

**MODERN ART  
OXFORD**

*Come together for our  
summer collaboration  
with artists and  
communities*

# **BOUNDARY ENCOUNTERS**

**22 July –  
29 October  
2023**

# WELCOME TO BOUNDARY ENCOUNTERS

*Boundary Encounters* is Modern Art Oxford's summer programme and collaboration with artists and communities, featuring new work from artists Valerie Asiimwe Amani, Julie Freeman, Harold Offeh and Deborah Pill. Throughout the summer, spend time in the galleries and take part in new projects, workshops and live events, meet our Creatives in Residence, and visit our sensory Creative Space designed for all ages.

During your visit, we invite you to tell us what you think about future plans for Modern Art Oxford's historic building. We are excited to be working with David Kohn Architects and artist Emma Hart to reimagine our ground floor spaces for 2024. Over 200 participants from the Oxfordshire community have already been part of our collaborative design process and we welcome you to join them to consider new designs and prototypes that will transform our building with a new community gallery, Creative Space, Shop, and Café.

# FEEL GOOD GROUNDER

## Creative Space

Inspired by our exhibitions, the Creative Space is a family-friendly, social environment designed for learning for all ages, encouraging our visitors to explore, experiment and play. This summer the Creative Space is open every day during the holidays, and will play host to our Make Play summer season, as well as Platform, our annual graduate exhibition.

### Make Play\*

Thursdays 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 August

11am–12pm & 1–2pm

£4.50, booking essential



Our Make Play sessions offer a sensory creative space for children aged between 6 months and 5 years to explore with their parent or carer.

\*Early years and family activities are made possible thanks to the support of The Headley Trust.

### Platform Graduate Award

21 September – 29 October

Free, no booking required



Lydia Freeman, *Whambots*, 2022. Photo by Phil Brooks

Discover some of the most exciting emerging artists in the South East with this year's Platform Graduate Award Exhibitions, supported by CVAN South East. Established in 2012, Modern Art Oxford selects one graduate from each of its partner universities: Oxford Brookes University, The Ruskin School of Fine Art, University of Oxford and University of Reading.

## Modern Art Oxford's Café



Visit our Café for delicious homemade lunches and our very own brand of Lavazza coffee. Whilst you're here find a programme guide, play with one of our creative activity sheets or borrow a free activity backpack for ages 5+, full of art materials and creative ideas. You can also take part in our interactive drawing project *Encounters Studio*.

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## Modern Art Oxford's Shop



Visit the Modern Art Oxford Shop to browse unique gifts, jewellery by local designer-makers, greetings cards by independent illustrators, art books and magazines, enchanting children's books, exclusive exhibition catalogues, merchandise and artist's editions. This summer, we are also selling exclusive *Boundary Encounters* merchandise.

Join as a Friend of Modern Art Oxford for just £30 a year and enjoy a range of benefits, including 10% off in the Shop and Café.

## Tiny Ideas Festival: Make Your Mark

28 September – 1 October

This September, Tiny Ideas Festival brings three new artist commissions to Modern Art Oxford. The first ever early years festival in Oxford presents new work from artists Mills Brown, Abigail Horn and Leah Miller. Visit our Basement during the festival to see these three new interactive installations.



# THE UPPER GALLERIES



# Valerie Asiimwe Amani: Mkutano // A place for us

*Mkutano // A place for us* is an immersive installation of sweeping, suspended textiles, partially concealed text and moving image which celebrates community through themes of friendship, courage and revival. Inspired by the journals and newsletters of the Organisation for Women of Asian and African Descent (OWAAD), a pioneering activist network established in 1978, the installation interweaves remixed poetry and text fragments from the journals to explore the different ways in which we support each other.

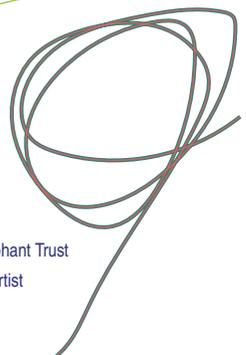
Drawing parallels between the care and community that was fostered within the pages of the OWAAD journals in the late

1970s and 1980s, and present-day feminist communities of care formed in WhatsApp groups, or through online newsletters and mailing lists, Amani celebrates small-scale, daily acts of knowledge sharing, joy and solidarity. *Mkutano // A place for us* holds space for the letters, poetry, voice notes and gifs that nurture these communities and invites us to contribute our own reflections through writing, drawing or simply spending time within the installation.

On Saturday 16 September, Amani will activate the installation through a live, durational performance. Visit [modernartoxford.org.uk](http://modernartoxford.org.uk) for more details.

Valerie Asiimwe Amani is a Tanzanian artist and writer based in London. Amani's multidisciplinary practice spans performance, video, drawing, textile, and installation to explore the different ways that body, erotics, language and the mythical are used to situate (or isolate) the self within community.

Valerie Asiimwe Amani's *Mkutano // A place for us* is generously supported by The Elephant Trust  
Valerie Asiimwe Amani, Detail of *A lesson on Choice*, 2023. Image courtesy the artist





# Julie Freeman: Another Present

*Another Present* is an intimate listening experience, combining sonic works by women artists from Modern Art Oxford's archive, audience data and field recordings. This new sound work reverberates through wooden sculptural forms, inspired by shapes created by the artist's body. These objects are vessels to hear and feel the space differently; they encourage touch and connection, challenging perceptions

of how we learn from the past. The work incorporates, and celebrates, previously commissioned audio works by artists Sarah Kenchington, Ann Liselgaard and Hannah Rickards from Modern Art Oxford's archives. New material includes field recordings from Medley Bridge, connecting Freeman's own personal history of Oxford with her father, and their shared love of technology and nature.

*Julie Freeman translates complex processes and data from natural sources into kinetic sculptures, physical objects, images, sound compositions, animations, VR & AR, questioning the use of data and digital technology in how we translate nature.*



# Harold Offeh: Pavilion

*Pavilion* is inspired by the work of Brazilian modernist architect, Lina Bo Bardi, who championed the social and cultural importance of architecture and design. *Pavilion* invites you to 'pull up a seat' and swim in the coloured pools of light which move through the galleries with the changing natural light. These pools extend the work outside the firmer, yet still permeable, edges and boundaries of the space, as Offeh transforms the gallery into a space for community, conversation, relaxation and play. In his own words, *Pavilion* "is shaped by a desire to create a space that can facilitate different encounters."

Keen to explore what "I have an interest in, but I'm not an expert in", Offeh extends an invitation to others to bring their differing experiences, expertise and interests to the table. Offeh is interested in building knowledge collaboratively with others, and valuing what happens when audiences bring their own experience, perceptions, perspective and moods into a space.

In the first week of the exhibition, young artists aged 16-18 will join Harold Offeh in *Pavilion* for a week of collaborative design and creative experimentation.

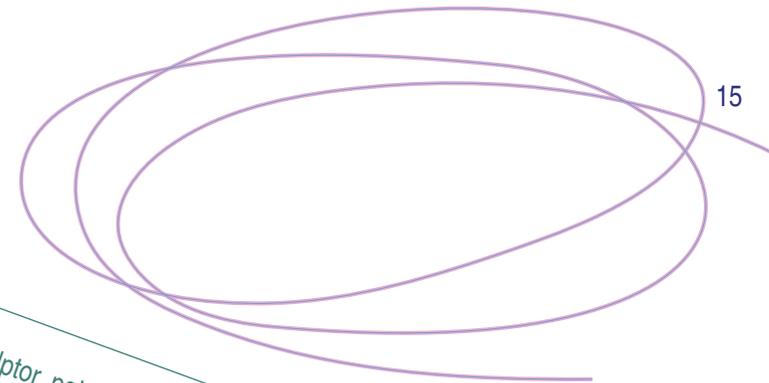
Harold Offeh is an artist working in a range of media including performance, video, photography, learning and social arts practice. Offeh is interested in the space created by the inhabiting or embodying of histories. He employs humour as a means to confront the viewer with historical narratives and contemporary culture.



# Deborah Pill: Table Talk

*Table Talk* revisits past encounters from Modern Art Oxford's Creative Space. Pill elevates the conversations, exchanges and time spent there with others into the Upper Gallery. *Table Talk* responds to the energy, flow and power of words that emerge from this discursive environment. An environmentally friendly material, cork

is used to replicate the table's surface and select conversations are embedded in the surface, connecting to one of cork's qualities, its ability to absorb sound. The ideas of hierarchy that surround tables - top tables within weddings, universities, and King Arthur's Round Table - do not apply here.



Deborah Pill is a sculptor, painter and photographer working in Oxford exploring aspects of place, memory and association held in objects and gesture. Conversation is an important part of Pill's practice, and in her role at Modern Art Oxford she is able to encourage and inspire in a space where meaningful memories are made.

Deborah Pill, *Certain*, 2021. Image courtesy the artist.

# Boundary Encounters: Creatives in Residence

Throughout the summer, each of our creatives in residence will share insights into their own professional practice, while developing ideas for Modern Art Oxford's future programme with local communities. Reflecting on the grass roots development of the arts and creative collectives in urban life, each creative taking part brings a committed approach to collaborative research and learning experiences in public spaces. This year, Modern Art Oxford volunteers Georgia Barber, Anya Chuykov, Chen Chen, Jordan Goheen, Amy Jessop, Moez Kaudeer, Nicole Kinoulty, Mathilde Labuthie, Ella Myers, and Gabriel Procter have been part of the *Boundary Encounters* team, co-selecting the *Creatives in Residence* and developing ideas for activities in the galleries.

## Jane Castree

is a choreographer and community dance artist working with movement to create open and accessible opportunities for performers, community members, and collaborators that acknowledge and interrupt invisible structures of hierarchy existing within cultures. Her choreographic work invites people to consider ideas and concepts from alternative perspectives as a way to imagine and create a more open and flexible world.



Jane Castree, *Fairground* - 13a. Credit: image of It's a Gender Affair. Dancers Hal Smith and Jane Castree. Photographer Kevin Clifford.

## Hannah Fredsgaard-Jones

is a Danish composer, songwriter, performer, and sound artist living in Oxford. Her practice is rooted in collaborative and interdisciplinary approaches to sound making. She composes, creates audio pieces, writes, and performs indie-folk music as *Asthmatic Harp*.



Hannah Fredsgaard-Jones. Photo by Tom Medwell

## Anya Gleizer

is a performance artist and an environmental geography researcher who uses community engagement, the arts and sciences to forge new approaches towards a culturally and ecologically resilient future. Anya is the founder of *Flute & Bowl*, an organisation that brings together practitioners from STEM fields and the arts to challenge existing narratives and forge new approaches towards a culturally and ecologically resilient future.



Anya Gleizer, *Grammy's Bones* installation view, 2019. Image courtesy the artist

## Kelly Lloyd

is a transdisciplinary artist who focuses on issues of representation and knowledge production and prioritises public-facing collaborative research. In 2022, Lloyd launched *This Thing We Call Art*, a podcast and online archive featuring excerpts from 50+ interviews with people in the arts she has conducted since 2017.



Declan Howell, 1989 (*Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*), 2019. Image courtesy the artist.

## Harmanpreet Randhawa

is an artist based in Oxford and Coventry whose transdisciplinary practice involves making installations and sculptures from found materials, drawing, writing, film, performance, and printmaking. Surrounding the ideas of longing, belonging, and desire, his work oscillates between the sensual, and the domestic, rethinking the boundaries of homely spaces, the human body, and nature.



Harmanpreet Randhawa, *As they lie here and there*, 2022 (film still). Image courtesy the artist.

# MAO Archive

Modern Art Oxford's public programme has long been supported by a commitment to collaboration and participation. Throughout its history, Modern Art Oxford's changes have been driven by people and ideas from visitors, artists, and staff alike. Head to our middle galleries to visit our archive display which includes past collaborations, projects and live events spanning more than 50 years, many of which have informed the changes to our building over time. This display has been collaboratively selected with cultural partners and past educators from Modern Art Oxford, who have shared memories of their time in the building and working with our communities.



*The Young in Art installation view at Modern Art Oxford, 1976. Image © Modern Art Oxford*

# Projects and residencies

## Young Creatives Residency

22–28 July



Photo by Phil Brooks

A group of young artists, aged 16-18, join Harold Offeh in the galleries for a week of collaborative design and creative experimentation. Considering the potential encounters between visitors, artists and artworks, the young artists are co-creating pieces of furniture to support creativity and togetherness. They will be joined by designer-maker and craft communicator Hattie Speed, and Daisy and Andrew of Lula James, Woodworking Creative.

## Activating our Archives



Frank Stella exhibition workshop for local school children, Modern Art Oxford, 1977. Image © Modern Art Oxford

Activating our Archives is a group research project led by artist and curator Sunil Shah to bring Oxfordshire communities together through the use of photographs, films and digital images. The group will be joined by members of Oxford's community centres on Saturday 9 September to explore selected material from their own archives.

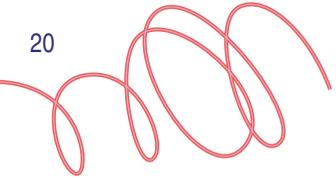
# Redesigning our spaces

## David Kohn Architects

Modern Art Oxford is delighted to be working with David Kohn Architects on a major redesign project of the ground floor spaces. Join us in the gallery this summer to feedback on new designs and prototypes that will transform our ground floor with a new community gallery, Creative Space, Shop and Café. David Kohn Architects is a London-based practice established in 2007, working internationally on arts, education and residential projects.



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Emma Hart, first sketch of *Club Together*, 2022. Image courtesy the artist.

## Emma Hart: Club Together

Emma Hart has been commissioned to create a new café for Modern Art Oxford. Her concept *Club Together* has been inspired by nightclub scenes and raves. This summer, visit *Boundary Encounters* to view her initial prototypes of the *Club Together* furniture she is designing and making.

Hart makes exuberant sculptures, which often test the limits of the ceramic medium, pushing clay to go beyond being a vessel. Hart's vivid sculptures actively confront the viewer often by jutting out from the wall or physically encroaching on the viewer's personal space.

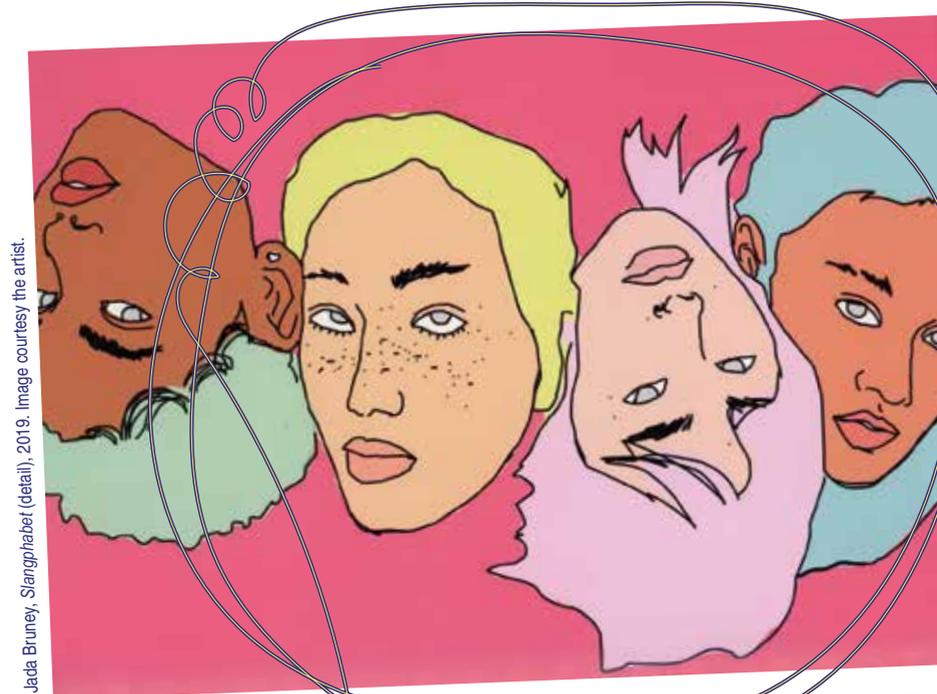
# Encounters Studio

How can drawing help us connect, reflect and take notice? Join *Encounters Studio*, a participatory drawing project designed to capture everyday moments of community and connection. During *Boundary Encounters*, join in with interactive digital drawing activities for all ages in the gallery and online. Drop by our relaxing *Encounters Studio* in the Café to

create and share your own screen-based digital drawings using fun and reflective prompts. And each Friday afternoon, play with larger-than-life, live interactive drawing in our Piper Gallery. Continue the creativity in our online studio, where your drawings will help to grow our collective graphic novel in celebration of the *Boundary Encounters* summer programme.

*Encounters Studio* is created by London-based designer, artist and author Jada Bruney. Bruney has worked with a wide variety of organisations from Adidas, Tate and Penguin Books, and has published two books, *Slangphabet* and *Southside Story*. Her work covers a range of design challenges from empathy deficits, representation, generational digital nativeness and sparking curiosity through visuals and immersive experience.

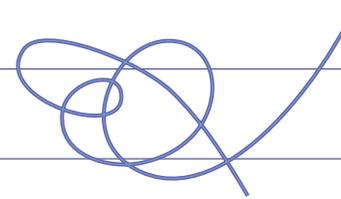
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Jada Bruney, *Slangphabet* (detail), 2019. Image courtesy the artist.

PROCREATE  
EVENTS  
OPEN DOORS

## Events



### Creative Space

22 July – 3 September

Visit our exhibition-inspired Creative Space to explore and play during the summer holidays. The Creative Space will be facilitated on Saturdays from 11am–4pm and on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays from 12–4pm.

Drop in, no booking required



### MAO Late x Haute Mess Takeover

Thursday 17 August, 6–10pm

Oxford's smash-hit drag club-night Haute Mess takes over MAO Late for a celebration of queer nightlife and knowledge exchange, featuring a live performance by Biogal and DJs from Haute Mess.

Free, booking essential



### Curators Tours

Fridays 25 August, 22 September and 27 October, 1–1.30pm

Our free curator-led tours offer a chance to ask questions and learn more about the artists and works in the exhibition.

Free, booking essential



### Encounters Studio: Digital drawing for beginners

Saturdays 26 August & 2 September, 2–4pm

Learn how to create your own beginners digital drawings using the software Procreate and bring them to life through animation. This uplifting two-part digital illustration workshop at Modern Art Oxford is led by London-based designer, artist and author, Jada Bruney.

Free, booking essential

Jada Bruney,  
*Studio Bedroom, 2021.*  
Image courtesy the artist



### Oxford Open Doors tour

Saturday 9 September, 11am–12pm

Join us for a special behind-the-scenes tour of the gallery's building, taking in the history of this former brewery and how it became an art gallery in the 1960s. The tour will be led by Senior Curator of Exhibitions, Amy Budd.

Free, booking via Oxford Open Doors website:  
[oxfordpreservation.org.uk/content/oxford-open-doors](https://oxfordpreservation.org.uk/content/oxford-open-doors)

## Events



### Activating our Archives: Community Centres takeover

Saturday 9 September, 1–4pm

Join artist and curator Sunil Shah, Fusion Arts, local artists and participants from Bullingdon, Cutteslowe, North and West Oxford, Risinghurst and Florence Park community centres to celebrate our Activating our Archives project and social learning in community spaces.

Drop in, no booking required



### Sharing Plans

Thursday 14 September, 6.30–8pm

Join David Kohn Architects and the Modern Art Oxford team to take part in a collaborative workshop looking at the future of Modern Art Oxford's ground floor spaces and programme.

Free, booking essential



### Valerie Asimwe Amani Live Performance

Valerie Asimwe Amani, to *Dismantle a House*,  
South London Gallery, 2022.  
Photo © Anne Tetzlaff.

Saturday 16 September, 1–4pm

Valerie Asimwe Amani weaves together poetry and text fragments in a live durational performance exploring sisterhood and solidarity within feminist communities of care.

Drop in, no booking required



### Young Creatives Social

Thursdays 21 and 28 September, 5, 12, and 19 October, 4–6pm

Interested in exploring your creative potential? Want to find out more about a career in the arts? Join our free Thursday socials for ages 16-18, to meet other young creatives in the city, work with professional artists, and develop your creativity.

Free, booking essential



### Hear My Voice

Illustration by Mari Morgado

Sunday 8 October, 1–4pm

Join artist, poet and researcher Sylvia Morgado to investigate how art can be used as a transformative experience to create more inclusive institutions. Sylvia Morgado is currently studying a PhD at Oxford Brookes University, in collaboration with Modern Art Oxford. The findings of this thesis will be widely shared, promoting exchange with museums and galleries in the UK.

Drop in, no booking required

## Events



### Feminist Pedagogy Practice Group

Thursday 12 October, 6.30–8pm

Interested in discussing feminist arts education? Do you have ideas for alternative approaches or feminist methods? Join us for an evening of discussion led by researcher and art historian, Hilary Robinson.

Free, booking essential



### MAO Late

Thursday 19 October, 6–10pm

An evening of performances, conversation and music, centred on creative community and inspiring exchange, featuring a conversation with the Platform Award artists and music from DJ collective Soul Plaza Sounds.

Free, booking essential



### Creatives in Residence: In Conversation

Anya Gleizer, *Anthropometamorphosis*, 2019.  
Image courtesy the artist

Thursday 26 October, 6.30–8pm

To celebrate the end of *Boundary Encounters*, join our Creatives in Residence in a discussion about their experiences of our collaborative, summer project.

Free, booking essential



### Volunteer tours

This summer look out for pop up tours and workshops led by our volunteers who helped co-curate the show.

Pop up, free, no booking required



### Group Bookings

Modern Art Oxford welcomes large groups to the gallery and has a number of options for groups of over 10 people. Please contact us on [info@modernartoxford](mailto:info@modernartoxford) at least two weeks ahead of your visit to book your group in.

For more information visit [modernartoxford.org.uk](http://modernartoxford.org.uk)



# What's on

When	What	Where	Info	Page
<b>August</b>				
3 August, 11am–12pm & 1–2pm	Make Play	Creative Space	£4.50, <b>booking essential</b>	5
10 August, 11am–12pm & 1–2pm	Make Play	Creative Space	£4.50, <b>booking essential</b>	5
17 August, 11am–12pm & 1–2pm	Make Play	Creative Space	£4.50, <b>booking essential</b>	5
17 August, 6–10pm	MAO Late x Haute Mess Takeover	All spaces	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23
24 August, 11am–12pm & 1–2pm	Make Play	Creative Space	£4.50, <b>booking essential</b>	5
25 August, 1–1.30pm	Curators Tour	Upper Galleries	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23
26 August, 2–4pm	Encounters Studio: Digital drawing for beginners I	Piper Gallery	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23
31 August, 11am–12pm & 1–2pm	Make Play	Creative Space	£4.50, <b>booking essential</b>	5
<b>September</b>				
2 September, 2–4pm	Encounters Studio: Digital drawing for beginners II	Piper Gallery	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23
9 September, 11am–12pm	Oxford Open Doors tour	All spaces	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23
9 September, 1–4pm	Activating our Archives: Community Centres takeover	Piper Gallery	<b>Drop in, no booking required</b>	24
14 September, 6.30–8pm	Sharing Plans	Piper Gallery	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	24
16 September, 1–4pm	Valerie Asimwe Amani Live Performance	Upper Galleries	<b>Drop in, no booking required</b>	24
21 September – 29 October	Platform Graduate Award	Creative Space	<b>Free, no booking required</b>	5
21 September, 4–6pm	Young Creatives Social	Creative Space	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	24
22 September, 1–1.30pm	Curators Tour	Upper Galleries	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23
28 September – 1 October	Tiny Ideas Festival	Basement	<b>Free, no booking required</b>	6
28 September, 4–6pm	Young Creatives Social	Creative Space	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	24
<b>October</b>				
5 October, 4–6pm	Young Creatives Social	Creative Space	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	24
8 October, 1–4pm	Hear My Voice	Piper Gallery	<b>Drop in, no booking required</b>	24
12 October, 4–6pm	Young Creatives Social	Creative Space	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	24
12 October, 6.30–8pm	Feminist Pedagogy Practice Group	Piper Gallery	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	25
19 October, 4–6pm	Young Creatives Social	Creative Space	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	24
19 October, 6–10pm	MAO Late	All spaces	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	25
26 October, 6.30–8pm	Creatives in Residence: In Conversation	Piper Gallery	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	25
27 October, 1–1.30pm	Curator Tour	Upper Galleries	<b>Free, booking essential</b>	23

These listings are correct at the time of print. For latest information and to book visit [modernartoxford.org.uk](http://modernartoxford.org.uk)

## SUPPORT MODERN ART OXFORD

As a charity, Modern Art Oxford relies on your support. Each year we need to raise £800,000+ to realise an ambitious artistic programme that engages and inspires people from across the city and beyond.

Your generosity makes all the difference, here's how you can support Modern Art Oxford:

- Make a one-off donation
- Join as a Friend
- Become a MAO supporter
- Be a Corporate Sponsor

**Support Modern Art Oxford. See things differently.**

To find out more about the ways you can support the gallery, please use the QR code below



For more information visit  
[modernartoxford.org.uk/get-involved](http://modernartoxford.org.uk/get-involved)  
 or contact: [development@modernartoxford.org.uk](mailto:development@modernartoxford.org.uk)

## Contact us:

+44 (0) 1865 722 733

info@modernartoxford.org.uk

modernartoxford.org.uk

## Address:

Modern Art Oxford  
30 Pembroke Street  
Oxford  
OX1 1BP

## Opening hours of the gallery,

### Café and Shop:

Tuesday – Saturday 10am–5pm

Sunday 12–5pm

Closed Monday

## Join the conversation online

 Modern Art Oxford

 @mao\_gallery

 @mao\_gallery

 Modern Art Oxford

Modern Art Oxford is supported by:



Supported along with funding by  
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ENGLAND**



*Boundary Encounters* is supported by The Elephant Trust, Oxford City Council Community Impact Fund, The Arts Society, and Oxford University Small Community Grants Scheme.



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SOCIETY**

