

MEDIA RELEASE

Jillian McDonald: Something Wicked (This Way Comes) **Opens February 20th at New Media Artspace,** **Baruch College, CUNY**



Video still from *Spirit*, Jillian McDonald, 2013.
Image courtesy of the artist.

NEW YORK, NY- February 7, 2014 – [Baruch College](#) presents *Something Wicked (This Way Comes)*, an exhibition of video works by Jillian McDonald, curated by Katherine Behar, Assistant Professor of New Media Arts at Baruch College.

The show will open on February 20, 2014 and run through May at the New Media Artspace gallery in Baruch's Library and Information Building, 151 E. 25th Street. The New Media Artspace will host an opening reception and casual discussion with the artist for Baruch students on February 20th from 1:30pm to 3:30pm in the New Media Artspace and room 415 of the Library and Information Building. Members of the public who wish to attend may RSVP to [katherine\[dot\]behar\[at\]baruch\[dot\]cuny\[dot\]edu](mailto:katherine[dot]behar[at]baruch[dot]cuny[dot]edu). An artist lecture and closing reception will be held on May 5th, space TBD.

Jillian McDonald is a Canadian artist who lives in New York where she is an Associate Professor of Art at Pace University. In the four new works on view in the exhibition, McDonald extends her longstanding examination of archetypal motifs and themes from horror films and cautionary tales. While her work draws inspiration from the horror genre and its surrounding fan culture, this latest series, shot on location in Scotland, notably abandons the character-driven formula that marks the genre's plot progression. Instead each video progresses, compellingly, by focusing solely on landscapes devoid of human life. Although deserted, these lush spaces roll with subtle continuous motion. Movements of birds, fog and breeze permeate magnificent scenery, taking on eerie significance, while relentless edits build suspense in a plot-less progression without end.

In these videos the paranormal achieves literal meaning. The paranormal is “para” – which is to say it is the surroundings, in the landscape itself. Placing the otherworldly in the world, McDonald portrays it as neither ghoulish nor mundane, but rather sublime. Her breathtaking scenery appears at once bewitching and bewitched.

McDonald's shows and projects include the Esker Foundation in Calgary; Moti Hasson Gallery, Jack the Pelican Presents, and vertexList in New York; The San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery; Hallwalls in Buffalo; La Sala Naraña in Valencia, Spain. Her work has been included in group exhibitions and festivals at The Chelsea Museum and The Whitney Museum's Artport in New York, The Edith Russ Haus for Media Art in Germany, The International Biennial of Contemporary Art in Venezuela, The Sundance Film Festival in Utah, and the Centre d'Art Contemporain de Basse-Normandie in France.

Gallery Location: New Media Artspace at Baruch College, Library and Information Building, 151 E. 25th Street, New York, NY 10010

Gallery Hours: The New Media Artspace is open to the CUNY community during regular library hours. Members of the public may request access to the New Media Artspace at the security desk at the second floor entrance to the library. For this week's public hours, please check the gallery website: www.newmediartspace.info or dial a docent at 626-312-1664.

The New Media Artspace is a teaching exhibition space in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts at Baruch College, CUNY. Housed in the Newman Library, the New Media Artspace showcases curated experimental media and interdisciplinary artworks by international artists, students, alumni, and faculty.

About Baruch College:

[Baruch College](http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/) is a senior college in the [City University of New York \(CUNY\)](http://www.cuny.edu/) with a total enrollment of more than 17,000 students, who represent 160 countries and speak more than 100 languages. Ranked among the top 15% of U.S. colleges and the No. 4 public regional university, Baruch College is regularly recognized as among the most ethnically diverse colleges in the country. As a public institution with a tradition of academic excellence, Baruch College offers accessibility and opportunity for students from every corner of New York City and from around the world. For more about Baruch College, go to <http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/>.

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