

Press Release



GERALD MOORE
GALLERY

at Eltham College

Fog Machine

Rob Lye

23 April - 16 May 2026

Private View: Thursday 23 April

6 - 8pm

**Open to public Saturday 10am-4pm or by
appointment**

**Gerald Moore Gallery, Mottingham Ln,
London, SE9 4RW**



Still from *Afon*, film, 2026

Photo: Rob Lye

Fog Machine presents a new body of work by artist and filmmaker **Rob Lye**, developed during his residency at **Eltham College**. The exhibition runs from **23 April -16 May 2026** in the Gerald Moore Gallery's GF space.

The private view is on **Thursday 23 April** from **6 - 8pm**.

At the centre of *Fog Machine* is a new moving-image work, *Afon*, filmed in the landscape surrounding the artist's home in Wiltshire. The film focuses on the River Avon and the industrial terrain of the former Avon Rubber factory – a site where local geography, industrial history and personal memory converge.

Through layered moving image and shifting atmospheres, *Afon* traces the residual presence of industry across the terrain. The river operates as both physical and symbolic current, carrying traces of labour, extraction and transformation through the landscape. Presented with a 7.1 spatial sound composition, wind, water and distant industrial resonances circulate through the gallery space. Sound functions as a sculptural element, extending the landscape beyond the screen and situating the viewer within a shifting field of environmental and acoustic presence. Alongside these broader histories, the work engages with personal grief. Landscape and weather become carriers of memory, suggesting a terrain in which ecological, industrial and emotional time intersect.

The exhibition also includes *20°32'50.4"S 67°22'57.6"W (2022)*, filmed in Bolivia prior to the 2019 military coup. Developed through extensive research into the lithium economy, the work centres on the Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest salt flat and a site of vast lithium reserves. Observing the slow processes of industrial evaporation pools, the film considers lithium as both a material resource, often termed 'white gold' and a psychotropic substance, drawing connections between global extraction, digital infrastructures and personal histories of mental health. Recurring gestures and traces of hands link the body to landscape, industry and systems of mediation.

Together, these works trace a movement between geographically distant but conceptually aligned sites, where extraction, memory and material transformation unfold across different temporal and spatial scales.

Rob Lye is a London-based artist, filmmaker and sound artist working across moving image, spatial sound, sculpture and installation. His practice explores the intersection of landscape, industry and material memory, often focusing on environments shaped by extraction and labour. Through field recording, spatial audio and film, he examines how ecological, industrial and personal histories become embedded within place.

He studied Sculpture at the Royal College of Art and has exhibited, screened and performed internationally, including at Café Oto, Tate Britain, the ICA, Whitechapel Gallery and Modern Art Oxford. He is currently Artist-in-Residence at Eltham College and the Gerald Moore Gallery, and recently received an Arts Council England DYCP grant to develop new ambisonic film work in the Arctic in spring 2026.

The exhibition is open to the public on **Saturdays** from **10am to 4pm** and by appointment.

To make an appointment, please email info@geraldmooregallery.org or call 02088570448.

The **Gerald Moore Gallery** is a centre for modern and contemporary art with learning at its heart. Opened in April 2012, in Mottingham, the gallery is uniquely set within the grounds of Eltham College and is a valuable resource for the students and the local community. The gallery has gained momentum hosting some exciting exhibitions including works by Matisse, Louise Bourgeois, and Cornelia Parker, whilst supporting emerging local artists. In unison with the exhibitions, the gallery's outreach programme works with local community groups, teachers, and schools, creating lasting relationships with our locality. Gerald Moore Gallery was made possible with the foresight and generosity of Old Elthamian, Dr Gerald Moore, many of whose works are archived at the gallery and who has a permanent exhibition on display.

For more information, images, and interview requests, or to attend the Private View please contact: Haf Anuar at info@geraldmooregallery.org

Geraldmooregallery.org

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Still from *AFON*, film, 2026

Photo: Rob Lye

