

WORKPLACE FOUNDATION

Press Release

Tess Denman-Cleaver *Return*

Preview 4th February, 4-9pm
5th February - 9th April 2022

Workplace Foundation is pleased to announce our next solo exhibition *Return* by North-East based artist Tess Denman-Cleaver. The exhibition will bring together a series of texts and photographs that Denman-Cleaver has been developing since 2016.

The collection of texts are written with a performative sensibility and relate to unseen photographs and film documentation belonging to the artist. They are each grounded in friendships between women. Alongside these texts are a series of hand printed silver gelatin photographs of a fragment of a broken pot, referring back to the object, place, materiality and time.

The title of the exhibition *Return* comes from one of Denman-Cleaver's texts that conveys a return to a birthplace. The texts are gifts, they return favours to particular women in her life, and they are returns to sites of memory. There is also a reference to a return key on a keyboard and the poetic structure on a page.

Tess Denman-Cleaver is based in the North-East. She works across performance, writing, workshops and installation, and is Programme Manager (Participation & Young People) at New Writing North. She is also the Producer of [Women Artists of the North East Library](#). In 2018, Tess completed a PhD on philosophy and landscape in performance practice at Newcastle University. She has exhibited nationally and internationally including: *Town Hall Meeting of the Air* (with Kate Liston), Baltic 39, Newcastle; *Instructions for Walking Women*, Walking Festival of Sound, Newcastle; *Without Apology*, Vera Baxter, Sweden; and *Writing with Sound*, Audiograft Festival, Oxford. She was also Project Artist for *Journeys with The Waste Land*, Turner Contemporary, Margate, and has created performance and audio works for Tate Britain and Tate St Ives.