

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

The Mall London SW1Y 5AH ica.art

ICA London – Turner Prize 2026 Shortlist

The ICA is delighted that Tanoa Sasraku and Simeon Barclay have been shortlisted for their presentations at ICA last year. Tanoa's *Morale Patch* was a new solo commission for the ICA. The jury praised the precision and sophistication of the installation, noting how it addressed complex historical issues with strong contemporary resonances. Simeon's *In Ruin* was a performance piece commissioned by the Roberts Institute of Art presented in partnership with ICA. The jury praised Barclay's debut performance for its exploration of Britishness, class, race and masculine identity, through an evocative, experimental use of language and a psychologically immersive soundscape.

ICA Chair of Trustees, Professor Dame Henrietta L. Moore DBE, commented:

I am truly delighted that two outstanding presentations at the ICA are recognised with this important nomination. This is a significant reflection of the ICA's commitment to commissioning and presenting work that resonates in today's world. As the Chair of Trustees, I look forward to the ICA's bold future to continue to support the next generation of artists.

ICA Director, Bengi Ünsal, commented:

The ICA is committed to collaborating with artists to take risks and experiment. We are grateful that Tanoa and Simeon placed their trust in the ICA at pivotal moments in their development. We are proud to have supported their work at this exciting juncture and look forward to following their careers in the decades to come.

ICA Exhibitions Curator, Andrea Nitsche-Krupp, commented:

I am absolutely delighted to hear of Tanoa Sasraku's nomination. It was a privilege to be in sustained conversation with her as she pushed the boundaries of her practice while developing *Morale Patch* at the ICA. Through this work, she brought forward a materially and conceptually coherent proposition, interrogating cultural norms and individual agency in relation to national identity and extractivism. There is a distinctive generosity to her rigorous approach – an openness and curiosity in the way she examines the scaffolding of our socio-political condition. This Turner Prize nomination is a powerful recognition of that work, and I'm glad it will invite a wider public into dialogue with the considered material perspectives and the urgent contemporary concerns of her practice.

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Artist Tanoa Sasraku commented:

I am delighted to have been nominated for the 2026 Turner Prize for my exhibition 'Morale Patch' at the ICA. The work has continued to reflect the state of modern imperial conquest since its initial display, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue the discussion around my ideas with a new audience.

ICA Head of Artistic Programme, Steven Cairns, commented:

We are delighted that Simeon Barclay is shortlisted to the Turner Prize. It was a privilege to collaborate with The Roberts Institute of Art, reinforcing our commitment to supporting interdisciplinary artists such as Simeon. We felt lucky to welcome this talented multidisciplinary artist as he embarked on a new trajectory into performance, which has now received this important recognition.

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Turner Prize 2026 official release: [Tate Announcement](#)

About 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.

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The ICA platforms the daring and the curious, supporting artists and ideas that challenge perceptions, inspire social change, and connect with diverse audiences locally and globally. As a space for bold, boundary-pushing creativity, we cultivate connections across disciplines, communities, and cultures. Our cross-disciplinary programming invites audiences to explore beyond the boundaries of individual art forms, fostering experimentation and the discovery of new perspectives. Open to all voices and ideas, we embrace interplay and interaction across club nights, film festivals, gigs, exhibitions, talks, and digital art. With inclusivity and collaboration at the heart of our work, we remain fearless in shaping contemporary creativity, connecting diverse voices, and making unexpected connections that define the future of arts and culture.

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, David Bowie to Stormzy, 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 79 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.

Central to the ICA's vision and mission is a commitment to diversity, equality, and inclusion at all levels of the organisation. We want to create and maintain an ICA that is a positive environment where similarities and differences of people are valued – a space where everyone belongs and feels welcome. We hold ourselves accountable through our regularly reviewed Anti-Racism Strategic Plan; Equality and Diversity Policy and Action Plan; and Safety Policy.

Since its inception, the ICA has been the home of future-thinking ideas and urgent cultural discourse. We are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment that encourages dialogue and debate, recognising that differing viewpoints are essential to the advancement of contemporary arts and culture.

The ICA is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.