

IKON

Ikon Gallery
1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
0121 248 0708 / ikon-gallery.org
Open Tuesday-Sunday & Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am-5pm / free entry
Registered charity no. 528892

Lindsay Seers *Care(less)* 15 – 23 February 2020



Lindsay Seers, *Care(less)* (2019). Courtesy the artist. Photograph by Tom Thistlethwaite.

Ikon presents *Care(less)* (2019), a highly original immersive 360-degree VR film by British artist Lindsay Seers. The work uses the hallucinatory quality of VR technology to convey an embodied experience of what it is to be in an ageing body.

Care(less) (2019) is an OPCARE artist commission responding to new research by the University of Birmingham, University of Brighton and University of Lincoln, supported by the Wellcome Trust Enrichment Fund, into the experiences of older people receiving care they pay for themselves. In dissecting the infrastructures that are failing those needing to be cared for, the work is informed by individual case studies and aims to expand public conversation about the value of care. In the UK and across most of Europe, people are living longer and older people increasingly make up a greater proportion of our population. Despite this ageism is a commonly experienced form of prejudice and discrimination.

Dr Denise Tanner, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, University of Birmingham comments: *"Older people are often presented as a 'burden' on limited health and social care resources, 'blocking' hospital beds and draining the resources of younger generations. But we all need care from others at certain times and the balance between us being givers or receivers of care shifts at different points in our lives. Many of us manage our own fear of being old by keeping it at a distance. Care(less) helps bring the experience of needing care closer to home, and thus helps us to understand that needing support from others and being willing to give it is part of what connects us as people. It is not something to be abhorred or avoided, but to be valued and celebrated as part of human experience."*

Care(less) was exhibited for the first time at Fabrica gallery, Brighton (5 October – 24 November 2019) and is part of an ongoing exploration around the ethics of care in partnership with Fabrica and Frequency Festival.

For more information, high-res images and to request interviews please contact Rebecca Small or Laura Jaunzems on 0121 248 0708 or email r.small@ikon-gallery.org or l.jaunzems@ikon-gallery.org

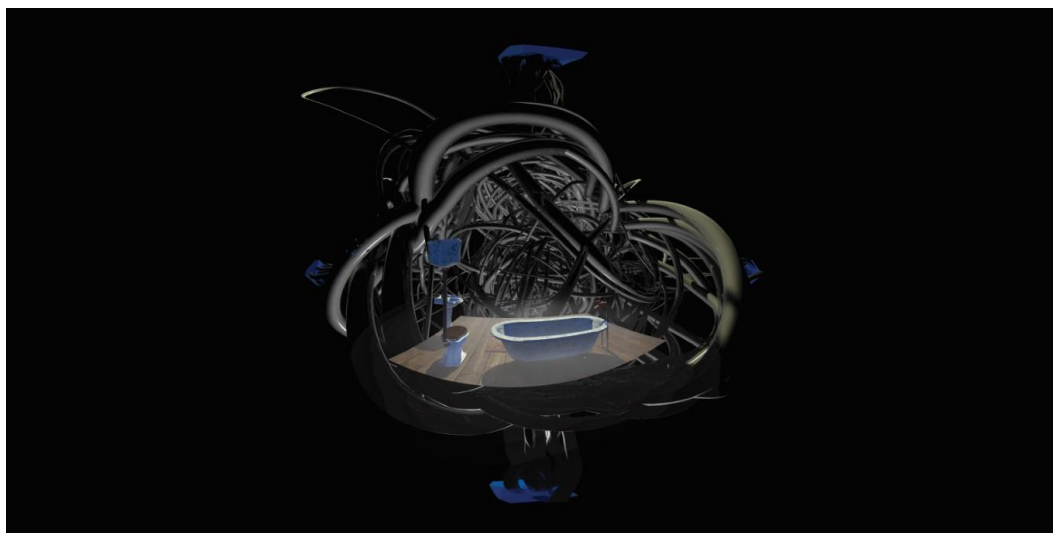
Social Media Handles -Instagram, Twitter and Facebook:
@ikongallery #IkonGallery #LindsaySeers

Links:
ikon-gallery.org
lindsayseers.info

Note to Editors:

1. Exhibition dates: Saturday 15 – Sunday 23 February (closed Monday 17 February).
2. Artist's talk: Saturday 15 February, 6-7pm. Lindsay Seers and George Vasey, Curator at Wellcome Collection, discuss Seers' installation *Care(less)*.
3. The VR experience lasts for 20 minutes and has limited capacity.
4. Lindsay Seers works in London and lives on the Isle of Sheppey. Seers has shown large scale works internationally at a number of museums and art centres including Matt's Gallery, UK; SMK (National Gallery of Denmark); Venice Biennale; Hayward Gallery, UK; MONA, Tasmania; Bonniers Konsthall, Sweden; Kiasma, Finland; Turner Contemporary, UK; Tate Britain and Tate Modern, UK, TPW, Canada, Fotogalleriet; Norway; Centre for Contemporary Art, Poland and Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art.

5. Ikon is an internationally acclaimed contemporary art venue situated in central Birmingham. Established in 1964 by a group of artists, Ikon is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation. The gallery programme features artists from around the world and a variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation. Ikon's off-site programme develops dynamic relationships between art, artists and audiences outside the gallery. Projects vary enormously in scale, duration and location, challenging expectations of where art can be seen and by whom. Education is at the heart of Ikon's activities, stimulating public interest in and understanding of contemporary visual art. Through a variety of talks, tours, workshops and seminars, Ikon's Learning Team aims to build dynamic relationships with audiences, enabling visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art. ikon-gallery.org
6. Ikon is open Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am - 5pm. Admission is free. Ikon Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. For the latest news and events follow @ikongallery on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).
7. Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. ACE support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, ACE will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. artscouncil.org.uk



Lindsay Seers, *Care(less)* (2019). Courtesy the artist.