C21ST ART-WORKER (ÉVASIONISTA EST ARRIVÉE), 2015

An offsite project from Deptford X places a billboard, C21ST ART-WORKER (ÉVASIONISTA EST ARRIVÉE) by Alison Jones and Milly Thompson, on a bus shelter at Old Street Roundabout. The project extends Deptford X’s 2015 festival theme, Deptford Conversations, into a site for conversation: the bus stop.

Alison Jones and Milly Thompson’s poster, C21ST ART-WORKER (ÉVASIONISTA EST ARRIVÉE), 2015, is a photomontage that sets gendered labour against the backdrop of the 21st Century Art World. In it, the female footsoldiers of the art economy are at the ready to promote, speak for and elaborate on the meanings of the various pieces they stand beside in art fair booths, performing superficial tasks like dusting and polishing. The text, ‘ÉVASIONISTA EST ARRIVÉE: She is ambience, She is art, She is furniture, She is architecture, cosmetics’, speaks the breathless hype of fashion. The mock-cyrillic script mimics Soviet posters, heralding women workers in the feminised and precarious labour market of the neo-liberal art world.

Jones and Thompson are engaged in a long-standing collaboration that erupts every now and again for an altered re-iteration and re-thinking looking at Neo-liberalism, Art, Feminism, Showing Off, Distinction, Being HOT, Glamour, Luxury, and always bearing in mind that we look really HOT when we THINK.

The poster anticipates the publication of Alison Jones & Milly Thompson C21ST RECENT HISTORY, for the exhibition Alison Jones & Milly Thompson C21ST RECENT HISTORY Valentines Day at Filet round the corner at 103 Murray Grove on Valentine’s Day 2016.

Find the bus stop at EC1V 9FR, on the west side of Old Street roundabout, outside the Great Wall Chinese restaurant.

An offsite project for Deptford X’s 2015 festival theme Deptford Conversations

Deptford X supports and offers development opportunities to artists, enabling them to produce ambitious new work for a wide range of contexts and audiences. It is London’s longest running contemporary visual arts festival and has been experienced by over one million people since inception in 1998.

Deptford X, 9 Brookmill Road, London SE8 4HL