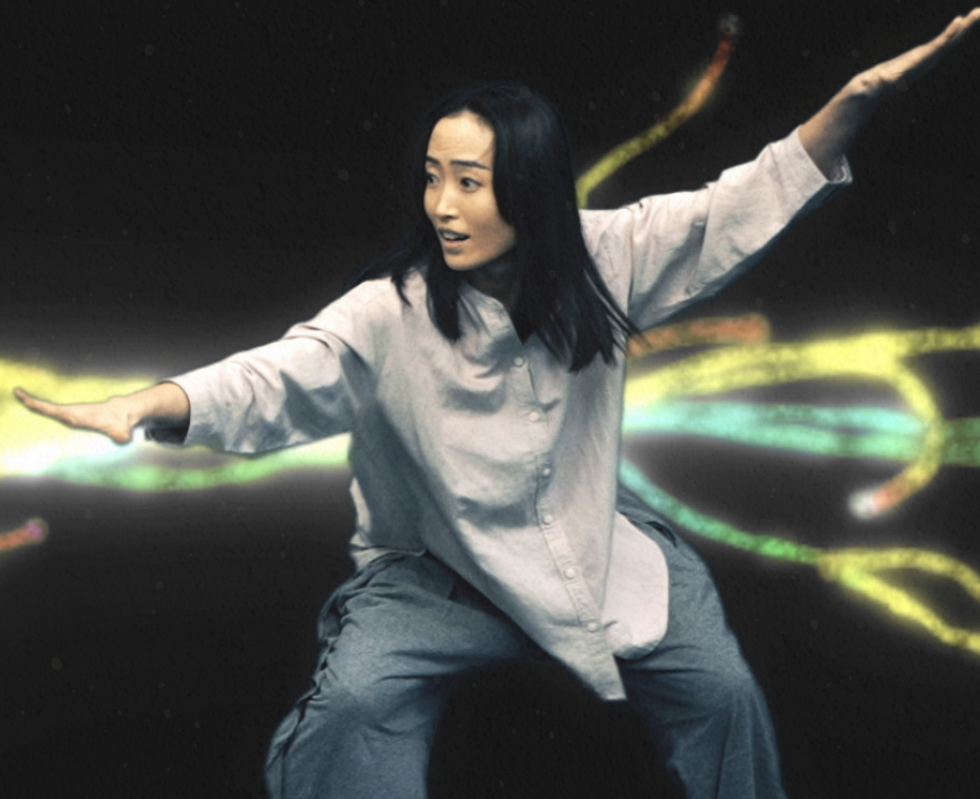


 SPECTROSCOPE
The Spectroscope logo features a stylized, multi-colored spectrum icon to the left of the word "SPECTROSCOPE" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

PRESENTS

NIGHT BLOOM



SPECTROSCOPE.CO.UK

NIGHT BLOOM is a groundbreaking artwork that combines captivating sign language performance, vibrant visual graphics, dynamic animation, dance, and music.

This awe-inspiring piece illuminates the space with the tale of a mystical garden's battle for survival, where plants spring to life and flourish from the fingertips of the deaf community who call it home.

Performed by Alice Hu, An Di, and Wang Xianhe, the story unfolds entirely through the interplay of dance and sign language. Audiences will be mesmerised as colourful plants bloom, flocks of birds swirl in mesmerizing formations, and mycelium bursts forth, weaving a magical connection between the performers and their environment.

The narrative takes a dramatic turn when a storm devastates the garden, erasing the ecosystem they've carefully cultivated. Separated and adrift, the trio must rediscover one another, ultimately coming together to sow the seeds of a new garden and a shared future. This visually stunning spectacle celebrates resilience, unity, and the transformative power of community.





NIGHT BLOOM

Spectrope, 2024

This immersive artwork highlights the resilience of the global deaf community through the metaphor of biodiversity. While storms and wilting flowers reflect the systematic discrimination and crises faced by deaf people around the world, abundant landscapes that with birds and insects offer a spirit of hope and future growth for all.

Concept elements incorporate signs drawn from Visual Vernacular and traditional Chinese (CSL) sign languages. Signs drawn from nature are conceptualized across international sign languages. The seeds showing from the hands of dancers represent the reciprocal relations through which plants and fungi communicate across species.

This work shares the power of embodied forms of communication, across difference, and advocates for an inclusive climate transition.

Commissioned by Spectrope with funding from the Deaf Guild



NIGHT BLOOM is helmed by Cathy Mager, Artistic Director of Spectroscope and the visionary behind Sign Night for the BBC and Bristol Light Festival.

This monumental installation features choreography by Alice Hu and original hand-drawn artwork by Shanghai-based artist Lifeng He. UK collaborators Ben Glover (graphics) and Ngaio Anyia (soundscape) also bring their expertise to the piece. The artwork embraces the beauty of hand-drawn historic botanical and wildlife illustrations, sourced from international archival collections.



Drawing inspiration from the resilience of Shanghai's deaf community, Night Bloom underscores the crucial contributions of marginalized deaf and disabled individuals in addressing climate change and the global biodiversity crisis. Night Bloom premiered at science gallery, London in 2024. It has also been adapted and scaled up for a 360 degree 15m metre immersive dome at Real Ideas, Plymouth due to open May 2025.

Available to showcase at events and festivals.



History

NIGHT BLOOM marks Spectroscope's fourth major projection artwork.

Prior to this, the company created large-scale projections for the BBC, the Bristol Light Festival in the UK, and the Duolun Museum of Modern Art in Shanghai, China, between 2020 and 2022. Founded in 2021, Spectroscope specialises in crafting digital dreamscapes that transform public spaces through enchanting visual storytelling.





NIGHT BLOOM
A series of digital artworks by [unreadable] exploring the intersection of nature and technology. The pieces are inspired by traditional East Asian ink wash painting and modern digital art techniques. The 'Night Bloom' series features a central waterfall scene that transitions from a traditional ink wash style to a vibrant, digital blue and green color palette. The surrounding panels showcase various nature scenes, including butterflies and birds, rendered in a similar style. The overall theme is the beauty of the natural world and its reflection in digital art.

The Team



Cathy Mager

Founder / Artistic Director

is a trailblazer in sign language projection mapping. As an artist, producer, and curator, she is celebrated for creating impactful and dynamic cultural programs that delve into themes of equity, climate change, and heritage. Currently serving as a consultant curator for the Wellcome Collection in London, UK, Cathy is developing two exhibitions due for launch in April and July 2025.



Alice Hu Xiaoshu

International Projects Producer & Associate Artist

a Shanghai-born Deaf visual artist, activist, sign language teacher, and interpreter, specialises in multi-national sign language for music, video, and live performances. Driven by her passion for art, she pursued her studies at the Vienna University of the Fine Arts. Recently, Alice founded "Accessivation Studio," an arts accessibility brand dedicated to public education, raising awareness about accessibility, and integrating diverse arts. Her work is focused on bridging the gap between Deaf and hearing communities.



Lifeng He

Illustrator

a distinguished deaf artist from Shanghai, China, is celebrated for his expertise in decorative and colour painting. A graduate of the prestigious Academy of Fine Arts in Shanghai, he has dedicated his talents to both artistic creation and education. His latest work includes serving as the illustrator behind the evocative pieces featured in Night Bloom, where his rich, textured visuals deepen the project's themes and atmosphere.



An Di

Associate Artist

a captivating dancer who was once with the China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe and is now a leading performer with the Shanghai Disabled People's Dance Troupe, shines through her mastery of classical, modern, and folk dance.



Xianhe Wang

Associate Artist

is an accomplished dancer who began his career with the China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe and now shines as a member of the Shanghai Disabled People's Dance Troupe. His extraordinary talent has earned him multiple first prizes in the National Disabled Dance Competition, and he has toured both internationally and across China.



Ngaio Anyia

Associate Artist

is a multifaceted musician, filmmaker, and diversity and equality consultant renowned for her innovative contributions to the arts. She has crafted compelling soundscapes that enhance storytelling and foster inclusive narratives. Recently, she created the soundscape for Night Bloom, a project that exemplifies her unique artistic vision.

The Team



Ben Glover

Associate Artist

is a talented deaf video designer and creative captioner renowned for his innovative and expressive multimedia work. He skilfully combines his interdisciplinary expertise in creative and technical fields, drawing from his rich background in theatre, film, and computing to produce captivating visual content.



Zheng Xiaosan (Sam)

Film Maker

originally from Zhengzhou, Henan, and now based in Shanghai, is a pioneering deaf filmmaker whose work has gained international recognition. As a film director, educator at Xuhui District Amateur University, and general manager of Shanghai Silent Voice Cultural Media Co., Ltd., he has made significant contributions to both the artistic and deaf communities.



Wang Haohai (Bob)

Film Maker

is an emerging deaf filmmaker, actor, and photographer whose vibrant creativity and passion for storytelling have quickly made him a rising star in the world of deaf theatre and film.



Chi Yonghao (Jack)

Photographer

is a talented young deaf photographer and skilled drone pilot whose artistry is making waves in the visual arts world. As the photographer for the deaf short film *People Shouldn't Be Confused*, which won the "Outstanding Public Welfare Work Award" at the 9th Shanghai Micro Public Welfare Film Festival, he demonstrated his keen eye for storytelling through imagery.



Cat Roberts

Director of Programme & Production

is a well-known creative entrepreneur and cultural advocate based in Bristol, UK. With a passion for the arts and community engagement, Cat has become a key figure in Bristol's vibrant cultural scene. Her work spans multiple fields, including event production, arts management, and social innovation.

SPECTROSCOPE

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