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**EAST
QUAY**

OUTFALL

BRYONY GILLARD

19.09.2026 - 03.01.2027

Exhibition Opening Party: 19.09.2026, 6 - 8pm



Bryony Gillard, *Outfall*, 2026, HD Video, 20min, video still. Pictured: Mary Woodvine

***Outfall*: A new Solo Exhibition by Bryony Gillard Explores the Hidden Politics of Wastewater**

East Quay is delighted to present a major new solo exhibition by artist and researcher Bryony Gillard, which invites audiences to reconsider the unseen water infrastructure that shapes everyday life and the environmental consequences flowing beneath the surface.

Outfall brings together moving-image, sound, and sculpture that explores the hidden politics of wastewater, drawing attention to the sensorial and often invisible materials carried through our pipes, sewers, bodies, and waterways.

The exhibition arrives at a critical moment in the debate and public conversation around water infrastructure in the UK. In recent years, private water companies have come under increasing scrutiny as decades of underinvestment and a lag in adapting

to the challenges of climate change have contributed to widespread sewage discharges into rivers, seas, and waterways.

Alongside pollution from sewage discharge, it should be noted that at least half of water pollution can be attributed to agricultural runoff, contaminants from roads, urban developments, and landfill sites.

The resulting pollution has exposed communities and ecosystems to human waste, microplastics and dangerous pathogens, posing significant risks to public health while devastating marine and aquatic habitats and wildlife.

Through a series of layered narratives, *Outfall* investigates these systems, from leak-detection dogs trained to locate failures in water infrastructure to plumbers navigating the physical labour of maintaining water systems. Gillard's work reveals wastewater as more than a by-product of modern life. Instead, it emerges as an archive containing traces of illness, pharmaceuticals, hormones, industrial residues, and everyday human activity.

Drawing on crip theory and her lived experience of disability, *Outfall* explores the porous connections between waste, bodies and environments. Rather than presenting wastewater solely as something to be hidden, flushed away, or a problem to be fixed, *Outfall* encourages audiences to reflect on alternative ways of relating to the infrastructures that quietly shape our everyday lives.

About the Artist

Bryony Gillard is a South West-based artist and researcher working between writing, workshops, performance, moving image, and exhibition making. Her practice reflects on events, states of being, materials and organisms that refuse or resist normative capitalist structures and temporalities. This might include thinking about grief, sickness, and working with materials such as sewage and seaweed, to explore elusive and entangled contemporary concerns.

Her work has been presented nationally and internationally, including a commission with Focal Point Gallery (Southend), ESTUARY (Kent), Jerwood Arts (London), Playbill (Amsterdam), Ocean Archive by TBA21 (Venice), Tate St. Ives (Cornwall), and Turf Projects (Croydon). She has an MFA from the Dutch Art Institute and is a Lecturer in MA Fine Art at the University of Gloucestershire.

About East Quay

Since opening in 2021, East Quay has become a significant centre for contemporary art in south west England, presenting ambitious exhibitions and commissions by leading national and international artists. The galleries at East Quay are run by a charity, Contains Art CIO (charity number 1193931), which is founded on the belief that who you are and where you live should not constrain access to creativity and culture.

Exhibition Dates: 19 September, 2026 - 3 January, 2027

Opening Event: Saturday 19 September 2026, 6–8 pm

Location: East Quay, Watchet, Somerset, TA23 0AQ

Admission: Free

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