A playful and unruly edition of London’s 10 day visual art festival happening in and around Deptford

DEPTFORD X

25 October – 3 November 2019

@deptfordx
#deptfordxfestival2019
deptfordx.org

STOP MAKING SENSE

Free entry to all events and exhibitions
Welcome 2019 is my first year at the helm of Deptford X and it has been a privilege to get to better know the artists, communities, businesses and organisations in Deptford and the surrounding area. The festival would not be possible without the endless support and goodwill of all the venues offering up space for projects, and of course the tremendous amount of creativity and drive from local artists that goes into the impressive and ever-growing Fringe programme. I would like to specifically thank the seven artists in the Curated programme for all their hard work, generosity and commitment to producing such ambitious, thoughtful and perceptive work for Deptford X. ’Stop Making Sense’ is the starting point for this year’s festival. It’s a phrase borrowed from ‘Talking Heads’ 1984 concert film of the same title and one that I feel is pertinent to our contemporary moment. In all probability 2019’s Deptford X will coincide with Brexit on 31 October; a symptom of divided communities, unscrupulous politicking and media propaganda, whichever side of the fence you stand on. The shape and sense of our societies and the authority with which they are presented to us are shifting constructions assembled with words, laws, money and social relations. We need to keep bearing at these structures to reveal the so-called nonsense of humanity beneath—the laughter, play, irreverence and empathy that unite us. These are all essential attributes for the continued health of our relationships, communities and societies and so I have chosen artists for the Curated programme whose work pokes holes in ‘sense’ in order to construct new meanings; locate masked knowledge; or reorder social relations.

The artists in the Supported programme and some in the Fringe have also taken up this mantle and produced projects that reject preexisting sense. It is the nature of Deptford X that these ideas are brought into everyday spaces and places for all to encounter and it is my hope that through this you will find this year’s programme of work as inspiring and thought provoking as I do.

Paul Canty and Laura Hensser, Co-Chairs

Core Programme

The core programme for Deptford X 2019 is made up of two strands: Curated and Supported. These are artists that are chosen, supported and funded by Deptford X.

Curated

A curated programme of seven artists and five new commissions by the festival director, Nathalie Boobis, within the framework of ‘Stop Making Sense’, the starting point for 2019’s festival. The Curated projects can be read as a distributed exhibition across different sites and spaces in Deptford. The artists are Kobby Adi, Sarah Browne, Roland Carline, Tiz Creel, Jin Han Lee, Sophie Mallett and Gray Wielebinski.

Tiz Creel

The Deptford Quest

10 vinyl floor stickers, foam swim noodles, plastic hula hoops, PVC fabric

Deptford X Gallery, Unit B, Norfolk House, 9 Brookmill Road, SE8 4HL

Space for autonomous imagination

Inflated PVC tarpaulin

Leander Hall, Vanguard Estate, Ship Street, SE8 4DH

Tiz Creel’s work is focussed on designing opportunities for people to play and explore in order to encourage new and positive social interactions. For Deptford X 2019 Creel has created The Deptford Quest, a participatory game that leads visitors on a fantastical journey through Deptford via a series of clues and instructions on vinyl floor stickers placed on pavements—from the emblematic anchor at the top of Deptford High Street, to the Deptford Market Yard. The game begins at Deptford X Gallery where Creel has made a colourful sculptural assemblage that is available for visitors to enter and explore. At Leander Hall, a community centre on Deptford’s Vanguard Estate, Creel is exhibiting Space for autonomous imagination, a bespoke, interactive bouncy castle. The structure is designed to be open to imaginative play and visitors are invited to enter, using their own creativity to react and explore in new and unconstrained ways. Creel’s contribution to Deptford X festival offers an opportunity for children and adults alike to let down their guards and invent new temporary realities through sharing playful encounters with each other and the local context of Deptford.

Tiz Creel (b.1991, Mexico City, Mexico) comes from the megalopolis of Mexico City, epitomised as chaotic, surreal and unique. This background informs her artistic practice which is heavily...
Wheelchair accessible.

Jin Han Lee

Drinks Alone (2016)
200 × 180 cm oil and acrylic on linen

Peeking (2019)
200 × 180 cm oil on linen

Swimmer (2018)
200 × 180 cm oil on linen

Deptford X, Unit A, 9 Brookmill Road, SE8 4HL

Drinks Alone (2019)
Mesh banner

Deptford Lounge, 9 Giffin Street, SE8 4RJ

On the Same Page (2017)
Mesh banner (in two parts)

Deptford Station bridge

Jin Han Lee uses painting to capture and make sense of the worrisome emotions that underpin a day of everyday life and to visualise the inevitable distance between those subjective experiences and communicating them to others. Lee’s paintings are colourful and, as yet, they are informed by language—both thought and spoken. The sportswear retailer, are also sold in bundles online by individuals seeking additional income. The introduction of the manure acts as an absurd gesture that imbues potency and fertility into highly circulated and already culturally charged objects. Trajektor are a group whose work is sculptures made from two stainless steel bars, a piece of manure, and a tinted glass top. Both of these works can be found repeated in the film Adi’s most recent work is a sculpture titled “doggos open up the space between interdependent systems of authority, power and violence; the doggos will do it for us.” Sophie Malek

Lol, sploot, blep, blop, bork

HD video, sound, digitally printed vinyl

Unit 3, Carriage Way, Deptford Market Yard, SE8 4BZ

For Deptford X 2019, Sophie Malek is exhibiting, sploot, blop, bork for the first time in the UK. The two screen video is set in a seemingly abandoned park (Parque de la Tierra Galván, Madrid) where grand spaces built for communal interaction are left unoccupied. This park becomes the setting for a different kind of community. Doggos, the only frequent visitors to the park, come together to help us understand the subtle and explicit ways that we avoid acknowledging our own complicity in structural violence and inequalities. In this alternate world, doggos bop and meow while they philosophise on the systems of control that engender exploitation. Their dialogue is adapted from writings on whiteness by Hanzi Bouteldja and Robin DiAngelo. The doggos open up the space between ideology and action entrenched in white liberalism.

The video is Malek’s personal reflection on how white liberalism underplays the inadequacy that uses our deepest emotional and psychological responses to sexual and anthropological attraction, to confront uncomfortable hypocrisies. If we refuse to accept the daily routine of entertainment, exhaustion and clickbait to understand our complicity in interdependence of systems of power and violence; the doggos will do it for us.

Sophie Malek (b.1984, Kettering, UK) is an artist and filmmaker working in London. Her practice concentrates on how financial, architectural and social workspaces coalesce and in turn affect our ability to co-exist. Malek completed her BFA at the Eastern, London College of Communication and Sydney Conservatory of Music.

Lol, sploot, blop, bork, both was commissioned by E M M A
Supported

New for 2019, the Supported strand is selected by open call and is intended to widen access to participation in the festival by providing funding, production and curatorial support to successful applicants. This year’s winners were selected by guest judges Teresa Cisneros, Natasha Hoare, Christopher Kirubi, New Locke, Imran Perreatta and Deptford X judges NT, Maggie Learmonth and Nathalie Boobis.

Davinia-Ann Robinson
PRESENCE
Lewisham Arthouse, 140 Lewisham Way, SE14 6PD

PRESENCE takes the form of an exhibition and two day drop-in collaborative studio session held at Lewisham Arthouse. Women of Colour are invited into a restorative and discursive space to share their experiences of being rendered visible/invisible and present/ absent. Participants will co-create artwork in response to the emotional impacts of these experiences by impressing parts of their bodies or written text onto pre-rolled beds of clay. Robinson aims to provide a supportive space for Women of Colour to explore, disrupt and reclaim ownership of their gendered and racialised bodies within adverse cultural, social and political terrains.

In the project space, Robinson is exhibiting new work inspired by the first iteration of the collaborative studio session, PRESENCE, held at the ICA London in September, and new written texts responding to her ‘conflicted’ emotions, educated in the encounters between identity and otherness as her raced and gendered body has navigated colonial spaces (Gail Lewis, 2017). The exhibition is open to all.

Davinia-Ann Robinson (b.1987, Wolverhampton, UK) explores the cultural politics of emotions and their implications for Black Female bodies in colonial spaces. She also works in art education as a freelance artist at the South London Gallery and as this year’s artist in residence on their Supersmashers programme. She is the founding member of Narration Group, a collective for women and non-binary people of colour. Robinson is an Arts Council England Developing Your Creative Practice grant recipient and a just completed a year’s residency at the Florence Trust.

EXHIBITION
Mon 28 – Thu 31 Oct, 12 – 6pm
Fri 1 Nov, 12 – 8pm

See Events for more info on the workshops.

Wheelchair accessible.

George Boros
CONTRADICTIONS
Trinity Laban Faculty of Dance, Laban Building, Creekside, SE8 3DZ

George Boros’ contribution to Deptford X, CONTRADICTIONS, brings together his musical compositions and paintings. Boros is specifically interested in trying to capture opposing emotional states; the piano compositions available to listen to on headphones are structured to capture opposing emotional states; the paintings are vivid and expressionistic, incorporating references to street art. Each can be read as metaphors for broader cultural values—measured, rational control versus emotive, raw expression.

George Boros (b.1999, London, UK) is a classically trained musician, composer and artist based in London who has recently finished sixth form.

Wheelchair accessible.

Tyreis Holder
Idk, I’m calling this ‘Midnight Hues’ or suttin like dat Mixed media
Enclave 8, 50 Resolution Way, SE8 4RL

Tyreis Holder’s work centres around explorations of the self and the relationship between the mind and the body, particularly with regards to navigating white spaces. Bringing her lived experiences into her practice, she aims to generate conversations about how social and intimate spaces are shaped through disability, sexuality and culture. Idk, I’m calling this ‘Midnight Hues’ or suttin like dat is a multimedia installation with daily performances.

Who said Midnight blues could leave you bound by zip lies?
Who said Midnight hues paint you skirts which are button shy?
I question if I mention
How I wrestle with muted flies
You’ll bind me to the label that I done lost my damn mind.

Tyreis Holder (b.1999, London, UK) is an artist/poet of Jamaican/St Vincent decent, born and raised in South London and currently studying BA Fine Art at Goldsmiths University.

Wheelchair accessible.

Nkechinyere Nwobani-Akanwo
The People’s Party
The Albany, Douglas Way, SE8 4AG

The People’s Party is a day of workshops organised by Nkechinyere Nwobani-Akanwo where Deptford locals are invited to express their political ideas and form their own party. With the country becoming ever more divided; long-established communities being changed beyond recognition and the gulf between politicians and the people growing exponentially, it’s time the People had their say. Learn about cooperation and creative expression before creating policies and a manifesto to be shared publicly.

Nkechinyere Nwobani-Akanwo (1994, London, UK) is a writer, director and dramaturg working with theatres across London—from Bush Theatre, to the Royal Court and the National Theatre—and is keen to move her work into a visual art context. She was born and raised in Deptford and has a strong interest in local politics.

WORKSHOP
The People’s Party
Sat 2 Nov, 10am – 8pm
Free, sign up at www.deptfordx.org

Work with political, theatrical and artistic facilitators to share concerns and develop them into policies and a manifesto. The workshop takes place from 10am – 4pm followed by a public presentation from 6pm – 8pm.

Wheelchair accessible.

Ikra Arshad
Fill me up
Perspex, pressure treated wood, acrylic, house paint
Margaret MacMillan Park
Ikra Arshad’s developing art practice is focused on creating immersive public art works in everyday places that offer spaces of calm reflection amidst the hustle and bustle of daily life. For Deptford X Arshad has created a sculptural installation incorporating abstract shapes of transparent coloured Perspex in Margaret MacMillan Park. For the duration of the festival, Fill me up alters the landscape of the park and entices visitors and passers by to explore the work and take a moment out of their day to enjoy the playful structure, coloured shapes and the chance to encounter a familiar place anew.

Ikra Arshad (b.1993, Gravesend, UK) graduated from Camberwell School of Art in 2016 and runs Masala Wala Café in Brockley with her mother and sisters.

Wheelchair accessible.
Meet at Fordham Park, Achilles Street, Grants, and funded by Arts Council National Lottery Project A Parade of Friendly Monsters

DEPTFORD X CLOSING EVENT:
WHERE: St Paul’s House, 1 Market Yard, SE8 4BX.

WORKSHOPS: A PARADE OF FRIENDLY MONSTERS COSTUME-MAKING
Deptford Lounge, 9 Giffin St, SE8 4RJ. Sun 25 & Sat 2 Nov, 11am – 3pm.
Come and make monstrous costumes at a PARADE of Friendly Monsters taking place on Sun 3 Nov.

Workshop on Sat 2 Nov is led by Curated artist, Tiz Creel. Free, all welcome. Wheelchair accessible.

WORKSHOP: BEYOND THE BOUNCE
Leandler Hall, Vanguard Estate, Ship St, SE8 4DH, Sun 27 Oct, 10am – 12pm.
Curated artist Tiz Creel for a workshop exploring all playing in her bouncy castle sculpture, Space for autonomous imagination. Using techniques, the role play at Space, Curie will guide participants to imagine purposes and uses for the different spaces in the structure. The group will then explore the imaginary experience of the bouncy castle they have collectively created.

Age 5 – 10, accompanied by an adult. Free, no booking required. Wheelchair accessible.

WORKSHOP: GONG BATH
The Yoga Room, Unit 5 Carriageay, Deptford Market Yard, SE8 4BY. Sat 26 Oct, 3 – 4.30pm.
Watch a live performance of Curated project The Secret Life of Bees performed by Members of the Albany Members, children from The Rachel McMillan Nursery and Sacha Thomas. Costumes by Roland Gaido. Live Gong Performance by Alex Creel and Cheryl Carter.

Free, all welcome. This event has access to a remote BSL interpretation service. To attend and need BSL interpretation please contact: sarah@deptfordx.org. Wheelchair accessible.

WORKSHOPS: PRESENCE: Collaborative studio sessions
Lewisham Arthouse, 140 Lewisham Way, SE14 6PD. Sat 2 Nov, 12 – 6pm; Sun 3 Nov, 12 – 6pm.
Women of Colour only. Free, no booking required. Wheelchair accessible.

SOXON, XET, ORBOGRAPHY, DOSKMY
The Point of No Point Exhibition of artworks and photographs that explore the role of vision in exploring urban states of mind.
The Bohemians, 53 Deptford Broadway, SE8 4PF. Fri 25 Oct – Sun 3 Nov, 10am – 10pm. Wheelchair accessible.

FRINGE

Fringes

Amy F W Corcoran
The Wild Ascending
Following in the footsteps of four women venues throughout Deptford to discover lost sounds of nature reclaiming space in the street. Explore Forest Fringe and see online or start journey at Deptford X to pick up list (Unit A, 9 Brookmill Road, SE8 4HL). Fri 25 Oct - Sun 3 Nov (24hrs). LAUNCH EVENT: 25 Oct, 6 – 9pm. Wheelchair accessible.

Brookmills Studio
Open Studio: The Drummer Boy
Brookmills Studio artists open their doors to welcome you to explore their work. Brookmills Studios, Units B & C Norfolk House, 9 Brookmill Road, Deptford Broadway, SE8 4PQ. Sat 26 Oct, 10am – 6pm. Free, no booking required. Wheelchair accessible.

Art Action UK
Discussion Event / After Fukushima

Carroll Thomas
Beyond the Archive (DTA)
Windrush Time Capsule & African Tales From The Hip
Decolonising The Archive (DTA) presents an immersive gallery experience created specifically to disrupt female identity within society. Deptford Docklands, 26 Deptford Broadway, London SE8 4AF. Fri 25, Sat 26, Sun 27, Wed 30, Thu 1 Nov, Fri 1, Sat 2, Sun 3 Nov, 10am – 6pm (Fridays & Saturdays, 10am – 11pm). LAUNCH EVENT: Fri 25 Oct, 6 – 9pm. Wheelchair accessible.

Saxon Shadow Dance - Jessie Jing, Nicola Wigfield, Aurora Fung
This Is The Way It Is
A visual synthesis of contemporary dance and music featuring a diverse cast of female performers to disrupt female identity within society.
Deptford Docklands, 26 Deptford Broadway, London SE8 4AF. Fri 25, Sat 26, Sun 27, Wed 30, Thu 1 Nov, Fri 1, Sat 2, Sun 3 Nov, 10am – 6pm (Fridays & Saturdays, 10am – 11pm). LAUNCH EVENT: Fri 25 Oct, 6 – 9pm. Wheelchair accessible.

2023

FRINGE

Ally Clark
Women of Colour

Aki Poon & Sarah Song
Planets in Transit
An interactive workshop exploring a process of finding patterns in the field of the uncanny, curated by Yi Taeh Shih, Sister Heights Records, 8 St. Norbert’s Hill, SE4 2PQ. Tue 29 Oct, 6 – 10pm, Wed 30 Oct, 6 – 10pm. Not wheelchair accessible.

Andrew Hinton
Open Studio: The Drummer Boy
A chance to see recent work, particularly from the The Drummer Boy’ series based on an image of the artist aged six. Studio, 115 Tanners Hill, SE8 4GQ. Sat 26, Sun 27 Oct, Sat 2, Sun 3 Nov, 10 – 6pm, or by appointment (email acm115@yahoo.co.uk). Partially wheelchair accessible.

DECOLONISING THE ARCHIVE (DTA)
Windrush Time Capsule & African Tales From The Hip
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Sean Worrall
#4 Leaves for Deptford
43 pacts on recycled material found on the streets of Deptford and hung back together to take. A work in 43 parts feat. paintings by Sean Worrall with guests including Emma Harvey & Iva Decheva. Fri 25, Sat 26, Sun 27 Oct – Sun 3 Nov, 10am – 6pm. PERFORMANCES: Sat 26, Sun 27 Oct & Sat 3, Sun 2 Nov, 12 – 4pm. Wheelchair accessible.

Baba All
THIS HOUSE
**Lou McCurdy & Alex Bamford**

*Wasteland*

Paintings and drawings from observation and imagination exploring strange worlds and their inhabitants.


**Amelia Power and Pierenne Christian Uneasy**

Paintings and drawings from observation and imagination exploring strange worlds and their inhabitants.


**Mama, Papa is Wounded!**


Near Crossfield Street, Deptford.

**Launch**


**Carla Harvey and YUI**

Gadfly

At the heart of the new Deptford X, a project vision that brings the old world into the new, Deptford is emerging as a new kind of city. A city that is welcoming, inclusive, and truly represents the diversity of the people of the area.

**Amanda Moström**

Participating in a chair performance that brings together works by Swedish artist Amanda Moström. Cast, Enclave 1, 50 Resolution Way, SE8 4AL. Fri 25, Sat 26, Sun 27, Mon 28, Tue 29, Wed 30, Thu 31 Oct, 1, 2, 3 Nov, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Nov, 10 – 6pm. Wheelchair accessible.
Deepa Chudasma

John Griffin

Alistair Leys

Chris Francis

Jenny Klein

Jesse Mockridge

Gilfudge

Catherine Long, Rose Gibbs, Phoebe Collings-James, Lauren Schneider, Samiya Younis, Miriam Ausind, Jonnie Hylton, Jashleen Kaur

An exhibition of graphic score. High Street following a uniquely improvised piece throughout Deptford

An interactive installation for an around reading and discussing some Reading Klein incoherence and authenticity.

An exhibition about worms; how an animal or human is said to “have worms” in medical terms.

Enhance, Reflect, Change

Like and Subscribe

Writing a festival workshop that take the festival around reading and discussing some Reading Klein incoherence and authenticity. A performance that brings its production around reading and discussing some Reading Klein incoherence and authenticity.

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An exhibition about worms; how an animal or human is said to “have worms” in medical terms.

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About Deptford X

Deptford X is London’s longest running contemporary visual arts festival. It was launched in 1998 as a free, annual, artist-led festival based in and around Deptford, South East London.

Now in its third decade, the festival has reinforced its aim to nurture the creativity on its doorstep through increasing opportunities to take part and presenting challenging and exciting art alongside some of the most creative talent living and working in the area.

Deptford X 2019 sees some changes to its structure with a core programme made up of Curated artists chosen by the festival director and Supported artists selected by open call. The festival’s uniquely unjuried Fringe programme remains and a community-led closing parade—the Parade of Friendly Monsters—is another new addition.