

Observers' Walks
Patrick Staff
*To Those in Search
of Immunity*

17 minutes

To Those in Search of Immunity by Patrick Staff is the fourth in the Observers' Walks series, downloadable audio guides commissioned by Collective and created by artists specifically to be listened to on Calton Hill.

Patrick is an interdisciplinary artist who works with film, installation, dance and performance to investigate dissent, labour and the queer body. Through collaborative projects their work explores the ways that stories of counter-cultures and radical activity have been told and retold, particularly in relation to both the material and social constitution of the body.

To Those In Search of Immunity draws on Patrick's research into the ecology and botanical formations of Calton Hill. Written, scored and narrated by the artist, the audio melds essay, memoir, spoken word, and rhythmic soundscape to examine illness, health, and both the communal and individual body. Historical, scientific, and botanical narrative is punctuated, perhaps contaminated by, stories of messy, leaking bodies, weeds, and nocturnal encounters. Rooted in Calton Hill's position as a site for municipal buildings, along with numerous political and scientific monuments, Patrick's narrative employs the disruptive potential of overgrowing weeds, traveling diseases, bodily fluids and our human contributions to unexpected ecologies. Exploring ideas of immunity and the possible effects of ingestion and the constitution of substances on the body, Patrick's Observer's Walk reflects social concerns such as: sex, gender and the construction of community.

COLLECTIVE

Composer: Patrick Staff
Sound Engineer: Jules Gimbrone
Clarinet and Alto Sax Musician: Logan Hone
Supervising Sound Editor: Tom Sedgwick

A limited edition scented print has been created by Patrick to accompany the commission and is available to buy from Collective.

Patrick Staff selected recent exhibitions, screenings and performances include: *Greater Together*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, 2017; *Weed Killer*, MOCA, Los Angeles, 2017; British Art Show 8, touring, 2016; *The Foundation*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Spike Island, Bristol and Chisenhale Gallery, London, 2015; *Europe, Europe*, Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo; *Scaffold* see *Scaffold*, The Showroom, London; *Art Turning Left*, Tate Liverpool; *Mental Effort Before Action: 1-5A-5B*, South London Gallery, London; *A Factory As It Might Be (Bournville)*, International Project Space, Birmingham; *Society is a Workshop*, Banff Centre, Canada, 2013; and *Chewing Gum for the Social Body*, Tate Modern, London, 2012.

Portions of this work contain graphic imagery and explicit content. Discretion is advised.



