, Bretigny; Barbican Art Gallery and Tate Modern, London; The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh; and New Museum, New York.

Mark Fell (b. born in 1966, Rotherham) is a multidisciplinary artist based in Sheffield. Fell studied experimental film and video art at Sheffield City Polytechnic (1992). In 1998 he began a series of critically acclaimed record releases on labels including Mille Plateaux, Line, Editions Mego and Raster Noton. Fell is widely known for combining popular music styles, such as electronica and club music, with more academic approaches to computer-based composition with a particular emphasis on algorithmic systems. Fell's practice has since expanded to include moving image works, sound and light installation, choreography, critical texts and curatorial projects.

Fell has exhibited his work worldwide, selected presentations include those at: Hong Kong National Film archive; The Baltic, Gateshead; Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona; ICA, London; Royal Festival Hall, London; Serpentine, London; The Australian Centre For Moving Image, Artists Space, New York; Issue Project Room, New York; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC; Curtis R.Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center, New York; Lampo/Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Chicago; Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe; and Hanger Biccoca, Milan.

*To the Editor of Amateur Photographer* is a Pavilion film by Mark Fell and Luke Fowler, commissioned by Hyde Park Picture House & Pavilion, Leeds (2014).