

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

PRESS RELEASE

ICA FORWARD 2023 PROGRAMME

June – December 2023

The upcoming season is the second under ICA Director Bengi Ünsal.

Cross-arts programme gives equal emphasis to music, film, artists' moving image, visual arts, performance and more, and to the spaces where these artforms and others meet and connect.

The season includes a diverse music programme exploring R&B melodies to cutting edge club sounds; exhibitions by Moki Cherry and Gray Wielebinski; two new live commissions by Eve Stainton and Jose Funnell; a film programme collaboration with Frieze London; and an ICA x Counter Editions portfolio (launching September 2023).



minus one: Scorpio Red. Image credit: Ell Hogg

MUSIC

Tora-i

Wednesday 21 June, 7 – 10:30pm, Theatre

R&B artist Tora-i performs a headline set, with special guests.

Jana Rush & Zoe McPherson

Friday 23 June, 9pm – 1am, Theatre

Presenting a late night of dancefloor experiments with storied Chicago DJ and producer Jana Rush, a live set by Berlin-based cybernetic vanguard Zoë McPherson, supported by mutated club sounds from Ans M of label Scorpio Red.

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Emma DJ & Rainy Miller

Thursday 29 June, 8 – 10:30pm, Theatre

Emma DJ and Rainy Miller perform live sets fusing hybrids forms of rap with introspective ambience alongside an opening DJ set by London-based musician LC.

Bendik Giske

Friday 6 October, 7:30 – 10:30pm, Theatre

Experience a headline musical performance by Bendik Giske, a Berlin-based Norwegian artist and saxophonist whose expressive use of physicality, vulnerability and endurance have won him critical acclaim.

Art School Girlfriend

Thursday 2 November, 7:30 – 10:30pm, Theatre

Singer, songwriter and producer Polly Mackey's second album *Soft Landing* (out August 2023) is the culmination of her contemporary artistic testament as Art School Girlfriend.

Kety Fusco

Saturday 11 November, 7:30 – 10:30pm, Theatre

A revolutionary in the world of the harp, Kety Fusco took the music world by storm with her debut album *DAZED* and was awarded the title 'queen of the electric harp'.

Will Butler & Sister Squares

Friday 17 November, 7:30 – 10:30pm, Theatre

New York-based Will Butler & Sister Squares perform in London in support of their first new material as a collaborative outfit, with the ghostly and oceanic single *Willows*.

minus one series

minus one is a monthly late-night series curated by DJs, artists and nightlife communities. Experimenting with different configurations in the ICA Theatre, this series takes a DIY approach, hybrid in format with a focus on both dancing and listening together.

EDZ (Eternal Dragonz)

Thursday 17 August, 8pm – 12am, Theatre

LA based collective EDZ/Eternal Dragonz invites Flora Yin Wong, Organ Tapes, Tzekin and x/o to test the limits of speed and stillness in the rave. Each musician plays multiple sets across the night against this rhythm, with a blend of djing with live performance, and tests the rhythm of going b2b.

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hyperlocal

Thursday 7 September, 9pm – 1am, Theatre

An experiment in exchange, Hyperlocal is an annual music festival and event series split between Buenos Aires and London. Hyperlocal offers adventurous music as a space to expand dialogue across continents, borders and genres.

Swagchella

Thursday 19 October, 9pm – 2am, Theatre

Swagchella is an emerging London night that promotes musicians who are pushing the boundaries of genre. Each event offers a unique and captivating experience, providing a platform for a diverse range of live performances. From noise music and EDM to black metal, shoegaze, and rap, among others, these genres are deconstructed to create something fresh and innovative.

Tutto Questo Sentire

Thursday 14 December, 9pm – 1am, Theatre

Tutto Questo Sentire is a collective started in 2014 by experimental opera singer Olivia Salvadori, composer and cellist Sandro Mussida, and video and sound artist Rebecca Salvadori who create site-specific events on the nature of sound and its relationship with video, time, and live performance practices.

LIVE

Choreographic Devices

Saturday 17 June, 12:30pm, Theatre

An annual event that activates the choreographic as a methodology for trans-disciplinary forms of inquiry and rehearsal. Bringing together practitioners from across an expanded ecology of practices, this multi-format forum speculates on and with choreographic arrangements and their complex modes of co-production.

IMPACT DRIVER: Eve Stainton

28 & 29 September, 8pm, Theatre

Manchester born, London-based artist and performance maker Eve Stainton releases their new choreographic work, *Impact Driver*. With a cast of five performers, the work features live welding, movement, and sound scored by Leisha Thomas and Mica Levi. This work is co-commissioned by Sadler's Wells.

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Un-bordered Image Luxury: Jose Funnell

24 & 25 November, 8pm, Theatre

Jose Funnell's first major UK live commission performed with London-based artists Amani Cosmo, Bambi Revlon and Wet Mess.

EXHIBITIONS

Moki Cherry: Here and Now

31 May – 3 September 2023

Event Programme:

Tenant of Culture workshop

Saturday 22 June, 6:30pm, Studio

Tenant of Culture leading a workshop in the improvisational spirit of Moki's work.

Kahil El'Zabar conducts MOKI (Music/Opening/Kinetic/Improvisations)

Saturday 1 July, 7:30pm, Theatre

Legendary improviser and master percussionist Kahil El'Zabar will conduct a large ensemble of musicians committed to the art of collaborative improvisation. A rare opportunity to experience El'Zabar's improvised conduction, in an event that he describes will be "MOKI (Music/Opening/Kinetic/Improvisations) Magic music".

Curators Tour

Tuesday 11 July, 6:45pm, Lower Gallery

Naima Karlsson, Moki's granddaughter and co-curator of the exhibition leads a tour in dialogue with ICA Assistant Curator Nicola Leong.

Walking through the exhibition, the tour will offer personal insights into Moki's expansive practice with the opportunity for questions.

Gray Wielebinski: The Red Sun is High, the Blue Low

20 September – 23 December, Lower Gallery

In his first solo institutional exhibition, Gray Wielebinski will expand his interest in the boundaries of private and public in a site-specific installation. The exhibition, featuring all new work across mediums, revels in the threat and promise of apocalypse.

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ARTIST FILM & MOVING IMAGE

Artists' Film Club

Ongoing series

A recurring programme dedicated to the screening and discussion of moving image works by visual artists and those who work on the fringes of moving image practice.

The Machine That Kills Bad People

28 June, 20 September, 18 October, 6 December, Cinema 1

An ongoing bi-monthly film club programmed by Erika Balsom, Beatrice Gibson, Maria Palacios Cruz and Ben Rivers. Each screening pairs a feature length film with a short and is always accompanied by a specially commissioned essay.

Wednesday 28 June, 7pm, Cinema 1

A double-bill screening of *Paper Bridge [Die papierene Brücke]* (2009) by Ruth Beckermann and *Way Fare* by Sylvia Schedelbauer with a commissioned essay by Rebecca Jane Arthur.

ICA x Frieze Artists' Film and Moving Image Programme

10 – 15 October, Theatre

Frieze and the Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) are collaborating in 2023 to curate a programme of artists' films and moving image coinciding with Frieze London's 20th Anniversary. This collaboration aims to showcase emerging and under-exposed artists, and rediscoveries, highlighting their creative approaches to the medium.

CINEMA

Screen Practices

Ongoing series, Cinema 1

A monthly series foregrounding collective endeavour in the ICA Cinema, which becomes a space of experimentation, collaboration and exchange programmed over a weekend by an invited collective.

Celluloid Sunday

Ongoing series, Cinema 1

Celluloid Sunday is a series of screenings showing on original format from the ICA Archive.

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Magnum Film Festival

22 – 30 June, Cinema 1

The inaugural partnership with Magnum Photo will present film works from acclaimed photographers over one week.

Contemporary Portuguese Cinema

June – October 2023, Cinema 1

A series of six recent Portuguese productions, providing a glimpse of the country's new voices in contemporary cinema. Showing exclusively at the ICA.

UK PREMIERE (Dis)Appear + Q&A

Saturday 17 June, 6pm, Cinema 1

A special presentation in partnership with The British Academy of the documentary, focusing on the most recent Argentine dictatorship, followed by a conversation with the filmmaker.

Sonic Cinema: Answering the Sun + Q&A with Rainer Kohlberger

Saturday 24 June, 4:30pm, Cinema 1

Riffing on the optical phenomenon that occurs when staring at the sun, Kohlberger's first feature is a bombardment of coloured fields, optical art geometry, hallucinatory passages and a wall of sound.

SAFAR Film Festival

2 – 7 July, Cinema 1

The UK's largest festival of Arab cinema returns with new releases from Palestine, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Syria, plus its annual shorts programme exploring the festival theme.

Out on Tuesday Launch

Tuesday 18 July, Cinema 1

A new LGBTQIA2S+ monthly film series will present rare works from the 1980s to today, in partnership with film distributor Peccadillo Pictures.

Yvonne Rainer retrospective

17 – 27 August, Cinema 1

The first full UK retrospective of the work of American dancer, choreographer, and filmmaker Yvonne Rainer. The programme includes seven features showing in brand new restorations.

Open City Documentary Film Festival

7 – 12 September, Cinema 1

The festival returns for its thirteenth year, with a programme of contemporary and retrospective creative documentary and non-fiction filmmaking.

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TALKS & LEARNING

Young ICA: A Trio of Summer Workshops with Annette Fernando
3, 24 June & 15 July, Studio

What is it like to make art after Covid? What is it like to make art with others after the isolation and loneliness of the pandemic? Young ICA invites participants aged 18 – 30 for a series of three workshops, led by the visual artist Annette Fernando, that explores these questions and invites us to be together in the process of viewing and making art.

Tim Etchells: Amends Book Launch

Thursday 22 June, 6:30 – 8:30pm, ICA Bar

Amends by Tim Etchells is a selection of texts haunted by performance but written for the page, published by Monitor Books. In three uncanny acts, *Amends* exhausts the inauthentic languages of device, correction and apology, while remaining deeply sorry.

The Town Hall: Swindle

Wednesday 28 June, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, N&B Rooms

Through a dialogue-first approach and pivoting toward London's unique musical cultures, this series provides commentary on being a multidisciplinary artist in these spaces, unpacking the current artistic, political and cultural moment(s) across London, but also Britain at large.

Through the Lens: A DreamArts Exhibition

4 – 16 July, Sake Bar

Opening night: Thursday 6 July, 6 – 9pm

The work of DreamArts Carers Express programme, this group exhibition showcases still images charting young people's engagement with photography. This collection represents the exchange of knowledge through the camera lens, encouraging creativity and self-expression. The works explore themes of nature, strength, chaos, climate change and beauty. *Through The Lens* is a celebration of our young photographers' new skills and ability to create art and feel seen and heard in our busy world.

Ear Worms

Ongoing series, ICA Bar

Ear Worms aims to use writing and listening as a community tool and encourages attendees to experiment with free-form writing approaches. These events will consist of an evening of immersive recorded music, writing, doodles and open-mic readings.

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Anu's Comic Workshop with Anu Ambasna

Ongoing series, Studio

Over a two hour session, Ambasna guides participants through her distinct style of comic making as they construct their own works within a collaborative, DIY environment.

EDITIONS & MERCHANDISE

- Moki Cherry postcards released in June 2023 to coincide with *Moki Cherry: Here and Now*.
- ICA x Counter Editions portfolio launching end of September 2023. Featuring prints by Peter Doig, Lisa Brice, Chris Ofili, Ann Craven, Billy Childish, Hannah Quinlan and Rosie Hastings, Antonia Showering and Mandy El-Sayegh. The editions will be available to purchase as a portfolio in a cloth-bound archival box or as individual prints.
- Gray Wielebinski edition and small publication releasing in September 2023 to coincide with *The Red Sun is High, the Blue Low*
- ICA Artists' Editions will be shown at Frieze London in October 2023 as part of the collective Allied Editions, which is composed of seven of London's leading not-for-profit arts organisations and other regional partners.
- Lina Iris Viktor edition launching in Autumn 2023.

— ENDS —

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The Institute of Contemporary Arts

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) is London's leading space for contemporary culture. We commission, produce and present new work in film, music, performance and the visual arts by today's most progressive artists. In our landmark home on The Mall in central London, we invite artists and audiences to interrogate what it means to live in our world today, with a genre-fluid programme that challenges the past, questions the present and confronts the future. The cross-disciplinary programme encourages these art forms and others to pollinate in new combinations and collaborations. We stage club nights and film festivals, gigs and exhibitions, talks and digital art—with interplay and interaction at the core of all we do. Our history of presenting and promoting visionary new art is unrivalled in London: from Kenneth Anger to Kathy Acker, Kano to Klein, Jackson Pollock to Jean-Michel Basquiat, Gay Sweatshop to Forensic Architecture, Pop Art to queer techno. Today, as ever, our inclusive programme reflects and represents who we are as a disparate and diverse collection of cultures and identities.

Exactly 75 years after a group of artists and poets founded the ICA as an alternative to the mainstream, we are committed more than ever to pave the way for the next generation and to platform creative voices. The ICA continues to celebrate risk and champion innovation, and experimentation across the arts – a playground and a home for today's most vital artists.

The ICA is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organization and supported by the DCMS Culture Recovery Fund.

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Access

If you have an access requirement that we can assist you with, please contact us in advance of your visit for more information at access@ica.art and we will make our best endeavours to help you. Full venue accessibility information can be found here, and you can download an accessibility map of the venue at www.ica.art/media/01795.pdf

Press Enquiries

Isis O'Regan (she/her), The Sugar Factory
isis@tsf-pr.com

Kat Benedict (they/them), ICA Head of Communications
kat.benedict@ica.art

Visitor Information

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

For information about tickets and membership, please contact:
sales@ica.art / +44 (0)20 7930 3647 / www.ica.art