

Clément Cogitore *Assange Dancing* 21 March – 10 June 2018



Clément Cogitore, *Assange Dancing* (2012). Video, PAL 16/9, colour, 7 min loop. Courtesy of the artist and Eva Hober Gallery.

Ikon presents *Assange Dancing* (2012) by French filmmaker, photographer and artist Clément Cogitore (b.1983).

Assange Dancing, shown in Ikon's Tower Room, was made using amateur video footage, shot and posted online by a DJ at Reykjavik nightclub *Glaumbar* in 2011. In it we see activist and WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange dancing in utter solitude on a nearly-deserted dancefloor. Yet by the force of his network, the man represents a crowd in and of himself. By revisiting the image in a slow-motion loop, Cogitore endows the dance with the quality of a ritual trance: that of a man casting out his

demons.

Clément Cogitore studied at the L'ecole Supérieure Des Arts Décoratifs De Strasbourg, and Le Fresnoy - Studio national des arts contemporains, France, where he developed an artistic practice half way between cinema and contemporary art, combining film, video, installations and photographs. His award-winning films have been shown at a number of international festivals, including Cannes, Locarno, Lisbon and Montréal. His work has also been exhibited in museums around the world, including Palais de Tokyo Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou Paris, Haus der Kultur der Welt, Berlin, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Quebec Museum of Fine Arts and MoMA NewYork.

In 2015, Clément Cogitore's debut feature film, *Neither Heaven Nor Earth*, a supernatural thriller set during the war in Afghanistan, premiered in Cannes Critics' Week where it received the Foundation Gan Prize.

Please note the Tower Room is only accessible via a number of steps.

For more information, high-res images and to request interviews please contact Rebecca Small or Emily Luxford on 0121 248 0708 or email r.small@ikon-gallery.org or e.luxford@ikon-gallery.org

Social Media Handles:

Instagram, Twitter and Facebook:
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Links

www.ikon-gallery.org

www.clementcogitore.com

Note to Editors:

1. Ikon exhibition opening: Wednesday 21 March.
2. Julian Assange founded WikiLeaks in 2006, but came to international attention in 2010, when WikiLeaks published a series of leaks provided by Chelsea Manning.
3. Ikon is an internationally acclaimed contemporary art venue situated in central Birmingham. Established in 1964 by a group of artists, Ikon is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation. The gallery programme features artists from around the world and a variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation. Ikon's off-site programme develops dynamic relationships between art, artists and audiences outside the gallery. Projects vary enormously in scale, duration and location, challenging expectations of where art can be seen and by whom. Education is at the heart of Ikon's activities, stimulating public interest in and understanding of contemporary visual art. Through a variety of talks, tours, workshops and seminars, Ikon's Learning Team aims to build dynamic relationships with

audiences, enabling visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art. www.ikon-gallery.org

4. Ikon is open Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am - 5pm. Admission is free. Ikon Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. For the latest news and events follow @ikongallery on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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