



University Art Gallery
712 Arts Plaza
Claire Trevor School of the Arts
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697-2775
(949) 824-9854
gallery@uci.edu
uag.arts.uci.edu

Tues.–Sat., 12–6 p.m.

PRESS PREVIEW KIT



Photo Credit: Jane and Louise Wilson, 'Paternoster' Stasi City, 1997, Detail of C-type print mounted on aluminum, © Jane and Louise Wilson, courtesy Maureen Paley, London

Dreamtime™

Jane and Louise Wilson

Curated by Juli Carson and Bruce Yonemoto
Contemporary Arts Center Gallery

On View: January 21 – March 25, 2023

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 21, 2–5 p.m.



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IRVINE, Calif. – The University of California, Irvine’s University Art Galleries (UAG) is pleased to host *Dreamtime*[™], an exhibition of the work of Jane and Louise Wilson.

The Cold War is Dead. Long live the Cold War.

1989—the year the Berlin Wall was torn down—ended the era of a divided Europe between Western and Russian influence. In historical consciousness, 1989 therefore functions as a kind of *hinge* between the political era of the mid-century Cold War and the post-political era of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, symbolically demarcating the “before” and “after” of these two epochs. *Dreamtime*[™], an exhibition by Jane and Louise Wilson, is an aesthetic through-line within this historical arc.

For Western identified globalists, the so-called “post-political” world was shored up by the “end of history” myth, ushered in by the presumed end of communism and the inevitable victory of both liberal democracy and capitalism. This was most famously proffered by Francis Fukuyama, who, after 1989, claimed: “The triumph of the West, of the Western *idea*, is evident...in the total exhaustion of viable systematic alternatives to Western liberalism.” Timothy Snyder, in his more recent book *The Road to Unfreedom: Russian, Europe, America*, calls this the *politics of inevitability*, “a sense that the future is just more of the present, that the laws of progress are known, that there are no alternatives, and therefore nothing really to be done.” Even so, a repressed Cold War reality is currently returning to collective consciousness, with a vengeance.

In this context, the exhibition’s title *Dreamtime*[™] is polysemic, at once denoting an artwork produced by the Wilsons, a space rocket launched by the Russians called *Dreamtime*[™], and, most notably, Freud’s concept of the dreamwork. It’s helpful to recall that for Freud, dreams are both illogical *and* allegorical, a rebus in need of decoding. Accordingly, the immersive installations central to *Dreamtime*[™] —*Stasi City* and *Dream Time*—are the nodal points of an historical dreamscape that we, as viewers, are asked to unpack. Given the current global landscape, one in which the (Un)Dead Cold War has returned, it’s a provocation we should heed.

In parallel, please join us for a talk with the artists on Monday, February 6 at noon.

Generous support of this exhibition is provided by the C. Christine Nichols Donor Advised Fund at the Community Foundation of Abilene and Illuminations: The Chancellor’s Arts & Culture Initiative.



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Artist Bio:

Jane and Louise Wilson (b. 1967 Great Britain, based in London) are artists whose work uses film, photography, performance, sound, and sculpture to create installations that expand cinema and investigate the darker side of the human experience. The Wilson sisters began working together in 1989, and have since exhibited internationally in solo and group contexts. Their work is part of several collections including the Guggenheim Museum of Art, New York; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Metropolitan Museum, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate, London, UK; and more.

Curator Bios:

Juli Carson is Professor of Art, Theory and Criticism in the Department of Art at UC Irvine and Director of the University Art Galleries. From 2018-19 she was the Philippe Jabre Professor of Art History and Curating at the American University of Beirut. Her books include: *Exile of the Imaginary: Politics, Aesthetics, Love* (Vienna: Generali Foundation, 2007) and *The Limits of Representation: Psychoanalysis and Critical Aesthetics* (Buenos Aires: Letra Viva Press, 2011). Her most recent book, *The Hermeneutic Impulse: Aesthetics of An Untethered Past*, was published by PoLyPen, a subsidiary of b_books Press in 2019. Forthcoming is *Mary Kelly's Concentric Pedagogy: Selected Writings*, edited by Juli Carson, (UK: Bloomsbury Press, 2023).

Bruce Yonemoto is a video and digital media installation artist, educator, writer and curator. He studied at the University of California at Berkeley and Sokei Art Institute in Tokyo, and received an M.F.A. from Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles. He has taught video and photography at universities in California and Japan. His work has been recently featured in retrospectives at the Tate, London, the Kunstverein, Hamburg, and Anthology film Archives in New York. He is currently a Professor of Studio Art, at University of California, Irvine.

UCI Claire Trevor
School of the Arts

Please follow our Instagram [@uag_ucirvine](#) for updates
For questions: sussef@uci.edu



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Dreamtime[™]

Fact Sheet

Exhibition:

On View: January 21 – March 25, 2023

Dreamtime[™]: Jane and Louise Wilson

Curated by Juli Carson and Bruce Yonemoto

Events:

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 21, 2–5 p.m.

Contemporary Arts Center Gallery Courtyard and Lobby

Location:

Contemporary Art Center (CAC) Gallery, Bldg. 721

Description:

The Cold War is Dead. Long live the Cold War.

1989—the year the Berlin Wall was torn down—ended the era of a divided Europe between Western and Russian influence. In historical consciousness, 1989 therefore functions as a kind of *hinge* between the political era of the mid-century Cold War and the post-political era of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, symbolically demarcating the “before” and “after” of these two epochs. *Dreamtime*[™], an exhibition by Jane and Louise Wilson, is an aesthetic through-line within this historical arc.

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Gallery Hours:

Tues. – Sat., 12–6 p.m. Free admission

Parking:

UC Irvine [Mesa Parking Structure](#), 4000 Mesa Rd., Irvine, CA 92617

(Complimentary parking provided for the press preview with RSVP)

More Info:

<https://uag.arts.uci.edu/exhibit/dreamtime%E2%84%A2>

Note to editors:

Selected high-resolution images for publicity only may be downloaded from [here](#).



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PRESS PREVIEW KIT IMAGE KEY

Contemporary Arts Center Gallery, UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts

*Dreamtime*TM

Jane and Louise Wilson, Artists.

Curated by Juli Carson and Bruce Yonemoto

Press Images:

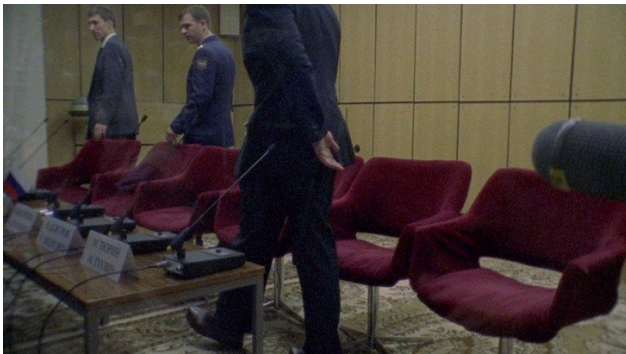


Photo credits for all images:

Jane and Louise Wilson, *Dream Time*, film still, 2001, Super 16mm film transfer to HD transfer to 35mm film, 7 minutes 10 seconds © Jane and Louise Wilson, courtesy Maureen Paley, London

DOWNLOAD IMAGES HERE -

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jPpnBGRRWLjwKa2aFG6GbtPORKIsy_w?usp=sharing

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About the UAG

The University Art Galleries are committed to promoting an inter-generational dialogue between 60s/70s neo-avant-garde art and contemporary visual culture. Accordingly, the curatorial mission is to keep an eye on the modernist past while promoting the most innovative aesthetic and political debates of the post-modern present. From this vantage, the projects commissioned provoke intelligent debate on the subject of art in its most expansive poetic definition. What distinguishes the program is its unwavering commitment to publishing scholarly texts in catalogue/book form in order to disseminate research-based information into the community, providing a venue for the promotion of innovative discourse surrounding mixed media production today. The UAG program provides several exhibition platforms for inter-generational and interdisciplinary dialogue. The Major Works of Art Series commissions original projects by canonical artists working today. The Emerging Artist Series features solo projects by a set of younger artists informed by the legacies showcased in the Major Works series. The Critical Aesthetics Program commissions new work by internationally renowned mid-career artists. Augmenting this inter-generational dialogue, UAG also produces larger thematic group exhibitions alternately showcasing historical and contemporary art and film projects. UAG further promotes an active dialogue between UCI residents and the local and international art communities through colloquia, conferences, visiting artist lectures and theme-based films series, all of which are open to the public. As the galleries continue to mature, they stand committed to being an experimental exhibition space different from the current - but largely traditional - art biennial and film festival platforms.

About UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts

As UCI's creative laboratory, the Claire Trevor School of the Arts explores and presents the arts as the essence of human experience and expression, through art forms ranging from the most traditional to the radically new. The international faculty works across a wide variety of disciplines, partnering with others across the campus. National-ranked programs in art, dance, drama, and music begin with training but end in original invention. Students come to UCI to learn to be citizen-artists, to sharpen their skills and talents, and to become the molders and leaders of world culture. For more information, please visit

www.arts.uci.edu.