

Philip Welding

Home Occupations

FORMAT International Photography Festival

12 March 2021 - 5 March 2023

FORMAT WEBSITE

About

Format

Philip Welding



Philip Welding is Course Leader for the BA (Hons) Photography course at Leeds Arts University, and has worked in photographic education for nearly 20 years. He studied photography at Nottingham Trent University and completed an MRes at Leeds Metropolitan University.

He was recently selected to exhibit a project called *Cutting Corners* at FORMAT19 and in the same year published a photobook called *BEINGS* with Salt and Pepper Press. Through these photographic projects he explores our relationship and interactions with the everyday.

In 2020, he published an article in *Philosophy of Photography Journal* about his practice, vernacular creativity and office pranks. He has previously delivered papers at conferences including *Get off My Patch!: the visibility of vernacular creativity is seriously cramping my style* at the 4th International Photography and Theory Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus and *My Planking is Analogous to Your Erwin Wurm Don't You Know? Please take the photo before I get cramp* at FORMAT13 Conference, Derby.

www.philipwelding.co.uk

Current Exhibitions & Events



FORMAT WEBSITE

Home Occupation

March 12, 2021 to March 5, 2023

- [FORMAT21 Online: Room 12](#)

Free

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Home Occupation

Home Occupations is about working from home. Featuring a coming together of self-portraiture and sculpture, this is a performative project played out in real time (and alongside my real job). In fact, if you are looking at this during the festival, I am working on it right now; logged on, wearing slippers, drinking coffee. It will evolve throughout the festival as my relationship with my environment unfolds. Photographs, video and text are being added to the exhibition at regular intervals, functioning like updates on my progress or lack thereof.

Working from home changes our relationship with the objects we own and the domestic spaces we inhabit. It results in inhabiting two personas; worker and homeowner. There is a contrast between the intangibility of virtual meetings and being surrounded by tangible household objects. They are present whilst I work, they distract me from work. Often, they serve as a reminder of something that needs doing. That shelf needs fixing. The lawn needs mowing. Other times, they are a welcome distraction from the work contained on the screen.

The boundaries of the work/life balance become eroded when the dog can join my meeting. The term *Home Occupations* has a dual meaning. In the US, zoning regulations have defined what is an acceptable 'home occupation', or, what can be lawfully carried out in residential dwellings, such as artist, dressmaker, author, clergyman. For me however, the title speaks of becoming occupied with the home, its contents and the permeable divide between work and life.

I am on a Zoom call. My house plant is encroaching. I'm making a spreadsheet. I need to finish that tiling. I feed the dog whilst resolving a tricky work problem in my head. I climb the walls. Exercise at my desk. Workspace training for ergonomics at home. Prop my back with a cushion.

PUBLICATION



PUBLICATION



This image (left hand page) and text about the project 'Home Occupations' was included in the festival catalogue.

INSTALLATION



INSTALLATION



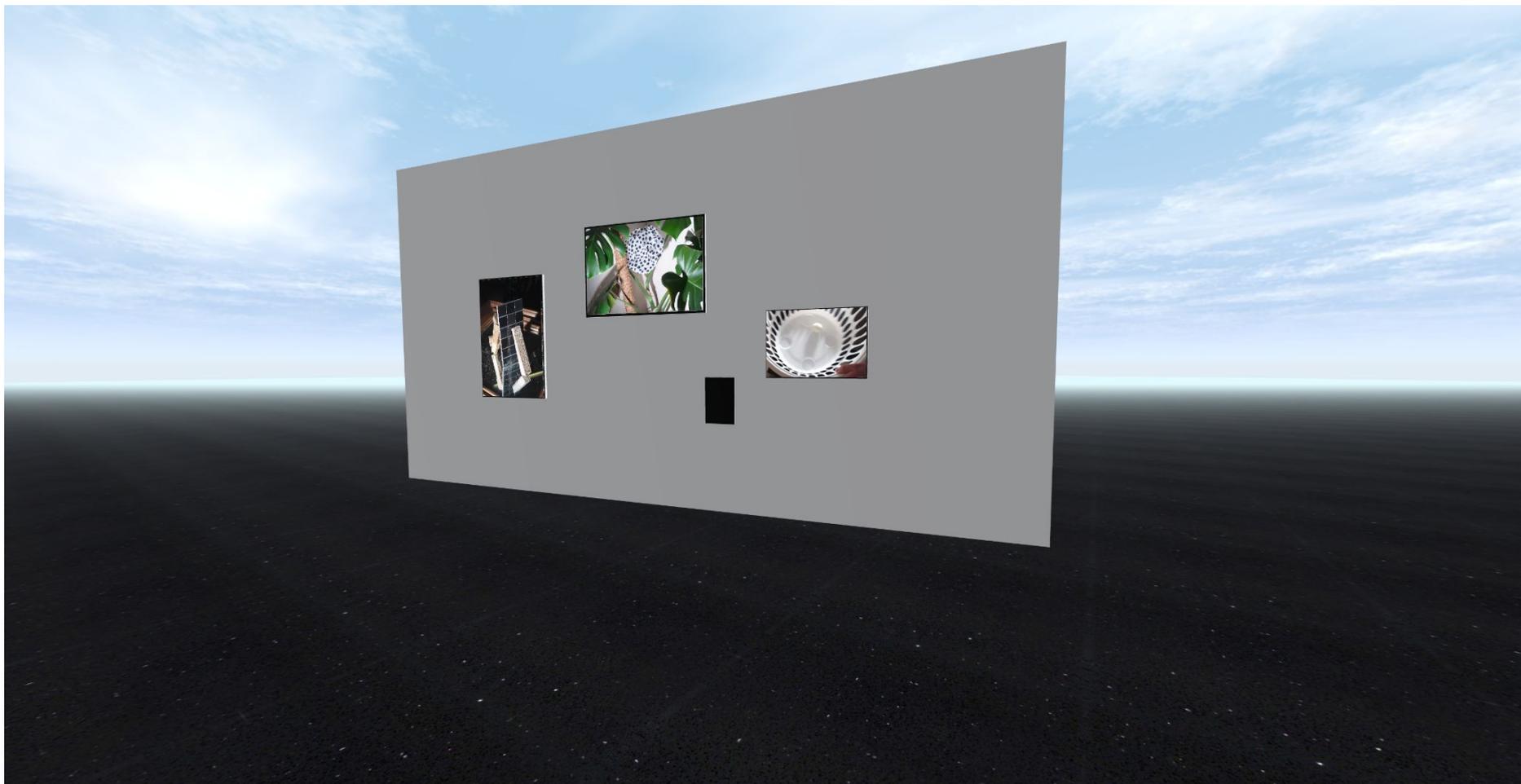
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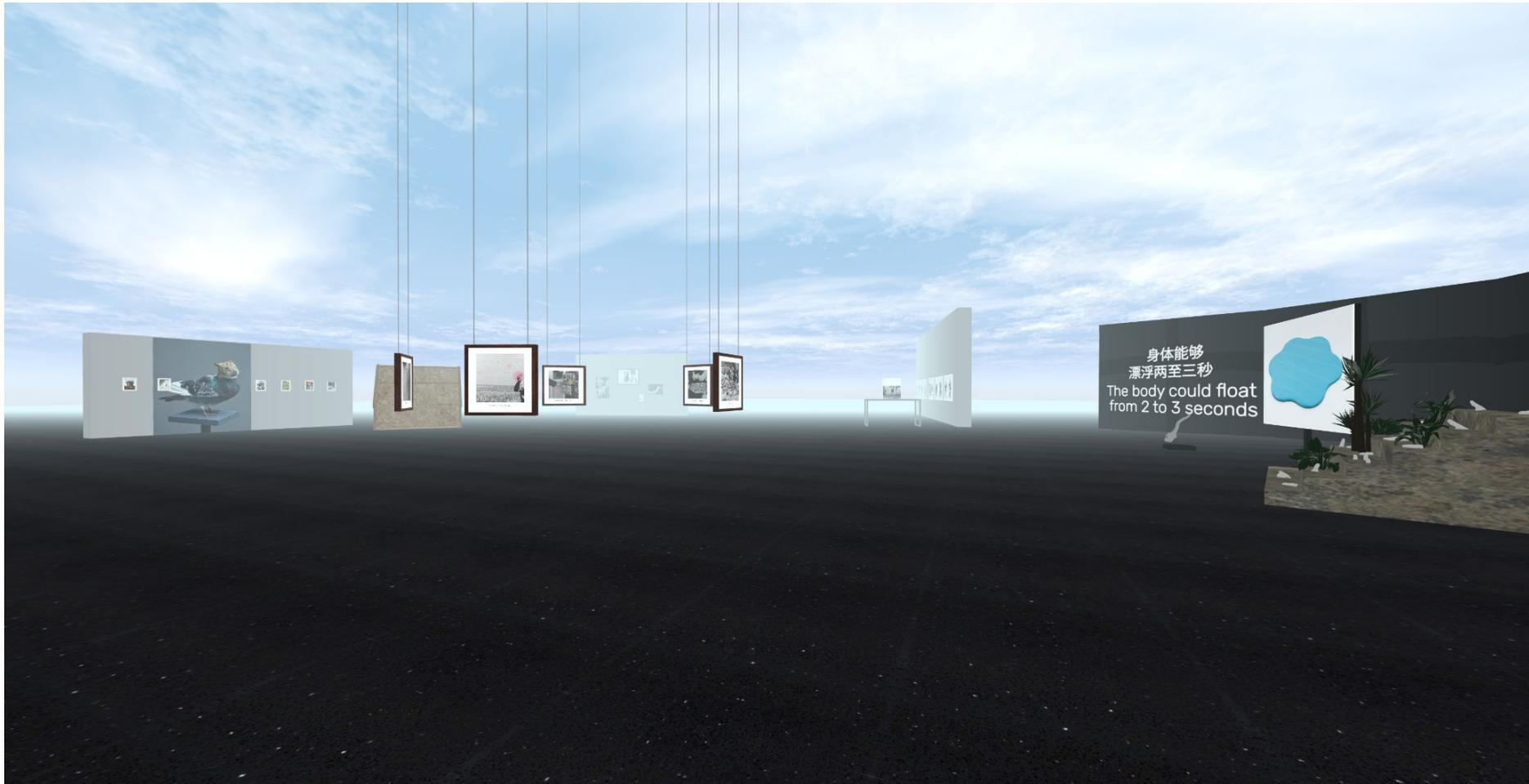


Don't be the judge
ask 230 people in a
glass number

INSTALLATION



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Home Occupations

Examples photographs from the project

