

# EXHIBITION

## Claudette Johnson: *I Came to Dance*

1 June – 8 September  
Preview Tour: Friday 31 May, 6.30–7pm  
Preview Party: Friday 31 May, 7–8.30pm

Claudette Johnson. *Reclining Figure*, 2017. Image courtesy of the artist and Hollybush Gardens. Photo by Andy Keate.



One of the most arresting figurative artists working in Britain today, Claudette Johnson creates larger than life studies that are both intimate and powerful. *I Came to Dance* is Johnson's first solo show at a major institution in almost three decades and includes paintings and drawings in pastel, paint, ink and charcoal.

Throughout her career, Johnson has continually questioned the boundaries imposed upon black women, asking her sitters to "take up space in a way that is reflective of who they are." Often drawn from life and centred on a single figure, the fluid lines and compelling sensitivity of Johnson's works have attracted critical acclaim. This is a rare opportunity to see a significant body of her work.

**"I do believe that the fiction of 'blackness', that is the legacy of colonialism, can be interrupted by the encounter with the stories that we tell about ourselves."**  
– Claudette Johnson

▲ #icametodance

Front page: **Claudette Johnson**, *Standing Figure with African Masks*, 2018. Image courtesy of the artist and Hollybush Gardens. Photo by Andy Keate. Tate, purchased using funds provided by the 2018 Frieze Tate Fund supported by Endeavor to benefit the Tate collection 2019.

# CREATIVE SPACE



Photo by Edmund Blok.

Our Creative Space offers visitors and their friends and family the opportunity to have their own creative experiences. Every weekend between noon and 4pm, our friendly art practitioners will be here to help visitors create their own art works. This summer, the activities will take inspiration from Claudette Johnson's large-scale figurative drawings.

# BRICK CAFÉ BAR



Photo by Philippa James.

Run by the team behind The Handle Bar Café and Kitchen on New Inn Hall Street, BRICK offers delicious lunches made with locally sourced ingredients and sensational coffee created using our house Lavazza blend.

# SHOP

The Modern Art Oxford Shop is the perfect place to pick up unique gifts, art books, toys, jewellery and stunning pieces by local designer-makers. Just in are beautifully designed vibrant garlands and decorations created by East End Press – ideal for brightening up any home or garden this summer.

# EVENTS

## Film

### Artists' Films 16 – 31 May

A series of artist films foregrounding contemporary artists and directors whose work explores cultural identity through moving image portraits. Artists include Ayo Akingbade, Hannah Black and Rhea Storr.

**Free, drop in**



Image by Stu Allsopp.

## Music

### The Tropics + Call.Me.Tiece Friday 31 May, 8–10pm

Celebrating the opening of Claudette Johnson's exhibition, Oxford-based jazz funk act The Tropics bring us their high-energy grooves. Support comes from jazz vocalist Call.Me.Tiece who performs as part of the highly regarded Oxford Inner Peace Records collective.

**Free, booking essential**

## Talk

### She's a Bird Now Saturday 8 June, 1–4pm

Join Young Women's Music Project (YWMP) and artist-filmmaker Beverley Bennett to remember and celebrate the enduring legacy of Kate Garrett, founding member of YWMP.

**Free, booking essential**

## Talk

### Transmission Interrupted Friday 14 June, 6.30–8pm

How do artists change our view of the world? This fascinating panel discussion considers how artists and galleries create and present work that disrupts our prevailing interpretations of everyday reality.

**Tickets £5, £3 concession**

# EVENTS

## Tour

### Exhibition Tours

**Friday 21 June, Thursday 4 July and  
Friday 6 September, 1–1.30pm**

These staff-led tours are an excellent opportunity to learn more about the current exhibition and the day-to-day work of the gallery.

**Free, booking essential**

## Fly the Flag

**24 – 30 June**

Join us in celebrating 70 years since the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As part of a nationwide collaboration, we will fly a flag designed by Ai Weiwei, commissioned to celebrate our shared humanity.

## Film

### City As Studio: Moving Image Screenings Thursday 27 June, 6–7.30pm at Modern Art Oxford and Wednesday 3 July, 6–7.30pm at the Ultimate Picture Palace

Join students from Oxford Spire Academy, Cheney School and Oxford Sixth Form College for screenings in which they present new moving image works inspired by previous exhibitions Penny Woolcock: *Fantastic Cities* and Akram Zaatari: *The Script*.

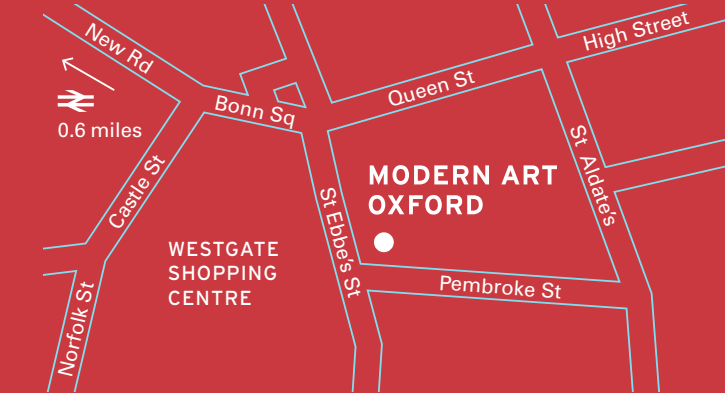
**Free, booking essential**

City as Studio participants. Photo by Kate Mahony.



# VISIT US

Modern Art Oxford is one of the UK's leading contemporary visual arts organisations.



## Address:

Modern Art Oxford  
30 Pembroke St  
Oxford OX1 1BP

## Opening hours:

Tues–Sat 10am–5pm  
Sun 12–5pm  
Closed Monday

## Accessibility:

Modern Art Oxford's public spaces span three floors. We have stair-free access to all floors. The entrance on St Ebbe's Street is at street level and there is a platform lift at the Pembroke Street entrance.

## Schools and groups:

The gallery provides free school and group tours. For more information, contact +44 (0) 1865 722 733 or [info@modernartoxford.org.uk](mailto:info@modernartoxford.org.uk).

## Support Modern Art Oxford:

Creative opportunities inspire confidence, curiosity and ambition. To find out more about supporting the work we do, contact +44 (0) 1865 813 813 or [development@modernartoxford.org.uk](mailto:development@modernartoxford.org.uk).

## Booking and enquiries:

+44 (0) 1865 722 733  
[info@modernartoxford.org.uk](mailto:info@modernartoxford.org.uk)  
[modernartoxford.org.uk](http://modernartoxford.org.uk)

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# EVENTS CALENDAR

<b>Artists' Films</b> 16 – 31 May	Film
<b>Claudette Johnson: <i>I Came to Dance</i></b> Friday 31 May, 6.30–7pm Friday 31 May, 7–8.30pm 1 June – 8 September	Preview Tour Preview Party Exhibition
<b>The Tropics + Call.Me.Tiece</b> Friday 31 May, 8–10pm	Music
<b>She's A Bird Now</b> Saturday 8 June, 1–4pm	Talk
<b>Transmission Interrupted</b> Friday 14 June, 6.30–8pm	Talk
<b>Exhibition Tours</b> Friday 21 June, Thursday 4 July and Friday 6 September, 1–1.30pm	Tour
<b>Fly the Flag</b> 24 – 30 June	Project
<b>Early Years: Make Play</b> Thursday 27 June and 4, 11, 18 and 25 July, 11am–12pm and 1–2pm	Workshop
<b>City As Studio: Moving Image Screenings</b> Thursday 27 June, 6–7.30pm at Modern Art Oxford and Wednesday 3 July, 6–7.30pm at the Ultimate Picture Palace	Film
<b>Yard Summer Sessions</b> Saturday 29 June, 20 July and 31 August, 2–4pm	Music
<b>Same Road, Different Road</b> Friday 19 July, 6.30–8pm	Talk
<b>Creative Conversation: <i>I Came To Dance</i></b> Friday 6 September, 6.30–8pm	Talk
<b>COMING SOON: Kiki Smith: <i>I am a Wanderer</i></b> 28 September 2019 – 19 January 2020	Exhibition
<b>COMING SOON: Johanna Unzueta</b> 8 February – 10 May 2020	Exhibition

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

# EVENTS

## Music

### Yard Summer Sessions

**Saturday 29 June, 20 July and 31 August, 2–4pm**

Inspired by Claudette Johnson's love of jazz, DJ Octavia Freud curates these free, live jazz sessions featuring 60's east coast jazz, classic female vocalists and Afro-beat. Acts include Cat God, Tiger Mendoza, China Bowls, Limpet Space Race and Chin Chin Chin.

**Free, drop in**

## Talk

### Same Road, Different Road\*

**Friday 19 July, 6.30–8pm**

Have you ever thought about how art can shape your view of people? This unique event premieres a new short film by Penny Woolcock created in collaboration with young people in Oxford. A powerful discussion about youth violence in cities today will follow the screening. The new film will also be shown in the gallery on weekends throughout the summer.

**Free, booking essential**



Marlene Smith. Photo by Stu Allsopp.

## Talk

### Creative Conversation: *I Came To Dance*

**Friday 6 September, 6.30–8pm**

Join artist Claudette Johnson and some of her close collaborators Beverley Bennett, Ingrid Pollard and Marlene Smith as they discuss her work and artistic process.

**Tickets £5, £3 concession**

\* This event is supported by the Wellcome Trust.

# FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Modern Art Oxford is dedicated to providing enjoyable and engaging activities for the whole family. Each season we have a series of hands-on events and workshops in our learning space.

## Get creative this summer\*

### Weekends throughout the school holidays, 12–4pm

A fun opportunity for the whole family to get together to create their own kites. These drop-in sessions in the Creative Space are facilitated by our friendly arts practitioners.

**Kite/tote bag kits £3.50 for one, £5 for two, drop in**

### Early Years: Make Play

**Thursday 27 June and 4, 11, 18 and 25 July,  
11am–12pm and 1–2pm**

Make Play sessions offer a sensory creative space for children aged 6 months to 5 years to explore with their parent and/or carer. Drawing on materials and themes within our exhibition, each session offers different experimental activities.

**£2 per session or £7.50 for a 5-week session, booking essential**

## Activity sheet

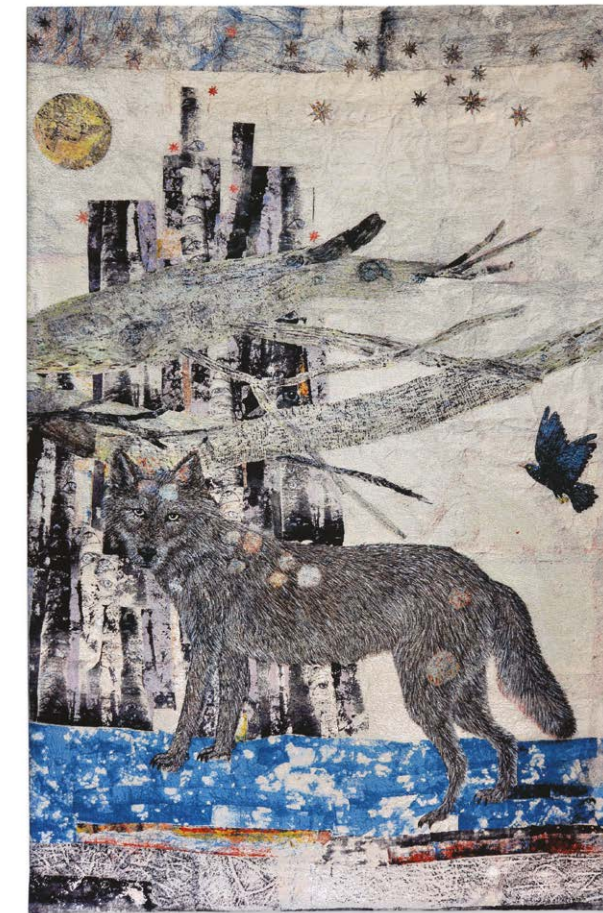
Our activity sheets provide fun and informative activities for children and families that are linked to our current exhibition. Pick one up for free from our Info Desk or Shop.



Make Play. Photo by Stu Allsopp.

#learnatMAO

# COMING SOON



Kiki Smith. *Carthedral*, 2012. Jacquard tapestry. ©Kiki Smith. Courtesy Timothy Taylor, London/New York and Magnolia Editions.

## Kiki Smith: *I am a Wanderer*

**28 September 2019 – 19 January 2020**

Kiki Smith is one of the most influential artists working today. This much-anticipated exhibition will be her first solo show in a public art institution in the UK in nearly 25 years.

## Johanna Unzueta

**8 February – 10 May 2020**

This first major UK solo exhibition of Chilean artist Johanna Unzueta will present her drawings, felt sculptures and films alongside a new site-specific wall mural.

# MODERN ART OXFORD

WHAT'S ON



SUMMER 2019