



...She handed him a bag full of instructions for the preservation of health...

images of sexuality and health. Her magazine parodies women's journals in order to draw attention to the way in which we absorb advice about our health - and especially how information about cervical health and safe sex is entwined with moral assumptions about our sexualities.

CLAIRE COLLISON's photo-montages, a personal exploration of 'modern' stress-related dis-eases such as ME, reveal the "contradictory pressures that tug at us and shape us, despite ourselves" in the 1990's. Her symbolic imagery visualizes how societal pressures, and personal expectations, have contributed to women's vulnerability to such forms of ill-health.

JANICE HOWARD's photo-installation concentrates on historical myths that patriarchy has spun around femininity. In particular the notions of Woman as Healer/Woman as Witch, still circulate today in our ideas that women are natural carers, but also dangerously 'Other'. Howard uses the photographic medium to reveal that such narratives are fabricated, rather than natural.

SILENT HEALTH is accompanied by a 96pp publication with contributions from URSULA HUWS, ROSY MARTIN, LUDMILLA JORDANOVA, LESLEY DOYAL, JESSICA EVANS, ROBERTA McGRATH and JO SPENCE. For further information, please contact Kate Bush or Emma Ayling.

SILENT HEALTH: WOMEN, HEALTH AND REPRESENTATION sets out to examine how images do - and can - influence women's attitudes towards their bodies and their health.

What makes women ill? Why, in modern times, do so many women continue to suffer 'in silence' from preventable diseases? SILENT HEALTH assumes that for many women, health and ill-health are not biological 'givens', but complex states arising from a web of social, psychological and environmental factors.

Camerawork has newly commissioned four photographers to explore dimensions of femininity and health:

MELANIE FRIEND's sensitive colour portraits challenge the way that society has rendered women of menopausal age 'invisible'. Why do so many women approach their fortieth birthday with dread? Friend's work, comprising of photographs and soundtrack, presents the views of a diversity of women - from Barbara Cartland to Kailash Puri.

KATE MUSSELWHITE's magazine and poster project subverts the form, style and content of mass-media

24 October - 20 November

Funded by



Gallery & Darkroom

Camerawork Limited 121 Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London E2 0QN. Telephone 081-980 6256.

Registered at this address: Company No. 1205192. VAT No. 333 3153 91. Charity No. 269589.

