

Friday 17 May 2019

Press release: **Bird Skin collection demonstrates the beauty and complexity of colour in artist solo exhibition**

Exhibition dates: 29 May – 12 June.

Preview: Friday 31 May, 5pm – 10pm at Lightbox Gallery, Leicester



Leicester-based artist Lucy Stevens will produce a new body of work inspired by the natural sciences' collection at New Walk Museum in Leicester. The artwork will use a combination of photography with mixed media to display as part of a solo exhibition at the Lightbox Gallery at the LCB Depot in Leicester between 29 May – 12 June.

Working in collaboration with Bill Newsinger, a multi-media artist, Stevens has produced a range of 12 new works with a focus on the order, variety and beauty of colour in nature, using paint, wax pastels, spray paint, ink, graph paper and 24 carat gold leaf using photographs of birds from the collection.

Stevens was inspired by Werner's Nomenclature of Colours, an early colour dictionary, outlining colour matches across the natural kingdoms. Darwin referred to it in his notebooks from the voyage of *The Beagle*. One of the most significant colour dictionaries', *A Nomenclature of Colours for Naturalists* (1886), was developed by Robert Ridgway, an American ornithologist for bird identification, which was

developed in 1912 naming 1,115 colours, paving the way for the pantone colour charts of today.

In this exhibition, Stevens has used David Hay's *Nomenclature of colours as applicable to the arts and natural sciences, to manufactures and other purposes of general utility* (1846), to develop a colour triangle chart for bird identification based on the collection of bird skins at New Walk Museum.

Stevens was awarded a solo exhibition at the Lightbox Gallery for her bold and colourful artworks as part of Open 29, an annual exhibition at New Walk Museum in 2018.

The exhibition preview will take place on Friday 31 May, 5pm – 10pm to coincide with *LastFriday* where visitors can enjoy street food, drinks and music. All works will be shown for the first time and will be for sale.

Visitors can view the exhibition, free of charge, from 9.30am – 5pm Monday – Friday between Wednesday 29 May – Wednesday 12 June at the Lightbox Gallery, LCB Depot, 31 Rutland Street, Leicester LE1 1RE. Contact: 0116 261 6800 or visit <http://www.lcbdepot.co.uk/event/lucy-stevens-bird-skins>

**Editorial notes:**

Stevens studied a MA in Fine Art at Nottingham Trent University, graduating in 2007. She has recently taken part in an artist residency at Cove Park in Scotland and exhibited work through StudionAme at the Affordable Art fair at Battersea Park in London.

Contact Lucy Stevens for further information and to arrange an exhibition tour at: [lucyjostevens@gmail.com](mailto:lucyjostevens@gmail.com). For more information visit: [www.lucystevens.co.uk](http://www.lucystevens.co.uk) or follow @lucyjostevens on social media.