

## **REF2021 Statement**

### **Doubt (film, book, exhibition 2017-2018)**

Doubt constitutes a multi-media practice-as-research output working interdisciplinarily across film, photography and poetry. An unflinchingly personal exploration located between narrative independent film, documentary photography and reflexive poetry, this unique work is part of Knudsen's ongoing world leading critical and practical exploration of ideas of transcendence through the practice of filmmaking, applied theory and increasingly photography.

The Doubt project has been poetically constructed out of Knudsen's recent photographs, his entire body of critically acclaimed films spanning 27 years of filmmaking, and selected reflexive poetic writings from personal notebooks covering the same period. Out of this integrated creation, he is leading the way in the creation of a new type of experiential narrative form exploring transcendent relationships to the creative and the spiritual.

In the absence of creative spaces in the contemporary public sphere for the expression of creative and spiritual doubt, the Doubt project references the Judaeo Christian tradition, which has been built on the examination of doubt, as seen in the books of Job, Jeremiah and the Psalms, where such open and public laments calling into the wilderness for meaning and purpose in the midst of a cruel and unfair world are common. Inspired by the installation work of one of the few contemporary global audiovisual artists working with these themes, Bill Viola, Knudsen is building on a considerable body of his previous creative work and publications, providing an ongoing research narrative exploring transcendent relationships to filmmaking, exemplified by his forthcoming book for Palgrave MacMillan, *Finding the Personal Voice in Filmmaking*.

Produced and published by One Day Films Ltd, and available through [onedayfilms.com](http://onedayfilms.com), the work was first exhibited at the Leica Store Manchester, UK, in January 2018, and is due to be exhibited at the Dean Clough Galleries, Halifax, UK, from October 2018 til the end of January 2019.