

Living in *Matrescence*



Chelsea Summers: 1701611@uwtsd.ac.uk

Exhibition (*noun*):

1. A public display of works of art or items of interest, held in an art gallery or museum or at a trade fair.
2. A display or demonstration of a skill.

Things to Consider

When planning and designing an exhibition, think and consider the following:

- Exhibition theme – What is the aim for your exhibition? Does it have a narrative?
- Location – An exhibition space is just as important as the pieces themselves. Consider the size of the room, lighting, accessibility. Does it compliment the work you want to show?
- Selecting artworks – Chose pieces or practitioners that you believe will correlate within your theme.
- Be mindful of ‘too much’ – Sometimes, less is more. Focus on your exhibition, the theme and pieces involved. You want viewers to absorb the pieces, not become overwhelmed.
- Summary statement – A statement that describes your exhibition is useful for your audience. They can read and gain an insight into the theme/narrative.

Why Motherhood?



Lewis Hine, *Woman and Baby*, 1903 - 1938

[photograph, negative, gelatin on nitrocellulose sheet film], 5x7"

“Women should allow their faces to show the lives they have lived. Women should tell the truth.”

Susan Sontag - The Double Standard of Aging

What is the Aim?

The exhibition's aim and objective is to highlight and bring conversation on the topic of motherhood and matrescence. Mothers, who are also artist practitioners are often overlooked due to their 'parental' roles, and the assumptions that they cannot do both.

During pregnancy, labour, postpartum and the following years of parenting, a mother accustoms herself to the ongoing changes.

The term, 'matrescence' was originated by anthropologist, Dana Raphael in the 1970s.

“Matrescence describes a woman’s transition into motherhood and all the psychological and physical change that comes with it. It begins during pregnancy and continues after the baby is born.”

Understanding 'Matrescence,' A woman's transition into Motherhood', Integrisok, 2018

Proposal

Living in Matrescence takes the audience through a timeline of mothers and women who have documented or photographed their narrative of motherhood.

Each artwork involved portrays a different approach to the ideology of mothers. Discussing on topics such as; the loss of self, intimacy, the 'family', and the connection between parent and child.

The exhibition is to celebrate mothers, the commitments they make to their children and to highlight their significance.



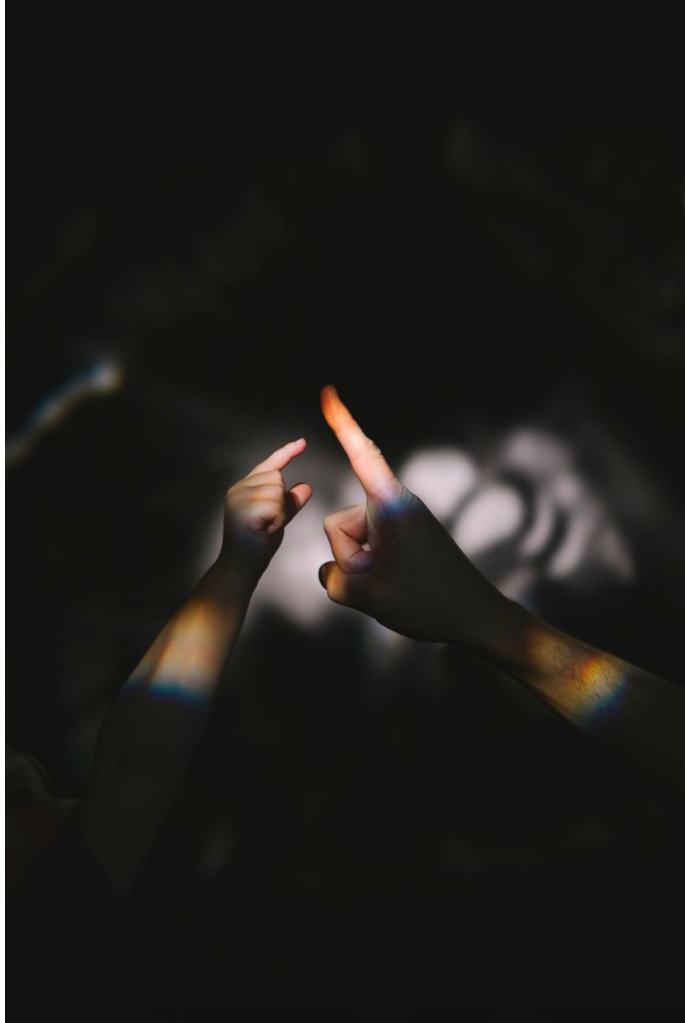
Sally Mann, *Untitled from the "At Twelve" Series* (Page 46)



Meghan Endahl, *The Intimacy of Motherhood*



Carrie Mae Weems, *Untitled, (Woman and daughter with makeup, from Kitchen Table Series)*, 1990



Lauren Pisano, +1, 2019



Lauren Pisano, +1, 2019



Imogen Cunningham, *Self Portrait with Twins*, 1918
[photograph]



Imogen Cunningham, *Seedling Circles*
[photograph]



Megan Jacobs, *Hidden Mother: Eileen*



Tytia Habing, *The Whole Fam Damiy*, 2011

Virtual Exhibition

Living in Matrescence

<https://www.artsteps.com/view/65c8023fce6df8ee84f08415>













References / Research

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