

New Contemporaries

For Immediate Release
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Artists Announced for New Contemporaries 70th Anniversary

Constantly evolving and developing along with the changing face of visual art in the UK, to mark its 70th anniversary, New Contemporaries is pleased to announce this year's selected artists with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies. The panel of guest selectors comprising Rana Begum, Sonia Boyce and Ben Rivers has chosen 45 artists for the annual open submission exhibition.

Since 1949 New Contemporaries has played a vital part in the story of contemporary British art. Throughout the exhibition's history, a wealth of established artists have participated in New Contemporaries exhibitions including post-war figures Frank Auerbach and Paula Rego; pop artists Patrick Caulfield and David Hockney; YBAs Damien Hirst and Gillian Wearing; alongside contemporary figures such as Tacita Dean, Mark Lecky, Mona Hatoum, Mike Nelson and Chris Ofili; whilst more recently a new generation of artists including Ed Atkins, Marvin Gaye Chetwynd, Rachel Maclean and Laure Prouvost have also taken part.

Selected artists for Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2019 are: **Jan Agha, Eleonora Agostini, Justin Apperley, Ismay Bright, Roland Carline, Liam Ashley Clark, Becca May Collins, Rafael Pérez Evans, Katharina Fitz, Samuel Fordham, Chris Gilvan-Cartwright, Gabriela Giroletti, Roei Greenberg, Elena Helfrecht, Mary Herbert, Laura Hindmarsh, Cyrus Hung, Yulia Iosilzon, Umi Ishihara, Alexei Alexander Izmaylov, Paul Jex, Eliot Lord, Annie Mackinnon, Renie Masters, Simone Mudde, Isobel Napier, Louis Blue Newby, Louiza Ntourou, Ryan Orme, Marijn Ottenhof, Jonas Pequeno, Emma Prempeh, Zoe Radford, Taylor Jack Smith, George Stamenov, Emily Stollery, Wilma Stone, Jack Sutherland, Xiuching Tsay, Alaena Turner, Klara Vith, Ben Walker, Ben Yau, Camille Yvert and Stefania Zocco.**

Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2019 will launch from 14 September to 17 November 2019 at Leeds Art Gallery, coinciding with the final weekend of Yorkshire Sculpture International. The show will then travel to the South London Gallery from 6 December 2019 to 23 February 2020.

A series of public programmes, newly commissioned work and collaborations will mark New Contemporaries 70th anniversary, reaching new audiences over the next twelve months. These include a digital project commissioned by The Space, comprising six short video interviews with New Contemporaries alumni including Bruce McLean, Mark Wallinger, Rachel Maclean, Hardeep Pandhal and Chantal Joffe alongside a new digital work by Mark Lecky; newly commissioned work by alumni artist James N. Hutchinson in partnership with The Tetley; a two-day conference in collaboration with the Courtauld Institute of Art; the launch of the New Contemporaries Leeds Fellowship – a one month MRes fellowship in partnership with Leeds Beckett University and the Henry Moore Institute, as well as a series of public programmes in partnership with Leeds Art Gallery, University of Leeds, Henry Moore Institute, and the South London Gallery.

2019 will also mark New Contemporaries first Venice Biennial Fellowship in collaboration with the British Council which will see New Contemporaries artist David Walker Kennedy (alumni 2017) partaking in a month-long residency in Venice in August 2019.

Kirsty Ogg, Director, New Contemporaries says, “With a dazzling range of names in post-war and contemporary art, collectively our alumni have helped define contemporary visual culture. This milestone in our history presents an opportunity to reflect on our past, present and future. New Contemporaries has consistently reflected and responded to developments in artistic practice, the changing landscape of galleries, and the role of art school education over 70 years. The annual exhibition is an example of visual art’s development, encapsulating UK art education at a given moment and embodying changing ideas about the social purpose of art.

“Our 70th anniversary is a celebration of achievement, yet now more than ever, it is important that we find new ways to support emergent art practice. We would therefore like to thank all our alumni, guest selectors, board, funders and supporters over the years, whose openness to discourse and discovery has helped steer New Contemporaries vision and ensured our continued progressiveness.”

As a National Portfolio Organisation, New Contemporaries is a registered charity supported using public funding by Arts Council England.

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Notes to Editors

Image caption: Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2019 Selectors Ben Rivers, Sonia Boyce and Rana Begum. Courtesy New Contemporaries.

New Contemporaries 70th Anniversary Programme

70 Years Young
April – November 2019

A digital project commissioned by The Space, comprising six short video interviews with New Contemporaries alumni including Bruce McLean, Mark Wallinger, Rachel Maclean, Hardeep Pandhal and Chantal Joffe. All short videos are available on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Mark Leckey Anniversary Commission
Autumn 2019

An exciting new digital commission by alumni Mark Leckey also supported by The Space will launch in Autumn 2019 across New Contemporaries social media platforms.

Venice Biennial Fellowship
August 2019

New Contemporaries first collaborative Venice Biennial Fellowship with the British Council which will see New Contemporaries artist David Walker Kennedy (alumni 2017) taking up a month-long fellowship in Venice.

New Writing With New Contemporaries – Public Presentation at Leeds Art Gallery
27 September 2019

An innovative two-phase programme developed in collaboration with Yorkshire-based artist Nick Thurston and Corridor 8 that will consist of mentoring and the public presentation of work by emerging artists working with writing in their practice.

James N Hutchinson’s New Commission at The Tetley, Leeds
September 2019 – January 2020

The Tetley has commissioned James N Hutchinson (alumni 2001) to make new work for their gallery spaces to coincide with the launch of Bloomberg New Contemporaries at Leeds Art Gallery. Hutchinson will use the opportunity to revisit some of the concerns explored in his video work that was selected for Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2001, which was made in Leeds Art Gallery.

New Contemporaries in collaboration with the Courtauld Institute of Art
25 – 26 October 2019

A two-day conference which will draw on the exceptional knowledge and talents of both organisations' alumni to revisit, reflect, and reconsider our impact and legacy, and the future of emerging art practice and practitioners.

Conference papers and video documentation will be published online informing research currently undertaken by New Contemporaries and Nottingham Trent's PhD candidate, Emily Gray.

New Contemporaries 2019 Selectors

Through her refined language of Minimalist abstraction, **Rana Begum** blurs the boundaries between sculpture, painting and architecture. Her works absorb and reflect varied densities of light to produce an experience for the viewer that is both temporal and sensorial. Exhibitions include 'A Conversation with Light and Form', Tate St. Ives (2018); 'Occasional Geometries,' Yorkshire Sculpture Park, 'Space Light Colour,' Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich (both 2017); 'The Space Between', Parasol Unit, London and the 11th Gwangju Biennial, Korea (both 2016).

Sonia Boyce's work incorporates a variety of media such as film, print, drawing, installation and sound. Her recent work also brings performers and audiences into sharper focus as an improvisational part of the artwork, demonstrating how cultural differences might be articulated, mediated and enjoyed. Exhibitions include 'Sonia Boyce' Retrospective at Manchester Art Gallery (2018); 'We move in her way', ICA, London (2017) and 'All the World's Futures,' 56th Venice Biennale (2015).

Ben Rivers explores unknown wilderness territories to candid and intimate portrayals of real-life subjects, blurring the line between fiction and documentary. Exhibitions include 'Islands,' Kunstverein in Hamburg (2016); 'The Two Eyes Are Not Brothers,' The Whitworth, Manchester and Artangel, London.

New Contemporaries

New Contemporaries is the leading organisation supporting emergent art practice from the UK's established and alternative art programmes. Since 1949 it has consistently supported contemporary visual artists to successfully transition from education into professional practice, primarily by means of an annual, nationally touring exhibition. Participants are selected by a panel comprising influential artists and art world figures, often including artists who have previously been a part of New Contemporaries. Selection is a rigorous two-part process, there is no pre-selection and applicants' details are not seen by the panel.

The annual exhibition is accompanied by a programme of educational activity that provides insight into emerging practice and the key issues affecting artists.

New Contemporaries continues to be unique in the level of support that it offers to emerging artists. Participants benefit from access to a number of professional development opportunities intended to make their practice more sustainable in the long term. These include one-to-one and peer mentoring delivered in partnership with Artquest, a national network of studio bursaries and residencies and the shaping of elements of the public programme.

In addition to receiving NPO funding from Arts Council England, Bloomberg Philanthropies has supported the New Contemporaries touring exhibition since 2000.

For more information visit newcontemporaries.org or follow on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter @NewContemps, #NC70.

Leeds Art Gallery

14 September – 17 November 2019

Founded in 1888 Leeds Art Gallery has strong collections of 19th and 20th century British painting and sculpture, widely considered to be one of the best outside national collections. With half a million visitors every year, it is one of the city's most visited attractions and all the exhibitions are free. Alongside the extensive painting and sculpture collection, the gallery presents a dynamic temporary exhibition programme that has showcased exhibitions such as British Art Show 8 and shows of celebrated artists such as Damien Hirst and Gary Hume. The gallery continues to acquire artworks for the permanent collection; recent acquisitions include works by Alison Wilding, Simon Fujiwara, and Becky Beasley.

The 20th century is represented by artists such as Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Ben Nicholson, Paul Nash and Jacob Epstein, as well as artists of our time such as Frank Auerbach, Bridget Riley, Tony Cragg and Mark Wallinger. The extensive sculpture collection, the most comprehensive of any regional collection, includes a vast and unique archive; both are managed in partnership with the Henry Moore Institute.

LEEDS ART GALLERY

South London Gallery

December 2019 – January 2020

The South London Gallery (SLG) is an internationally renowned public institution with an established reputation for its programme of contemporary art exhibitions, film and performance events, with integrated education projects for children, young people and adults. Over the past decade the exhibitions programme has featured solo shows by established international figures such as Ellen Gallagher, Thomas Hirschhorn, Gabriel Kuri, Rashid Johnson, Rivane Neuenschwander, Roman Ondak, Amie Siegel and Lawrence Weiner, as well as those by younger and mid-career artists such as Michael Dean, Thea Djordjadze and Oscar Murillo. Group shows bring together works by established and lesser-known British and international artists, whilst an ongoing residency programme provides opportunities for artists to develop new work and exhibit at the SLG.

Providing opportunities for learning and participation is at the heart of the South London Gallery's purpose, and thousands of children, young people and adults take part in an extensive programme of activities. This includes a peer-led young people's forum and website, www.recreativeuk.com; free family workshops every Sunday in the Clore Studio; Art Block, a dedicated creative space for children on Sceaux Gardens housing estate; artist-led projects and commissions on other local estates; ongoing provision for school visits; and a BBC Children in Need-funded programme for looked after children.

The South London Gallery is a registered charity which raises more than half of its income from trusts and foundations, sponsors and fundraising events. www.southlondongallery.org

SLG

Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2019 is supported by:

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in nearly 480 cities in more than 120 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's charitable activities, including his foundation and his personal giving. In 2018, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$767

million. For more information, please visit [bloomberg.org](https://www.bloomberg.org) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Snapchat](#) and Twitter [@BloombergDotOrg](#).

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. It supports 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, it 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



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