

LINDSAY SEERS

MENTAL METAL² (2017)

🕒 6PM – 4AM

8

MASONIC TEMPLE, ANDAZ LONDON

Video Installation

New commission

Duration: 30 minutes

40 Liverpool St,
EC2M 7QN

Please note:
The video contains strong
language and is suitable for
+16 years old only.

→ Exchange Square:
5 mins walk

→ Dennis Severs House:
7 mins walk

Lindsay Seers presents a video installation with performative elements in the ceremonial setting of the Masonic Temple at Andaz London, a Grade-II listed Temple that still functions as a meeting place for a masonic lodge. Responding to the 105-year-old ritualistic site, Seers has focused her work on the persona of Aleister Crowley, an English occultist, ceremonial magician, poet, painter, novelist, and mountaineer of the early 20th Century. At the time of the inauguration of the Temple in 1912, Crowley strongly criticised the loss of esoteric origin and value of freemasonry. His thwarted attempt of becoming a freemason was replaced by the development of his own occult practice incorporating magic and ritual explorations of consciousness through sex. Seers channels this journey, with Michael Byrne enacting Crowley's visit to the Masonic Temple, with support from actor Francesca Dale. Through monologue and furious anger, the video installation brings together Crowley's personas, while unannounced live performances in the temple add a visceral intensity to the space.

Venue support from Andaz London Liverpool Street.

LINDSAY SEERS

Lindsay Seers (b. 1966, Mauritius) works in London and lives on the Isle of Sheppey. Her artistic practice is not based on mere storytelling, but a matrix of narratives where there is no formal separation among the conceptual investigation of the act of photography, the camera as apparatus, the common desire for film and photography to act as evidence of events, and the complex historical and personal synchronicities of events themselves.

MASONIC TEMPLE, ANDAZ LONDON

The Masonic Temple was opened in 1912 as a meeting place for several freemason lodges. The architects of the Grecian Temple, as it was originally known, were Ernest Robert Barrow (1868–1948) and Alexander Burnett Brown (1867–1948). The ornate temple, with its blue dome ceiling and golden zodiac detail, also has thrones overlooked by a Latin inscription, "Avdi vide tace" (Hear, see, keep counsel). The legend goes that the Temple was long forgotten and only rediscovered



when renovations for the hotel took place. Andaz London Liverpool Street is a five-star luxury lifestyle hotel offering a vibrant experience truly unique to each guest: blending personal preferences with attentive and uncomplicated service.

Lindsay Seers, *Mental Metal²*, 2017 (production still), 2017. Courtesy the artist

