

FOUR ON THE FLOOR | SIX IN THE AIR

BRONWEN BUCKERIDGE

Harbour House, Kingsbridge, Devon

Live durational performance 29 July

Exhibition, 4 August to 16 September 2023

FOUR ON THE FLOOR | SIX IN THE AIR is a human-operated, tech-supported crochet machine directed by birds.

At Harbour House the live work was divided into 6 episodes, each lasting 45 minutes. Taking place across 6 different locations around the town, the performance created an exhibition out of the artefacts and trace elements left behind.

During each episode a birder reported to the gallery on the movement of birds at their location. The artist decoded the live commentary into a series of instructions and stitches for crochet. These instructions were then fashioned into an ever-evolving pattern by a team of crocheters working with the artist in real-time.

As well as finding form in different coloured yarns and knotted textures, the moves and stitches from each birding location were archived by a team of record keepers working in tandem on a large, 7-metre blackboard at the back of the gallery.

Together the birds, birders, crocheters, broadcast crew, record keepers and the artist formed their own fragile working machine. Human-operated and supported by technology, the machine remained essentially avian. Its pace, shape and particular rhythm operating in service to the will and evolving patterns of water, woodland and garden birds moving around the town.

As an artwork the FOUR ON THE FLOOR | SIX IN THE AIR machine is



LIVE PERFORMANCE



uncomfortably live. It is open to the unknown, moving forward without knowing what is coming next. It tolerates misdirection and the curious slippages of translation as information passes through its various chambers and moving parts. It is as interested in the processes of making as what is made, leaving visible the machinations and turning cogs of its construction to locate its own particular language.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR | SIX IN THE AIR is also a portrait of the town that hosts it, with members of the local community adopting roles that support its production. The traces of its human protagonists as well as their avian counterparts can be found in its workings and final expression.

KEYWORDS

Liveness | Performance | Crochet | Chalkboards | Birdwatching | Translation Dialogue | Graphic Scores | Notation | Community | Socially Engaged Practice | Coding | Error | Rules & Instructions | Archiving | Artist as Producer Post Human Landscape

BIRDERS Chris Klee, Jon Walley, Fiona Van Es, Maggie Smith, Rod Birtles Alex Parr

CROCHETERS Anna Joy Henderson, Anna Gemmell, Catriona Berry, Di Allen, Julia McGing, Julie Morgan, Linda Allen, Sarah Pike, Rachel Taylor, Sue Brooks, Suzanne Gaultier, Vanessa Stratford

RECORD KEEPERS Alison Veazey, Phoebe Carpenter

SPECIAL THANKS The birds of Kingsbridge. Alex Kearney, Paul Ager and Rich Melton for tech support, Sue Brooks & 'A Little Bit Crafty' for crochet advice and supplies, Chris Klee for birding guidance

DOCUMENTATION Images from the live performance Dom Moore



the
FLOOR | SIX IN THE

a human-operated,
by the birds of Kingsbr
ive report on the
the gallery the c
structions and d
hioned with ho
the artist in real
at form their ow
supported by tech
and directed by
service to the w
and garden birds
of the artefac







THE EXHIBITION

Bronwen Buckeridge FOUR ON THE FLOOR | SIX IN THE AIR

Performance 29 July
Exhibition 3 August - 2 September 2023

FOUR ON THE FLOOR | SIX IN THE AIR is a human-operated, web-supported crocheting machine directed by the birds of Kingsbridge.

During the performance a birder dials in a live report on the movement of the birds around them. Here in the gallery the artist decodes this commentary into a series of instructions and stitches for crochets. The unfolding pattern is then fashioned with hooks and yarn by a team of crocheters working with the artist in real-time.

Together the birds, crocheters and the artist form their own fragile working machine. Human operated and supported by technology, the machine is primarily avian, controlled and directed by birds. Its pace, shape and particular rhythm are in service to the will and evolving patterns of water, woodland and garden birds moving around the town.

This live performance creates an exhibition out of the artefacts and trace elements it leaves behind.

Opening hours for the machine are 10-4pm, Saturday 29 July.

The machine output is archived as an exhibition running 3 August to 2 September, Monday to Saturday, 10-5pm.

Free admission

Harbour House is run by a charity, Harbour House Trust. We are proud that our creative programme is free to all.

Please use the QR code to make a donation and support our continued work for our community.



BRITTON'S FIELD
11:00-11:45
BRITTON'S FIELD
12:00-12:45
RACK PARK
13:00-13:45
SHELTER

BRITTON'S FIELD
11:00-11:45
BRITTON'S FIELD
12:00-12:45
RACK PARK
13:00-13:45
SHELTER



Falcons hobbies & kestrels	spike three	⚡
hawks eagles & vultures	spike five	⚡⚡⚡
woodpeckers & nuthatches	raised back	⚡
waterfowl	double treble	⚡⚡
kingfishers & bee-eaters	salomon's knot	⊖
unknown & not classified	spike outside	⚡↘
two or more	turn	↙
six or more	new yarn	⊗
in the air	increase	XX
on the ground	decrease	XX
on the water	raised front	⚡
built environment	bobble five	⊖
natural structure	bullion	⊖

ing gull	⚡	herring gull	+	Swallow
ing gull	+XX	Mallard	+5	herring gull
ing gull	+X			herring gull
ing gull	+⊖			herring gull
Wood Pigeon	+⊖			not classified
ing gull	+⊖			herring gull
OOK	⊖⊖			herring g u
OOK	⊖XX			caron crow
erring gull	+X			swallow
erring gull	+III			wood pigeon
herring gull	+T			herring gull
Swallow	⊖X			caron geos
Wood Pigeon	T			wood pigeon



10:00 - 10:45 HIGHFIELD DRIVE			11:00 - 11:45 BRITTON'S FIELD			12:00 - 12:45 RACK PARK			13:00 - 13:45 SHELTER			14:00 - 14:45 FOOTPATH			15:00 - 15:45 TO TACKET WOOD																				
BIRDER: JON WALLEY CROCHETERS: DI ALLEN JULIA M. GING, SUE BROOKS RECORD KEEPER: ALISON WATZKY			TIDE: LOW RISING 17° 16 MPH WSW WINDY, LIGHT CLOUD			BIRDER: CHRIS KLEE CROCHETERS: SARA PIKE SUE BROOKS, VANESSA STRATTON RECORD KEEPER: PHOEBE CAMPBELL			TIDE: LOW MID RISING 18°C 17 MPH WSW WINDY, SUNNY			BIRDER: FIONA VAN ES CROCHETERS: SUE BROOKS CATRIONA BERRY, JULIE MORGAN RECORD KEEPER: RAHSON WATZKY			TIDE: MID RISING 18° 17 MPH WSW WINDY, SUNNY			BIRDER: ROD BIRTLES CROCHETERS: ANNA GEMMELL ANNA DOHERRIGAN, RACHEL TAYLOR RECORD KEEPER: PHOEBE CAMPBELL			TIDE: MID RISING 19° 19 MPH WSW WINDY, SUNNY			BIRDER: MAGGIE SMITH CROCHETERS: LINDA ALLEN SUZANNE CHAMBERLAIN, ANNA DOHERRIGAN RECORD KEEPER: ALISON WATZKY			TIDE: MID HIGH RISING 19° 19 MPH WSW WINDY, SUNNY			BIRDER: ALEX PARR CROCHETERS: RACHEL TAYLOR ANNA GEMMELL, SUZANNE CHAMBERLAIN RECORD KEEPER: PHOEBE CAMPBELL			TIDE: HIGH SLACK FALLING 19° 20 MPH WSW WINDY, SUNNY		
blackbird	○Φ	crow x3	○V	geese	Φ	redshank	✓XX	unknown	Φ	blue tit	○Φ	herring gull	†U	wood pigeon	†Φ	herring gulls	†S	curlew crow	○	mallard	Φ	blackbird	○												
lansman	○V	wood pigeon	○V	egret	†			unknown	○	keppie hawk	†	herring gull	○S	rook	○X	wood pigeon	†A			canada geese	○Φ	gold finch	○T												
duncock	○	swallow	U	oyster catcher	✓+			jackdaw x20	○	black gull	†	curlew crow	○	herring gull	✓+	herring gulls	†U			gold finch	○U	dove	○T												
herring gull	†	duncock	○	herring gull	†			swallow x5	○	blue tit	○U	rook	○Φ	finch	✓+	not classified	†			herring gull	○+S	not known	○												
herring gull	†	buzzard	✓V	black headed gull	○			unknown	○	not classified	○	feral pigeon	○XX	herring gull	○+	canada geese	○S			swan	†	gold finch	○												
herring gull	†	duncock	✓V	curlew	✓+†S			not classified	○	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	curlew crow	○X	canada geese	†S			feral pigeon	†X	house martin	○X												
herring gull	†	herring gull x2	††U	waters	✓+			wood pigeon	†	house martin x2	○/○V	feral pigeon	†X	herring gull	†S	herring gull	†V			wood pigeon	○X	feral pigeon	†												
herring gull	†	wood pigeon	†ΦV	dunlin	✓+			gull	†	unknown	○	herring gull	○+	finch	†S	herring gull	†V			black headed gull	†	dove	†V												
crow	○V	swallow	○A	black headed gull	○+			swift	U/V/UV	swift x2	U	herring gull	†	starling	○	herring gull	†			wood pigeon	†X	canada geese	○Φ												
swallow	○V	wood pigeon	†ΦU	herring gull	†			not classified	○	house martin	○/○	herring gull	†	crow	○	herring gull	○+U			herring gull	†U	herring gull	†X												
herring gull	†	wood pigeon	†A	wood pigeon	†X			not classified	○	gull	†	rook	○Φ	swan	†Φ	wood pigeon	†X			swift	U	pigeon	○T												
great spotted woodpecker	†			canada geese	○			swift	U/V/UV	not classified	○	herring gull	†X	mallard	†	not classified	†			herring gull	†U	herring gull	†U												
large raptor	†			oyster catcher	✓+†			blue tit	○U	not classified	○	herring gull	†X	herring gull	†	swan	†			herring gull	†A	herring gull	†U												
swallow x3	○X			herring gull	†X			not classified	○	house martin x3	○/○	herring gull	†X	herring gull	†	herring gull	†S			herring gull	†A	herring gull	†U												
wood pigeon	†			gull	†			swift	U/U	curlew crow	○	herring gull	†X	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
duncock	○			curlew	†			blue tit	○U	wood pigeon	†U	wood pigeon	†Φ	herring gull	†	not classified	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
herring gull	†			oyster catcher	†			gull	†	house martin	○	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
swallow	†V			dunlin	✓+			swift	U	herring gull	†	rook	○Φ	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
rook	†			red shank	✓+			swift	U	herring gull	†	rook	○X	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
wood pigeon	†			not known	†			gull	†	house martin	○	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
great spotted woodpecker	†			gull	†			swift	U	unknown	○	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
crow x2	○Φ			egret	†			swift	U	wood pigeon	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
crow	○			canada geese	†S			swift	U	wood pigeon	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
crow	○V			herring gull	†S			swift	U	wood pigeon	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												
black headed gull	†			not known	†S			jackdaw	○U	rook	○	herring gull	†	herring gull	†	herring gull	†			herring gull	†X	herring gull	†U												

