

SPECIAL WORKS SCHOOL

Bambitchell (Sharlene Bamboat & Alexis Mitchell)

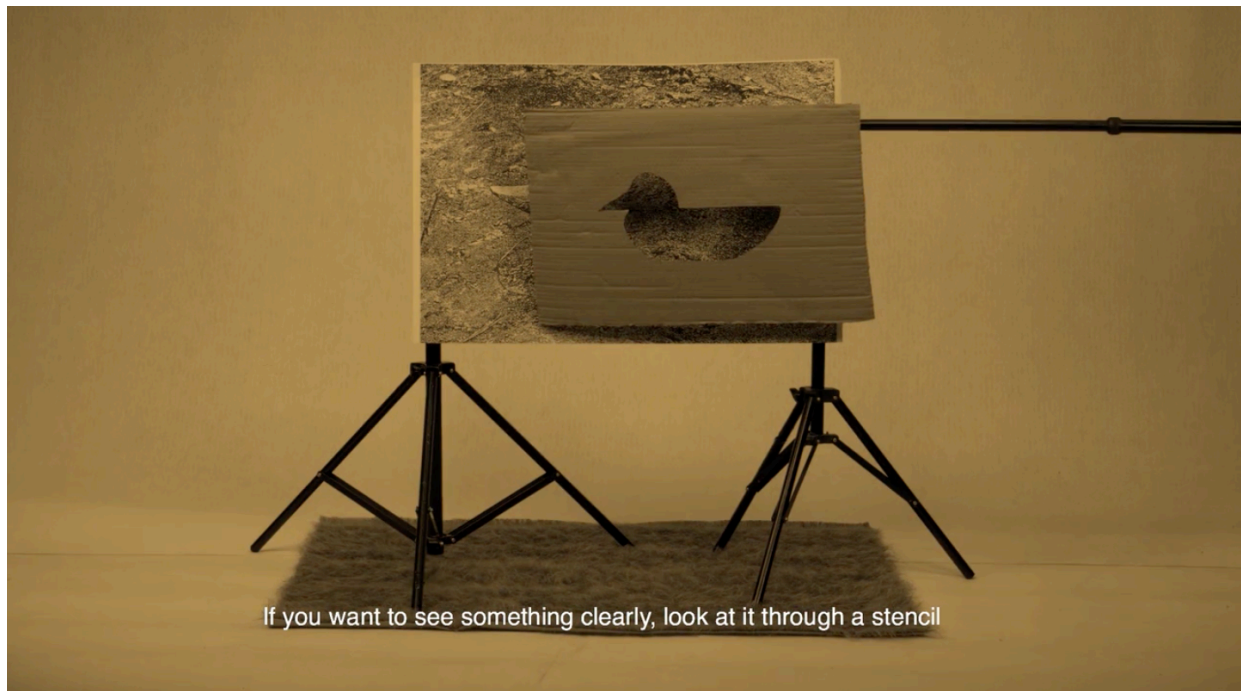


2018, 27:00, Colour, Canada-Germany, English

Music Composition and Sound Design: Richy Carey / **Camera:** Rita Macedo /
Assistant: Vika Kirchenbauer / **Purple:** Mason Leaver-Yap / **Cyan:** Richy Carey /
Sand: Alexis Mitchell

Producers: Bambitchell / **Commissioned by:** Social Science and Humanities
Research Council (Dina Georgis and Sara Matthews) & Gallery TPW, Toronto.

Info: www.bambitchell.com / **Contact:** contact@bambitchell.com



Special Works School takes its title from a codename used by the British War Office between 1917 and 1919. The original moniker denoted a military unit of artists—painters, textile artists, scenographers, designers, sculptors, and scenic painters—employed to develop camouflage technology. Instead of rendering their surroundings with utmost accuracy, the artists in the Special Works School were charged with making things disappear.

Through this new body of work, Bambitchell asks: what is the sound, feel, and smell of surveillance? What does an aesthetic approach to surveillance render visible or, indeed, invisible? Framing surveillance as an aesthetic practice, **Special Works School** hones in on its psychic, material, and embodied dimensions, working from the positions of both surveillor and surveilled.

Bambitchell is the artistic collaboration between Sharlene Bamboat and Alexis Mitchell. Working together since 2009, their works have been exhibited at festivals and galleries such as Article (Montreal), The Images Festival (Toronto), and The Art Gallery of Windsor (Canada) and included in a number of publications such as *C Magazine*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *Contemporary Citizenship, Art, and Visual Culture*. The duo recently completed a residency at Akademie Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart, Germany (2015–17) and have an upcoming fellowship at The MacDowell Colony in New Hampshire, USA (2018).

Selected Recent Projects: Special Works School (2018) / The People v. The Cock of Basel (2017) / Empire Symbol, or a Man and His Mule (2015) / Border Sounds (2011–2015) / Silent Citizen (2014).