

Institute of Contemporary Arts

PRESS RELEASE

Current Transmissions
A year of New Creatives commissions
20 – 23 February 2020



Mia Georgis, *Ishtar*, 2020

Commissioned by BBC Arts and the ICA and produced by NTS for New Creatives

The Institute of Contemporary Arts presents *Current Transmissions*, a four-day showcase and events programme featuring over 40 recently commissioned works by emerging London-based artists working in audio, moving image, and interactive media. Presenting work by some of London's most exciting emerging talent, *Current Transmissions* foregrounds underrepresented voices including artists who have had no prior production experience or training.

These commissions are the result of the ICA's partnership in New Creatives, a national talent development scheme co-funded by BBC Arts and Arts Council England. The scheme seeks to broaden access to production and broadcast opportunities for aspiring or emerging artists aged 16–30, with the ICA serving as its London hub and further regional development hubs across the UK. Over the two-year project, the ICA and BBC – together with a network of production partners including Chisenhale Gallery, Dazed Media, NTS, SPACE, the Visible Institute at Kingston School of Art and Werkflow – will commission 100 new works for potential broadcast on BBC platforms and beyond. Artists are selected for the scheme through an ongoing series of open calls; the third call is now open and runs until 26 February and the final call will open in June 2020.

Comfort Adeneye, whose commission is available on BBC iPlayer, said:

'The problem that my generation often faces with the media is that it is other people telling our stories. The New Creatives programme allows people like me to tell my story and tell the reality that I face. We would like to see more funding like this put into young filmmakers.'

Current Transmissions forms part of In Production, an ongoing learning initiative conceived by the ICA in parallel with New Creatives. The showcase marks one year of In Production and New Creatives, featuring finished works by the artists selected from the two open calls in 2019.

Displays in the ICA Theatre will feature interactive works, audio works and a screening programme of moving image works. An accompanying programme of talks and workshops further facilitate networking opportunities for participating artists and their peers, while performances and screenings open the exhibition up to broader discussion.

Among the works on display are *Deadly Structures*, a first-person open world 'soundgame' by sound artists David Denyer and Sami El-Enany constructed from field recordings made in abandoned industrial landscapes in Leipzig; *Top Wavers*, a moving image work by Comfort Adeneye that depicts three teen friends joking together about how they achieve their waves hairstyles; *Ishtar*, an experimental short film by Mia Georgis exploring the coloniality of gender centered on the gender-fluid Mesopotamian deity, Ishtar; and *Staff of Life*, a film by Moza Almatrooshi, set in a bakery, that oscillates between Arabic, Farsi and Urdu while exploring notions of human resilience and fulfilment. Audio works include *Living with the Light On: Switchboard in the 70s*, by Tom Foskett-Barnes, which consists of interviews, original music and archive material from the early history of the UK's leading LGBT+ helpline, and *DEM TIMES*, a young adult radio comedy-drama by Jacob Roberts-Mensah which follows the re-education of a young British-born troublemaker who is relocated to a Ghanaian boarding school.

The ICA and production partners Chisenhale Gallery, Dazed Media, NTS, SPACE, the Visible Institute at Kingston School of Art and Werkflow have enabled artists develop commissions from initial idea to delivery, including one-to-one mentoring and production support.

The full list of commissioned artists so far, including links to those whose works which have already been broadcast, are: Joe Adams, [Comfort Adeneye](#), Moza Almatrooshi, [Estelle Birch](#), Rowan Bhatti, [Joseph Bond](#), Aladin Borioli, Henry Bradley, [Sarah Brown](#), Irene Carter, [Emily Charlton](#), [Kitty Clark](#), Bryn Davies, Samuel Dueck, [Myrto Farmaki](#), [Tom Foskett-Barnes](#), [Tanaka Fuego](#), Mia Georgis, Fiona Glen, Cassandre Greenberg, [Dan Guthrie](#), Dita Hashi, Edward Herring, Amelia Joan Lock, Sarah Khan, Nicola Laughton, Hani Malcolm-Ibrahim, Skye Moseley, [Tamu Nkiwane](#), [Luoiza Ntourou](#), Ruari Paterson-Achenbach, [Jacob Roberts-Mensah](#), Abel Rubinstein, Anita Safowaa, Leanne Shorely, Edward Smyth, [Madeleine Stack](#), Miriam Stoney, Kam Szewczuk, Georgina Tyson, Sarah Ushurhe, Ellena Woolf, [Stacie Woolsey](#), Wormtea (David Denyer and Sami El-Enany), Ashleigh Williams, [James Wreford](#) and [Belinda Zhawi](#).

To request information, images or interviews, please contact:

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VISITOR INFORMATION

Current Transmissions

A year of New Creatives commissions

20 – 23 February 2020

Location: Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH

Admission: Entry to the exhibition and evening programmes is FREE.

Places for the evening sessions must be booked online www.ica.art

Opening times:

The exhibition is open Friday to Sunday, 12pm – 7pm.

Evening programmes run Thursday to Sunday, from 7pm.

The four evening programmes each feature a performance by a commissioned artist and screenings of up to 10 artists' work.

For information about tickets and membership, please contact:

sales@ica.art / +44 (0) 20 7930 3647 / www.ica.art

NOTES TO EDITORS

In Production is an ICA learning initiative and programme of masterclasses, screenings and live events which are open to the public and offer specialist advice and training from industry professionals. In Production is conceived by the ICA in parallel with New Creatives.

New Creatives is a two-year national talent development scheme, which will give 500 artists aged 16-30 the chance to develop their technical and creative skills and the opportunity to have their New Creatives commissions broadcast on BBC platforms and beyond. A New Creatives Network of five creative media production organisations across England are being tasked to find, nurture and showcase emerging talent. Each centre will act as a regional development hub to support talent and work with other partners across the wider area to support diversity and social mobility in the arts and broadcasting. The New Creatives hubs include Tyneside Cinema covering the North, Rural Media covering the Midlands, the Institute of Contemporary Arts covering London, Screen South covering the South East and Calling the Shots covering the South West. New Creatives is co-funded by BBC Arts and Arts Council England.

Founded in 1946 by a collective of artists, poets and their supporters, the **Institute of Contemporary Arts** is an independent organisation and registered charity which supports the most pressing debates in contemporary culture. The ICA has staged groundbreaking exhibitions, performances and keynote lectures by many of the world's leading thinkers. The ICA was home to the Independent Group and played a pivotal role in the development of Pop art. It charted the course of punk, performance art and independent cinema, and staged the first institutional exhibitions by Francis Bacon, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Marcel Broodthaers, Tacita Dean, Damien Hirst, Douglas Huebler, Asger Jorn, Ilya Kabakov, Mike Kelley, Mary Kelly, Barbara Kruger, Richard Prince, Gerhard Richter, Dieter Roth, Cindy Sherman, Nancy Spero, and Cosey Fanni Tutti and early exhibitions by Bernadette Corporation, Robert Mapplethorpe, Steve McQueen, Gerhard Richter, and Tino Sehgal. The ICA has also presented many now historic performances, including those

by Laurie Anderson, Einstürzende Neubauten and Yoko Ono; legendary concerts by The Clash, Throbbing Gristle, The Smiths, David Bowie and The Beastie Boys; and critical discussions by the likes of Kathy Acker, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Stuart Hall and Homi K. Bhabha. The ICA Cinema and its dedicated artist's film programme continue to introduce independent film to local and global audiences, having supported pioneering filmmakers including Chantal Akerman, Kenneth Anger, Matthew Barney, Derek Jarman, Isaac Julien, Abbas Kiarostami, Mike Leigh, Ken Loach, Joshua Oppenheimer and Laura Poitras. From its home on The Mall – the geographic heart of the UK establishment – the ICA is an organisation in which different modes of cultural production thrive on the mutual engagement with one another, and a programme that speaks to the challenges of the 21st century. www.ica.art

Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, we will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. www.artscouncil.org.uk

The **BBC** is the biggest creator of arts content and is Britain's creative partner – a stage for the nation to experience the very best arts; when they want, how they want. www.bbc.com

- The nation's stage: access to arts and culture programming for all through the licence fee – we create and showcase more arts and culture than any other broadcaster
- An Innovator: constantly finding new ways to bring the best quality culture to audiences; working with the arts sector as partner and acting as a hot house for new talent
- Britain's creative partner: a bold force in the UK creative sector as creator and commissioner, also a platform for new talent
- An investor in quality: we only present the highest quality arts and culture programming, crafted by skilled production teams and shared with all audiences
- Bringing the nation together: like no other we create and amplify moments in arts and culture, cutting through with a broad audience

PRODUCTION PARTNERS

Kingston School of Art (KSA) is one of the highest profile art and design institutions in the world. The faculty offers a suite of highly regarded, taught film undergraduate and postgraduate courses. The Visible Institute for research in film and photography provides a still and moving image research environment encompassing Phd research studentships and one-off projects. The faculty has excellent professional resources as a centre for the production of artists' moving image. Kingston University are skilled at reaching people in the culturally-under served outer London boroughs, with an excellent track record of offering progression routes into higher education to young people through their Widening Participation programme. www.thevisibleinstitute.org / www.kingston.ac.uk

NTS is an underground radio station and music platform. Founded in East London in 2011, NTS now has additional studios in Manchester,

Los Angeles and Shanghai. With over five hundred resident shows, NTS broadcasts twenty four hours a day across two live channels, listenable online or via a mobile app. Programming includes everything from contemporary jazz to black metal, alongside art-based talk shows and abstract narrative soundscapes. Beyond radio, NTS hosts events, produces and commissions video and documentaries, programs music festivals and live-streams concerts. 2019 marked the first iteration of NTS' WIP initiative, an artist development programme looking to foster new talent and give back to the wider music community that has helped the station grow. www.nts.live

Established by artists in 1968, **SPACE** runs 20 artist studio buildings across 8 London boroughs and Colchester, providing affordable creative workspace plus support programmes, such as exhibitions, artists residencies, bursaries and training opportunities, to enable artists to be sustainable. SPACE also delivers learning projects for schools, young people and communities neighbouring SPACE studio sites, to promote engagement with creativity and the arts. SPACE supports more than 800 artists with studio provision and a further 700 a year with professional development. Additionally, SPACE engages 22,000 people a year in its public programmes. www.spacestudios.org.uk

Chisenhale Gallery commissions and produces contemporary art, supporting international and UK-based artists to pursue new directions and make their most ambitious work to date. For audiences the gallery provides opportunities to experience this process of art production through participation and critical reflection. Chisenhale Gallery has an award winning, 36-year history as one of London's most innovative forums for contemporary art. With a reputation for identifying new talent, the gallery is committed to engaging diverse audiences with a focus on young people. Chisenhale Gallery operates as a production agency, exhibition hall, research centre and community resource. www.chisenhale.org.uk

Dazed Media is an independent media group renowned for producing award-winning stories across its industry leading print, digital and video brands. The company's portfolio includes some of the world's most coveted titles including AnOther, Another Man, Dazed, Dazed Beauty and Nowness. The company's newest division, Dazed Studio creates innovative brand campaigns across the luxury and lifestyle sectors. Based in London and formed in 1991 its founders are Jefferson Hack and Rankin Waddell. www.dazeddigital.com

Werkflow is an experimental digital arts studio based in Somerset House, London. They focus on using game engine technology to create unique work spanning the fields of music, art, fashion and advertising, alongside producing their first full length computer game, Sovereign. As well as creating their own studio led projects, their highly collaborative practice leads them to work and consult with highly acclaimed artists, designers and institutions, creating experimental computer-generated imagery, virtual reality pieces, interactive installations and online projects. www.werkflow.co.uk

New Creatives is co-funded by Arts Council England and BBC Arts.
In Production is made possible through the support of the Friends of the
Institute of Contemporary Arts and Arts Council England.



CHISENHALE GALLERY

DAZED

Kingston
School
of Art



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