

Modern Art Oxford

Access Guide

Welcome to Mike Nelson's *Double Negative (The Clown)*. The exhibition extends across four gallery spaces: Upper 1, Upper 2, Upper 2a and Upper 3. It includes installations and sculptures incorporating photographs and reused materials, built on site by Mike Nelson and a team of technicians.

This guide provides practical information about navigating the exhibition, including doorway widths, routes and assistance available. Please see our sensory map and sensory script for more information about the gallery environments.

Some spaces are narrow or dimly lit, with uneven surfaces. Please take care as you move through the exhibition. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult in all spaces. Please hold very young children by the hand. Exhibition notes are displayed on the walls near the staircase and lift entrances. Large-print versions are available from staff. Portable stools are available by the lift to take around the exhibition. **Bags are not permitted into the exhibition, please leave them in our lockers in the social Social Space.**

Visitor Engagement team

Our Visitor Engagement Assistants are stationed in Upper 1, Upper 2 and Upper 3. You can identify them by the lanyards they wear around their necks. Please ask them for assistance, including help with doors, torches or accessibility questions.

Wheelchair access and support on arrival

Some of the spaces in our Upper Galleries can only accommodate wheelchairs up to 62cm.

If your wheelchair is wider than 62cm, you can:

- Book our gallery wheelchair in advance, if you are able to transfer. Please contact us before your visit to discuss your requirements and check availability.

When you arrive, please speak to the Welcome Desk team. They will radio the Visitor Engagement team in the galleries, who will be on hand to help with doors, torches and navigating the spaces.

Entering the exhibition via the lift:

You can reach the Upper Galleries using the staircase in the Ground Floor Gallery or the lift. The route below describes visiting the exhibition from the lift, which opens into Upper 1.

Upper 1

From the lift, you enter Upper 1. A swing door leads into the installation, which consists of a series of rooms and corridors. Some surfaces are uneven and some rooms are darkened. A member of the visitor engagement team will be on hand to help open doors.

The first door on your left as you come out of the Lift opens outwards. This room is a dead end, return out the same door. Further down the hallway, swing doors lead into a space reminiscent of a cinema foyer. A Visitor Engagement Assistant can help you open these doors. Another two sets of swing doors lead into the main space.

To continue to Upper 2, return through the cinema foyer and corridors, then go through the narrow tunnel. It has a gentle decline. The tunnel is deliberately dark. Visitor Engagement Assistants have torches available and can help you navigate this route.

Access measurements in Upper 1

Tunnel width: 100 cm.

Narrowest doorway in the installation: 67.5 cm.

Available turning space at the narrowest point: 100 cm.

Upper 2 and Upper 2a

The tunnel from Upper 1 leads into Upper 2. From here, you can access *The Book of Spells*, (a speculative fiction) in Upper 2a and continue to Upper 3.

A Visitor Engagement Assistant is available to help you navigate the spaces.

Upper 2a: *The Book of Spells* (a speculative fiction)

This artwork is a room containing bookshelves and a metal bed. It is experienced by one person at a time, except when a child under 12 enters with an accompanying adult. Visits last approximately 5–10 minutes. If you are in a wheelchair larger than 62cm you can ask a Visitor Engagement Assistant to hold the door open so you can look into the room from the doorway.

Please leave your belongings with the Visitor Engagement Assistant before entering.

Wheelchairs must be no wider than 62 cm to enter this installation. If your wheelchair is wider, you may be able to use our gallery wheelchair, booked in advance, if you are able to transfer. Alternatively, a Visitor Engagement Assistant can hold the door open so you can look into the room.

Access measurements in Upper 2

- Entrance doorway width: 79 cm.
- Narrowest point inside the installation: 75 cm.
- Available turning space at the narrowest point: 90 cm.

Upper 3

Upper 3 has artworks on the floor. You can explore this room however you like.

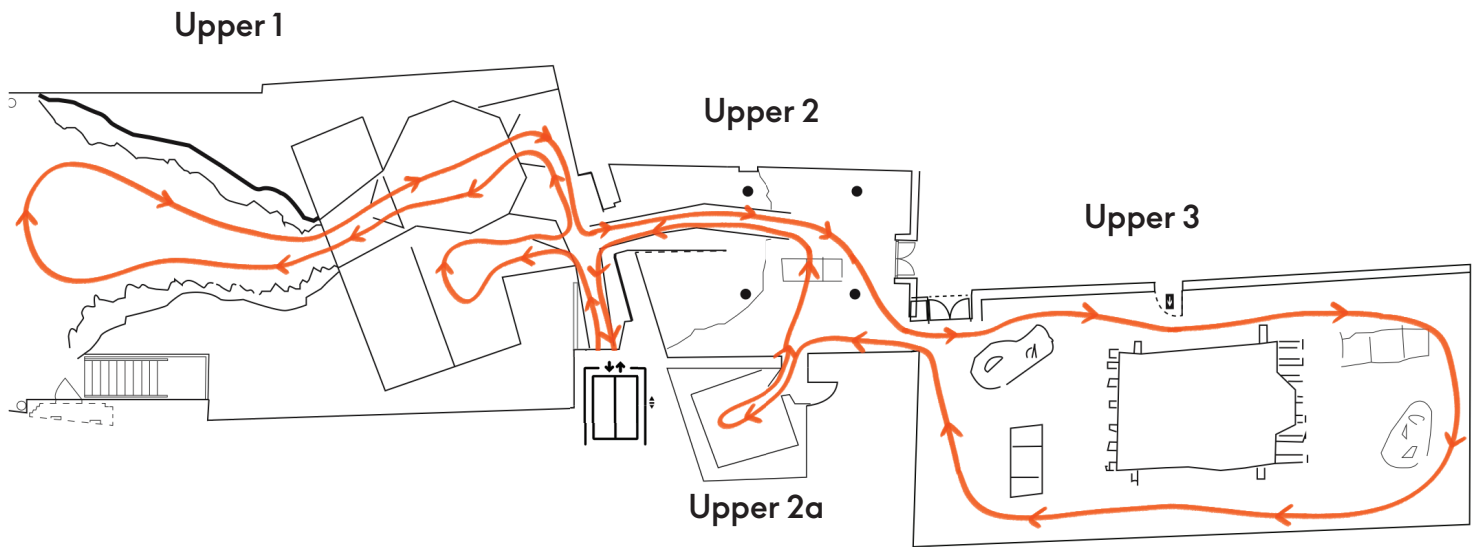
At the far end of the gallery, you can look through the studio window to see a series of self-portraits projected beneath a table onto the studio wall.

Access measurements for Upper 3

- Studio window viewing height: 109cm.

To return to the lift, go back through Upper 2 and the tunnel into Upper 1, turn left out of the tunnel. Please ask a Visitor Engagement Assistant if you need help with the return route.

Map of the route from the lift:



The artist recommends discovering the exhibition in person, keeping its contents a surprise. If a preview would help you plan your visit or navigate the spaces, **scan the QR code for a video walkthrough starting from the lift entrance.**



Entering via the staircase

The following describes the route through the exhibition from the back staircase, entering Upper 3.

Upper 3

Enter Upper 3 through a swing door. Here you will find *Triple Bluff Canyon (The Projection Room)*, a recreation of Mike Nelson's first studio in South London, surrounded by two sculptures.

At the far end of the gallery, you can look through the studio window to see a series of self-portraits projected beneath a table onto the studio wall. **Studio window viewing height: 109 cm.**

When you are ready to continue, go through the open doors into Upper 2.

Upper 2 and Upper 2a

In Upper 2, you will find a tunnel leading into Upper 1. Before entering the tunnel, *The Book of Spells (a speculative fiction)* is to your left, in Upper 2a. Enter via door that you push to open, it is fairly heavy. If you need assistance please ask the Visitor Engagement Assistant in Upper 2.

This artwork is a room containing bookshelves and a metal bed. It is experienced by one person at a time, except when visiting as a family group. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Visits last approximately 5–10 minutes.

Wheelchairs must be no wider than 62 cm to enter this installation. If your wheelchair is wider, you can book our gallery wheelchair in advance, if you are able to transfer. Alternatively, a Visitor Engagement Assistant can hold the door open so you can look into the room from the doorway.

Access measurements:

- Entrance doorway width: 79 cm.
- Narrowest point inside the installation: 75 cm.
- Available turning space at the narrowest point: 90 cm.

Upper 1

Continue through the narrow, sloping tunnel into Upper 1. The tunnel is deliberately dark. Visitor Engagement Assistants have torches available and can help you navigate this route.

The installation in Upper 1 consists of a series of rooms and corridors. Some surfaces are uneven and some rooms are darkened. Please take care as you move through the spaces.

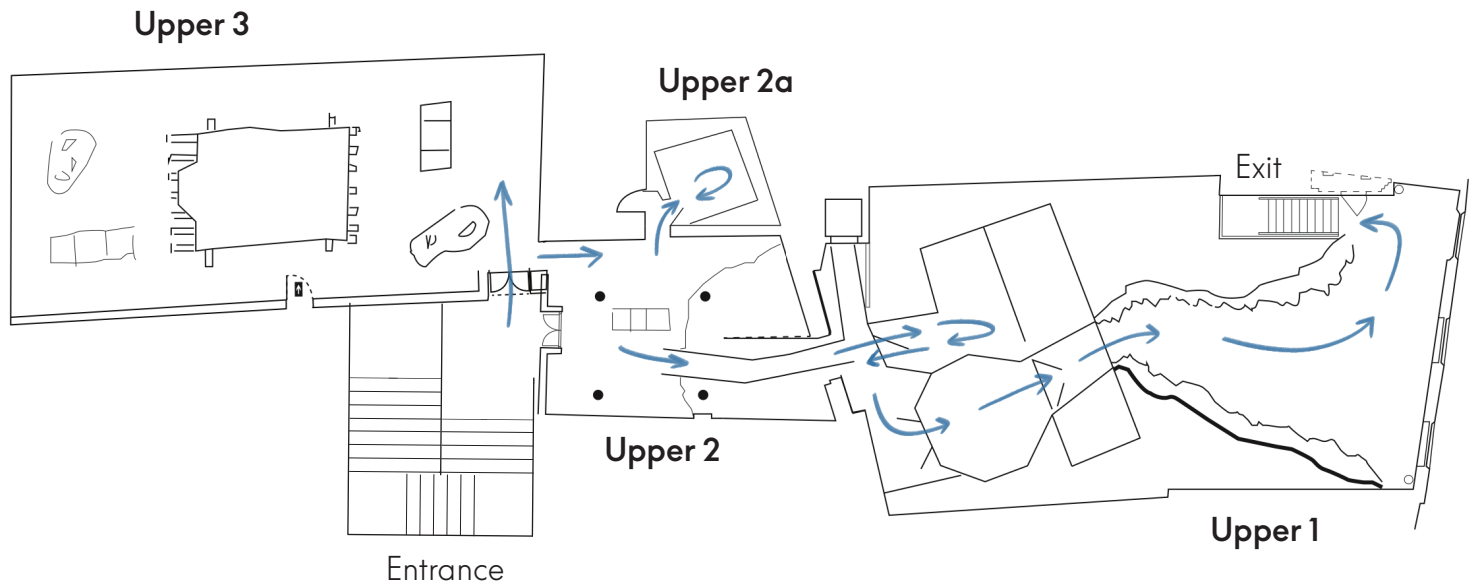
At the end of the tunnel, you will enter a hallway. The door in front of you opens outwards into a room. This room is a dead end, so you will need to return to the hallway after viewing it. Double swing doors at the end of the hallway lead into a space reminiscent of a cinema foyer. Continue through another set of swing doors to leave the installation and enter the main gallery space. Visitor Engagement Assistants can help with the doors if needed.

You can then leave the Upper Galleries using the staircase, which leads down into the Social Space.

Access measurements:

- Tunnel width: 100 cm.
- Narrowest doorway in the installation: 67.5 cm.
- Available turning space at the narrowest point: 100 cm.

Map of the route from the stairs



The artist recommends discovering the exhibition in person, keeping its contents a surprise. If a preview would help you plan your visit or navigate the spaces, **scan the QR code for a video walkthrough from the stair entrance**

