



The Tell-Tale Rooms

The Tell-Tale Rooms

is an interactive 360 VR piece that leads us on a journey into artist Eden Kötting's fantastical world. Blending immersive animation, archive and live action it celebrates the wonders of the human condition and opens the fusty doors of perception into a world of virtual reality.



Story



The Tell-Tale Rooms is situated inside a VR replica of an old farm-house deep in the French Pyrenees. The real house has been home to Eden and Andrew Kötting on-and-off for over 30 years but once we enter the house, compiled using photogrammetry and into The Tell-Tale Rooms, Eden takes us on a journey into places that we have not been before.



In this world you walk amongst the artworks, memories and dreams of Eden Kötting, a visually impaired, neuro-divergent artist. Although Eden is profoundly disabled, here she is the mischief-maker and mistress-of-ceremonies. She leads us on a journey that celebrates the wonders of the human condition and offers a rare and positive insight into her life.

In addition, our interactions with the Tell-Tale Rooms are guided by floating animated 3D Tell-Tale heads that appear adrift, tempting us what bits of Eden's back story. Particle effects in conjunction with randomizing code adds an element of unpredictability and chance to the proceedings; one minute a room might be huge and another it might be miniscule, one minute there might be snow outside and in the next minute glorious sunshine.



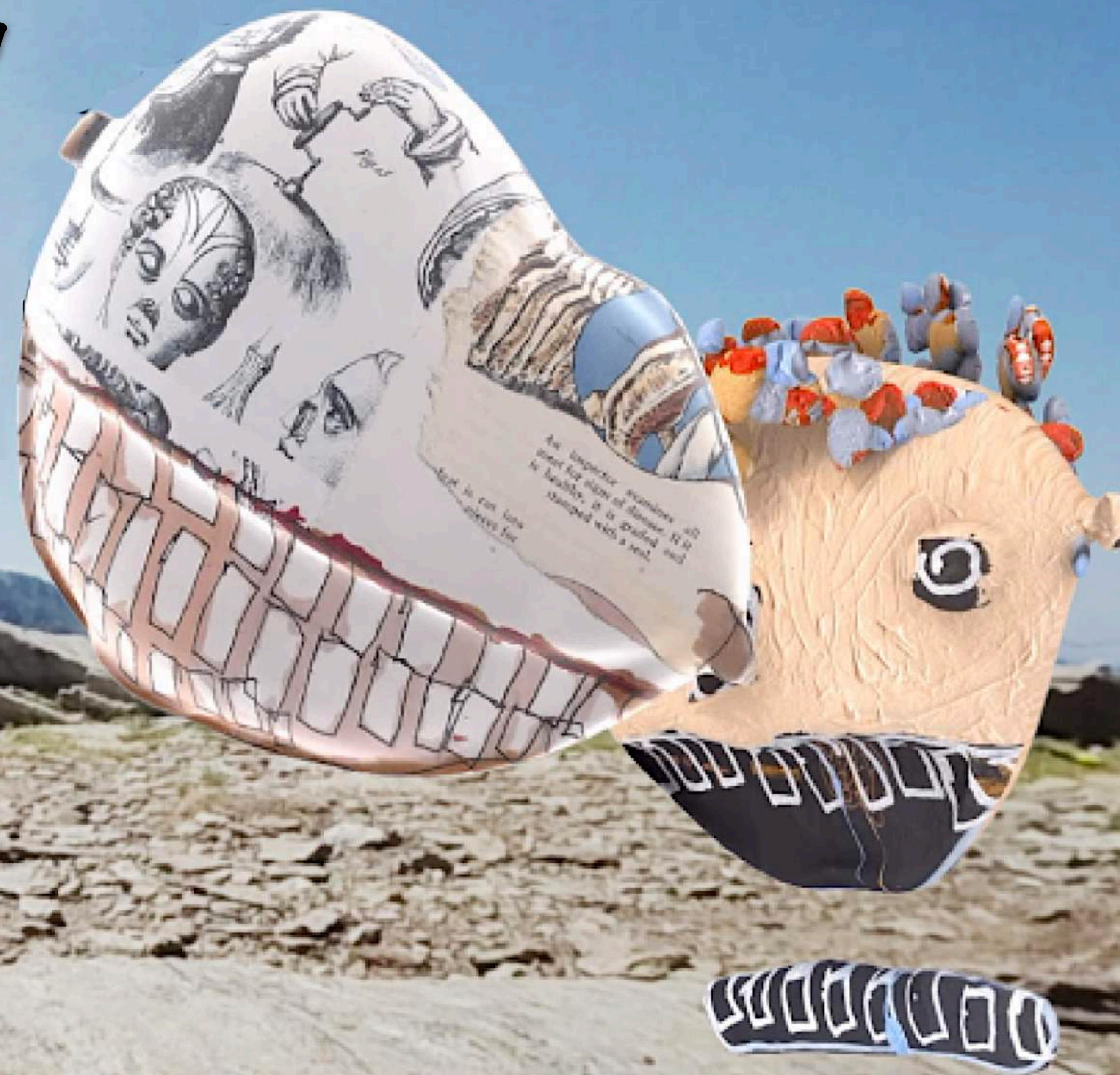
Guided by Eden and the Tell-Tale Heads, we encounter a series of Tell-Tale Rooms: The Room of Memory, The Room Of Nostalgia, The Room of Make-Believe, The Room of Hope, The Room of Forgetting, The Room of Confabulation.... In these rooms there are trace elements from Eden growing from a baby, through adolescence, and into adulthood.

Texts written in Eden's handwriting drift within the space, offering translation for her limited speech patterns, advice for the future, or quotes from the past. The voice of her Great-Grandmother Gladys reminisces about their time together making their film Gallivant.

Snippets of antiquated public information broadcasts and mysterious voiceovers help contextualise how far society has come when dealing with disability and diversity.

Eden's story is memorable, playful and hauntological. Hope is in the air and everywhere you look around...

CREW



ANDREW KÖTTING: WRITER / DIRECTOR

Andrew Köttling is an award-winning artist, filmmaker and Professor who has made over 100 short films. His first feature *Gallivant* (1996), a journey around the coast of Britain with his grandmother and daughter Eden, was awarded the Director's Award at Edinburgh International Film Festival. As well as the Paul Hamlyn Award he has been nominated for the Jarman Award three times. Other films include *This Filthy Earth* (2001), *Ivul* (2009), *This is Our Still Life* (2011), *Swandown* (2012) *By Our Selves* (2015) *Lek* and *The Dogs* (2018) *The Whalebone Box* (2020). Along with his daughter Eden, he is an associate artist with the collective Project Artworks who were short-listed for the Turner Prize in 2021.

His latest short film *Diseased and Disorderly* was released in 2021 and has screened at Raindance Film Festival, the London Film Festival and LA Shorts Festival. Made in collaboration with his daughter, neurodiverse artist Eden Köttling, *Diseased and Disorderly* is a film that turns Eden's paintings, drawings and collages of into imagistic gold. The collaboration takes us on a phantasmagorical journey into a world of Eden's making and then beyond.



EDEN KÖTTING: ARTIST



Eden Köttling was born with Joubert Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder. In 1996 she appeared in her father's experimental feature film *Gallivant* along with her Great Grandmother Gladys and in 2006 her artwork was shown at the Tate Modern, organised through Project Art Works. In 2014 she worked with her father on a multi-media art project; *By Our Selves*, commissioned by Arts Council England, distributed by Soda Pictures and in 2015 she was commissioned by Channel 4 & Random Acts to make short animated film (*All In The Mind*), using her drawings and collages as a springboard. In 2019, again with her father and animator Glenn Whiting she made *In Far Away Land*, which was distributed in 2020 across the UK and Ireland by HOME in Manchester. Eden is part of the Wednesday Mentoring Group at Project Artworks and shares a studio with her father in St Leonards-on-Sea and the French Pyrenees. 2021 saw Project Artworks shortlisted for the Turner Prize. She is currently working towards an exhibition of her paintings for 2022.



REBECCA MARK-LAWSON: PRODUCER

Rebecca Mark-Lawson is an award-winning fiction and documentary producer working with a range of diverse talent through her production company Tyke Films. Recent credits include Associate Producer, "Almost Heaven", nominated for Best Documentary at 2017's Berlin International Film Festival and winner of Best Documentary at 2017 BIFA Awards and "In Another Life", world premiered at Raindance Festival, nominated for Best UK Feature and winner of the Discovery Award at BIFA 2017. Tyke Films was selected for Creative England's CE50 in 2018, celebrating the achievements of 50 of the best up and coming and innovative companies across film, games and digital tech.



DARIA NITSCHKE: PRODUCER

Daria is a multi-award-winning, international producer who has worked on films for companies such as Netflix, Channel 4 News and Germany's leading broadcaster ZDF. Over the years she has gained a vast network of industry professionals which has given her the opportunity to be involved in German, English, Italian, Spanish, American and Nigerian productions. In 2019 she joined Sheffield-based production company Tyke Films where she has produced BIFA winning and BAFTA Scotland nominated films, such as POLY STYRENE: I AM A CLICHÉ, featuring Oscar nominee Ruth Negga. Her films have played at top tier festivals such as SXSW, BFI London, Rotterdam and Raindance, have sold out multiple screenings in the US and have been chosen as The New York Times Critics Pick. She is also a British Independent Film Awards voter.





NICK GORDON SMITH: DOP

Nick Gordon Smith is a Sculptor, Filmmaker and Cinematographer. He studied sculpture at Chelsea Art School eventually ending up making experimental films, he went on to run the workshop at London Film Makers Co-op in the late 1980's.

For over 30 years he has worked as a Cinematographer on numerous projects for many different directors.

He is an Associate Lecturer at UAL and teaches Cinematography at London College of Communications.



Schneider: Assistant / Voice over

An Artist Ceramicist Collagist and whirlwind of Creative Unrest, originally from East Germany but presently a fully-fledged cockney. Her works are like sculptural billboards of contemplation. Fragmented narratives cajoled into form. Perverse of content, anarchic Dadaist and Punk. She is also a *Trough of Knowledge*.



MILES VISMAN: SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Miles Visman is a computer programmer by profession, with over 25 years experience in the industry, creating games for consoles, PCs and mobiles. He learnt how to code while doing a Fine Art degree in the late 1980s which led to the setting up of HEX Media in collaboration with Cold Cut and the programming of computers to generate pioneering visuals for pop videos and interactive installations. Visman has gone on to teaching himself to weave and he now codes algorithms to create both the patterns and weave structures which he then hand weaves.

GLENN WHITING: 2D-ANIMATOR

Born 1957, graduated in painting and sculpture 1980, post graduate studies at Academy of Arts in Krakow, Poland. In 1981 I began working as a freelance painter and tracer in animation and taught life drawing at various colleges. After working on numerous animated commercials, in 1982 I worked as key renderer on "The Snowman" and as renderer on Pink Floyd's "The Wall". Gradually worked up into assistant animator and finally animator working in a variety of capacities on a variety of film and television productions through the 1980s to present day including Paddington's Birthday Bonanza, When the Wind Blows, The Paddington Peas, Disney's Hercules and Fantasia 2000, Titan AE, Help I'm a Fish, The Animated Adventures of Mr Bean and Peppa Pig. Recently I have made a number of collaborations with Andrew and Eden Kötting and I am an independent filmmaker specialising in animation as well as a compulsive mark maker and painter and am at present teaching on a B.A. Animation Course. I have a lovely wife and two daughters and will soon become a grandfather and live in Hastings.



ISABEL SKINNER: 3D-ANIMATOR

Isabel Skinner is a CGI Artist and Digital 3D Animator and lives & works in Canterbury, UK. Her recent work includes:

Photogrammetry reconstruction of 1960s sets for BBC Studios, 2020.

3D animations and special effects for *The Whalebone Box* (2019).

3D modelling and animation for Doctor Who *The Wheel in Space* mini-episode: Premiere at BFI, 15th December 2018. CGI reconstructed images for BBC Worldwide and Britbox: Premiere at Comic-Con International, San Diego, 2017.



Links:

VR Recording

Poster, Press stills, Website



full credits:

Writer / Creative Director Andrew Kötting
Artist Eden Kötting
Producer Rebecca Mark-Lawson
Producer Daria Nitsche
Assistant Producer Clair Maleney
Development Executive Joe Willis
Director of Photography Nick Gordon Smith
Assistant & Voice Over Schneider
Software Engineer Miles Visman
2D-Animator Glenn Whiting
3D-Animator Isabel Skinner
Editing & Sound Andrew Kötting
XR Stories Nikki Stearman
John Rose-Adams
Dr Joe Rees-Jones
Archive by Andrew Kötting

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TYKE FILMS

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xR StOries

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