



Artist **Andrew Black** was born in Leeds and has lived in Glasgow since 2009. He was on the committee of Transmission gallery in 2016 and 2017, and in 2018 took part in the Experimental Film & Moving Image Residency at Cove Park, and the Autumn Residency at Hospitalfield. He recently completed a commission with Atlas Arts as part of the Plural Futures Community Film project on the Isle of Skye, exhibited with Aman Sandhu as part of Glasgow International Festival in June 2021. Black's work was recently exhibited at Centre Clark, Montreal as part of *The Magic Roundabout and the Naked Man* with Aman Sandhu.

*On Clogger Lane* will also screen at Glasgow Film Theatre on Tuesday 21 February 2023.

*Andrew Black: On Clogger Lane* is a collaboration between *The Tetley* and *LUX Scotland*. Andrew Black is the recipient of the Margaret Tait Award 2021, a *LUX Scotland* commission delivered in partnership with *Glasgow Film*, supported by *The National Lottery* through *Creative Scotland*.

The Tetley is supported by:



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# Andrew Black

## *On Clogger Lane*

20 January – 14 May 2023

*On Clogger Lane* is a new experimental documentary by **Andrew Black**.

The film meanders through the Washburn Valley between Otley and Harrogate, exploring the infrastructures of capital on land overshadowed by a monstrous satellite surveillance station, submerged beneath reservoirs, haunted by accusations of witchcraft, and populated by the traces of many generations of past inhabitants – from prehistoric carvings to the Victorian graves of child labourers.

Incorporating conversations with farmers, antiquarians, dowsers, grandmothers, Quakers and communists alongside an improvisational score, *On Clogger Lane* explores the meeting points of passivity and protest, public and private, past and present, all coincident in the same patch of ancient land.

This new film commission is presented within this exhibition alongside a selection of archival material relating to actions by largely women-led peace groups at Menwith Hill.

## **Shirley Cooper Gallery**

Andrew Black, *On Clogger Lane*, 2023

Running time: 1 hour

*On Clogger Lane* includes subtitles and is accompanied by audio description, which is available on the headsets.

This film incorporates newly-recorded conversations with **Sylvia Boyes**, **Anne Lee** and **Lindis Percy**, local women who have been involved in opposing the activities of Royal Air Force (RAF) Menwith Hill site (near Harrogate, North Yorkshire), and British and US imperialism more widely in different capacities over decades.

Further contributors are local people whose connections to the Washburn Valley tell complex and interlinked stories of industrial exploitation, social history and folklore: **Sally Robinson** at the **Washburn Heritage Centre**; farmer and author **Stephanie Shields**; local historian **Tom Cox**; quarry site manager **Richard Green** and Black's uncle **Barrie Jackson**.

These oral histories are accompanied by an experimental score, including music by Leeds improvisational band **Vibracathedral Orchestra** and archival sound and film from the **Yorkshire Film Archive**.

### **Gallery 9**

The objects and printed materials displayed here tell a story of activism around the RAF Menwith Hill site between the 1980s and early 2000s. Menwith Hill is controlled by the American National Security Agency (NSA) and used for digital and telecommunications surveillance, and intelligence-led warfare.

The material from these various Yorkshire-based collections represents just a fraction of the activities, protests and individuals involved at peace camps set up between 1984 and 1995, including **Menwith Hill Peace Camp**, also known as **WoMenwith Hill**. Much of this activism was led by women, and figures such as **Helen John** were also involved at similar US military locations in the UK such as **Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp**, 1981–2000 (Berkshire).

Selected to showcase the rich and diverse campaigning activities of this radical and sometimes overlooked Yorkshire protest movement, these objects were brought together to provide some historical context for Andrew Black's film, *On Clogger Lane*.

In the film, Black is interested in connecting these more contemporary stories of protest to instances of exploitation and resistance further in the past. He worked with the **Washburn Heritage Centre**, the **Otley Museum**, the **Nidderdale Museum**, **The Peace Museum** in Bradford, and many of the aforementioned individuals to build this research.

The works in the cabinet include a leaflet advertising the Third Annual Amazon Festival, 24 May – 3 June, (year unknown but c. 1984–1995); organised by the Menwith Hill Women's Peace Camp, advertised as women only.

The 'Menwith Hill Peace Picnic' banner is photographed here in-situ at the picnic, alongside **Bruce Kent** speaking on a stage. The adjacent yellow leaflet calls for the support of **Lindis Percy**, appearing at York County Court, 6 July 1992, charged with breaking an injunction not to enter the Menwith Hill Base.

The final few key items include a DIY publication documenting the story of the **Grassington and District Peace Group** (1996) and a **Bingley Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament** (CND) banner, used throughout the 1980s at various Menwith Hill protests by a small group of about six people active at the time.

The film by **Flying Focus Video Collective** captures the atmosphere at WoMenwith Hill Peace Camp and includes an interview with Anne Lee. Filmed in 1995 and aired in 1996, Flying Focus Video Collective are activists based in Portland, Oregon who have been using video as a tool for social change since 1991.

*With thanks to the Grassington and District Peace Group Archive (University of Bradford Special Collections), Helen John Collection, Feminist Archive North – Special Collections & Galleries, University of Leeds Libraries, The Peace Museum (Bradford and Flying Focus Video Collective).*