Communal

Communal is a public programme of events drawing on research, community projects and creative practice across Brighton, using the gallery as a public space for open discussion and the exchange of ideas. All the events listed here are free and open to all, you can pop in for five minutes, stay as long as you like, or just walk through.

The Communal Library includes a number of texts and books which visitors are welcome to read. Please return them to the shelf when you are finished for others to enjoy.

EVENTS PROGRAMME

Tuesday 5 March, 5.00 - 7.00pm
Reading Group: Who's Anthropocene?
Speaker: Professor Vinita Damodaran (University of Sussex)

Environmental historian and director of the Centre for World Environmental History (CWEH) Prof Damodaran, will introduce the concept Anthropocene in current Environmental History at this opening session.

The Anthropocene is a term referring to the current geological age. Taking TJ Demos' recent book *Against the Anthropocene* as its focus, this reading group will investigate ideas from Demos' book, which is available to read in the Communal Library. The Reading Group is co-organised by artist Zuky Serper (CWEH) University of Sussex, Fine Art Critical Practice students, University of Brighton and Graduates Monthly.

Thursday 7 March 11.00am - 4.00pm
Workshop: Making with common clay, protecting Horse Hill

A patch of land in Horse Hill, Surrey has been proposed for 20 years of experimental oil drilling. The latest climate science tells us that in order to avert runaway climate change we need to reduce our emissions by 50% in the next ten years, and 100% by 2050. What is the world we wish to pass on to future generations? What do we need to leave behind in order to get there? Come and join this workshop using clay dug from Horse Hill, to explore these questions through making.

Saturday 9 March, 2.00 – 5.00pm
Helen Johnson and the Collaborative Poetics Network

Collaborative Poetics is a participatory, arts-based process, in which artists, community practitioners, academics and community groups work together as a research collective. The group uses poetry, visual arts and other art forms, alongside established social scientific research methods, to explore and communicate individuals' lived experiences.

This session marks the launch of a Collaborative Poetics resource pack. The pack includes teaching resources, materials and guidance notes to enable the method to be applied by community groups, community practitioners, artists and academics in a wide range of different contexts. The pack is available for free online here:
http://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/collaborativepoetics/resources/

Thanks to funding from the Independent Social Research Foundation.

Tuesday 12 March – Thursday 14 March, 10.00am – 5.00pm daily
Out of sight out of mind
Paul Sermon, Charlotte Gould, Jeremiah Ambrose

Presentation of work from a two-week residency by a team from the University of Brighton, School of Art on the Mar Menor, a 170 km^2 saltwater lagoon on the south east coast of Spain in September 2018. The team were invited to undertake practice-based research on the changing ecosystem of this unique natural landscape, resulting from damages caused by intensive agriculture, increased tourism and rising sea levels. Through environmental, social, economic and cultural observations, the team will create an immersive 360° environment that incorporates both video and audio recordings with augmented imaginary and predicted realities transformed from scientific data in obscure and profound guises.

Saturday 16 March, 10.00am - 5.00pm
Tales of the Diggers and Dreamers: One Year On
Brighton and Hove Community Land Trust and
University of Brighton Radical Futures Housing Forum

Come to see and hear stories of what it's like to build your own home in Brighton & Hove, told by the people doing it. During the last year, over 150 people in Brighton & Hove have been involved in developing their own housing projects. This is a chance to hear what it is like and to find out more about the extraordinary homes and communities they are making.

Drop in or come for the day.

Wednesday 20 March - Thursday 21 March, 10.00am - 5.00pm daily
Jim Hendtlass, Sam Roberts, Ben Beasley, Sina Krause
University of Brighton Tech Hub: Virtual Painting and Sculpture

Would you like to be able to create a painting or sculpture but don't have paint and brushes, or a lump of granite and some chisels? The University of Brighton Tech Hub are offering you the opportunity to collaborate with other people to make a painting or sculpture in virtual reality (VR). You'll wear a VR headset and paint or sculpt in 3D virtual space using controllers which will provide you with a palette of colours, paintbrushes or sculpting tools. Each artwork will be created from contributions from a number of participants and will be on view in the gallery via a monitor as it is made.

Tuesday 19 March, 5.00 – 7.00pm
Reading Group: Who's Anthropocene?
Topic: Welcome to the Anthropocene

Tuesday 26 March, 5.00 – 7.00pm
Reading Group: Who's Anthropocene?
Topic: Geoengineering in the Athropocene

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Friday 29 March, 10.00am – 4.00pm
Studio Subject to Change: The Future of The High St

A day of creative engagement and workshops bringing together stakeholders from the city alongside architecture staff and students from the University of Brighton to re-imagine the future of the High St. Students from the 'Subject to Change' Studio, will present their innovative proposals for sites across Brighton, and together with public and professional participants, we will use these to generate inclusive solutions to a local and national problem and opportunity.

Led by Nick Gant (Community21) and Lucy-Ann Gilbert (Studio Subject to Change)

Thursday 4 April, 10.00am – 5.00pm
Association for Art History
Culture, Capital, Collaboration: Towards a new educational exchange

Join us for series of provocations and discussions focusing on the challenges and opportunities for art history within educational contexts. How might art history inform our understanding of other disciplines and how might it be possible to articulate an expanded conception of art history? Part of The Association for Art History's 2019 Annual Conference.

Friday 5 April, 9.30am – 6.00pm
Kate Aughterson
Performance as Research: Exploring Practice as Knowledge

A set of workshops and talks interweaving space, multi-media and bodies to examine the potential of performance as research. Speakers include Ben Spatz (Embodied audio-visual methods)
Emma Frankland (Producing Gallathea), Sarah Grange and Ellan Parry ('Food for thought'),
Sara Clifford (Place-based performance) and Neil Bartlett ('A brief history of my body in performance').

Saturday 6 April, 1.00 - 2.30pm
Greek Poetry Now

Join us for an open discussion with a new generation of artists from contemporary Greek poetry and performance. In the decade of the Greek economic this dynamic group of Greek poets has responded to recession by staking out new artistic and theoretical ground. Taking poetry on stage, boldly experimenting with the interface between poetry and performance, they present innovative, participatory events that expanding the possibilities of the poetic form.

Poets: Orfeas Apergis, Panayiotis Ioannides, Phoebe Giannisi, Pavlina Marvin, Patricia Kolaiti,
Marios Chatjiprokopiou, Sam Albatross, Konstandinos Papacharalabos

Saturday 6 April, 5.00 – 7.00pm
Association for Art History
Manifesto Launch

Launch event for a new manifesto for art history in education building on the work of the Association for Art History to develop new exchanges and collaborations across the arts, education and society.

Tuesday 23 April, 5.00 - 7.00pm
Reading Group: Who's Anthropocene?
Topic: Decolonising Nature

The Anthropocene is a term referring to the current geological age. Taking TJ Demos' recent book *Against the Anthropocene* as its focus, this reading group will investigate ideas from Demos' book, which is available to read in the Communal Library.

Saturday 20 April, 2.00 - 5.00pm
T4K: Brighton Housing for Migrants

Come along and meet some of your Brighton neighbors who are using crowdsourcing to offer humanity and hope to people facing destitution and despair. Thousand for a Thousand (T4K) was founded to address the often hostile environment facing migrants and asylum seekers in the UK. Since 2016 T4K have been co-ordinating crowdsourcing campaigns to provide housing for migrants who would otherwise be homeless under current UK legislation. Through offering free housing T4K have supported multiple families through the difficult transition between making a claim and receiving leave to remain. Join us to hear their stories and find out more about how it works.

Saturday 27 April, 2.00 - 5.00pm
Workshop with Fiona Grady

Exhibiting artist Fiona Grady leads a practical workshop offering a contemporary approach to stained glass focusing on her work and processes investigating relationships between architecture, light and space. Including an introduction to the artwork Spectra Waves, installed in the space, each participant will learn how to use transparent coloured vinyl to make artworks on A3 Perspex which can be taken home at the end of workshop.
All materials provided, booking essential. To reserve your place please speak to the Gallery Assistant.

Tuesday 30 April, 5.00 - 7.00pm
Reading Group: Who's Anthropocene?
Topic: Against the Anthropocene I

The Anthropocene is a term referring to the current geological age. Taking TJ Demos' recent book *Against the Anthropocene* as its focus, this reading group will investigate ideas from Demos' book, which is available to read in the Communal Library.

Friday 3 – Saturday 4 May, 10.00am - 5.00pm Daily
Graphic Brighton: Making Comics Work

A two day festival celebrating the work of creators who make comics that can be used for education, healthcare and mindfulness. This event features talks, discussions, presentations and workshops. Attending guests include Comics Laureate Hannah Berry, graphic novelists Warren Pleece, Chris Geary, Richy K Chandler and Ian Williams, plus cartoonists Muna Al-Jawad, John Miers, Louisa Buck and Paul Fisher Davies.

Come along to find out how comic strips are being used in schools, universities and hospitals as an educational and research tool, and have a go at making your own.

Sunday 5 May, 2.00 - 4.00pm
Artist's Talk: Kannan Arunasalam - Trauma, Culture and Memory in Sri Lanka

A special set of talks to mark the 10th Anniversary of the end of the Civil War in Sri Lanka. Kannan Arunasalam will discuss this new film work *The Tent*, how artists can engage with the aftermath of such catastrophic events and the role that culture can play in coming to terms with their legacy. Arunasalam will be joined in conversation by writers and academics including Kate Cronin Furman (Director of the Human Rights MA Program, University College London) and Struan Grey (Postdoctoral Researcher, Centre for Memory, Narrative and Histories, University of Brighton) discussing his work on film and violence in Chile.

Tuesday 7 May

10.00am - 1.00pm
2019 Fine Art Placements Conference
L5 Fine Art Critical Practice students and staff

A series of presentations including project documentation and artworks made by Fine Art Critical Practice students as part of their Fine Art Placements. The Fine Art Placements Scheme places students in a subject area or University of Brighton department different from Fine Art. This complements their studies, encourages collaboration, extends understanding of contemporary art practices and teaches professional skills through experience. A chance to meet the students and discover more about their work and projects.

5.00 - 7.00pm
Reading Group: Who's Anthropocene?
Topic: Against the Anthropocene II

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Wednesday 8 – Saturday 11 May, 11.00am – 3.00pm Daily
Performance: A Space Without Use
Claudia Kappenberg

A durational performance, taking inspiration from George Perec's conception of a space without use. This performance work will create a space for reflection without purpose – a function without use – in response to the goal driven context of the University.