

Maggie Roberts' Becoming Octopus is a free weekly 8-session guided meditation experience, whose aim is to transport the meditator into the body, perception and liquid environment of a Common Octopus. This involves prioritising the senses of touch and taste; processing reality with 8 arms and a central brain simultaneously; flowing the outside through the insides and camouflaging the body to become the ground using an array of colour effects and protean skin textures.

'Becoming Octopus' is part of the online group show [THIS IS A NOT-ME](#) curated by Mark Jackson.

**KARA CHIN | GENTLE STRANGER | FELIX ROSE KAWITZKY
PLASTIQUE FANTASTIQUE | JOHN POWELL-JONES |
FRANKIE ROBERTS
MAGGIE ROBERTS | THOMSON & CRAIGHEAD**

LAUNCHES: THURSDAY 6 AUGUST 2020 6 – 9PM BST
ON INSTAGRAM: [@imtgallery](#)

CONTINUES TO: 13 DECEMBER 2020

In *High School Musical 2* a group of high school friends get together to sing about the summer and of freedom and friendship. They announce to each other that “all the hard work [...] is done!” This is 2007, the summer that the iPhone appears. The movie was released three months later, that September, when the summer they are singing about is over for everyone but them. But for them, the funeral is a banquet. They sing about “the time we get to share” and that this time of togetherness will last “forever”.

We are outside of time. Outside of this eternal summer. We are a new kind of creature, built on Zoom. We are part bird, part human, part many other things: Kara Chin, Gentle Stranger, Felix Rose Kawitzky, Plastique Fantastique, John Powell-Jones, Frankie Roberts, Maggie Roberts and Thomson & Craighead. We sing through July into December. This is a Not-Me. There are many timelines and we don't know yet when things are going to happen or what they are going to be. They will come out now and then over the next few months: performances, screenings, links to websites. Back in 2007, as the old friends sing, Facebook adjusts its status update to remove the word “is”. Here in 2020 we start to declare our individual updates over the top of one another as each appears in the story, different worlds, different timelines existing side-by-side, singing to the tune of *Sumer is icumen in*: “Frustrate the content delivery system!” – “Dissolve the subject and cease to exist!” – “Fantasise memorials!” –

“Become octopus!” – “Create characters; make enclaves; build worlds!” –
“Haunt Google Maps!” – “Log unearthly transmissions!” – “Beam into devices!”

What do we do now? Come out, playmate! We need to get together.

#thisisnotme



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**