

For Immediate Release

Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA), London announces its July – September 2026 Programme Highlights



Off-Circuit: The Seasons, dir. Maureen Fazendeiro, Portugal/France/Spain/Austria 2025

From July to September 2026, the ICA presents a programme of exhibitions, film, live music, performance, talks and events shaped by moving image, publishing, sound and research-led practice. The season is anchored by **Elisa Giardina Papa's** *She Flickered In and Out of History* in the Lower Gallery, **In Focus** film seasons dedicated to **Jacques Rozier** and **Nagisa Oshima**, and a wide-ranging Live programme featuring **Marika Peura**, **HTRK**, **Model/Actriz**, **Loraine James**, and **Hilary Woods**. Across Talks & Events, **Isaac Julien**, **Françoise Vergès**, **Liz Johnson Artur**, **Maite de Orbe**, **RESOLVE** and **Jesse Glazzard** contribute to a season of public conversation, artist development, publishing and performance, including the return of **GLUE Book Fair 2026** as a building-wide weekend of publishing, exhibition and public programme.

In the galleries this season, **Elisa Giardina Papa's** *She Flickered In and Out of History*, (17 July to 6 September) considers political agency, sovereignty and historical narration through the story of a Mediterranean island that refused to be claimed by European powers. The exhibition is accompanied by an artist talk with **Giardina Papa** and **Erika Balsom**, and a film series selected in dialogue with the project. Looking ahead, **Autumn Knight's** new commission *I Can't Complain* opens on 29 September.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Across ICA's cinemas, July opens with **Time to Play: Films by Jacques Rozier**, while August brings **Cinema and State: Films by Nagisa Oshima**, a survey focused on the filmmaker's formally radical and anti-establishment work of the late 1960s. The season also includes ICA Off-Circuit premieres by **Hong Sangsoo**, **Vladlena Sandu** and **Maureen Fazendeiro**, the return of the **London Indian Film Festival** and **Jukebox Film Club**, and special programmes on **Howard Brookner**, **Marta Mateus** and **Michael Snow & Joyce Wieland**

On the ICA Stage this season, the Live programme weaves between genre lines, from experimental electronic to alternative indie and noise-rock as well as new choreographic works. Highlights include **Samba Jean-Baptiste with Samara Langham**, **Marika Peura's** performance *Amalgam Melee*, **HTRK**, two intimate performances by **Model/Actriz**, **Lorraine James**, **GHOSTWOMAN**, **Destroyer** solo, **CTM x ICA** and, **Hilary Woods**.

Talks & Events brings together young artists' practice, artist residencies, publishing and public conversation. The **ICA Creatives x Diasporas Now** takeover presents work developed over a year of artist-led workshops, while **RESOLVE collective** are announced as lead artists for **ICA Creatives 2026-27** – the ICA's young artists programme which offers free artist-led creative workshops for people aged 16-30. Across the season, **Maite de Orbe** continues their artist residency in the ICA Studio, **PULSE** returns with an open studio and performance, and events with **Isaac Julien**, **Françoise Vergès**, **Liz Johnson Artur**, **K Bailey Obazee** and others extend the programme across film, performance, photography and publishing. In September, **Glue 2026 book fair** brings together artists, publishers and independent book makers across the building.

Spanning exhibitions, film, live music, performance, publishing and talks, the ICA's July – September programme runs across the building. Together, the season reflects the ICA's role as a key site for interdisciplinary culture in London, supporting artists and audiences to encounter new work, new artforms and new communities as they emerge.

EXHIBITIONS

Elisa Giardina Papa: She Flickered In and Out of History

17 July – 6 September 2026, Lower Gallery

This summer, ICA presents **Elisa Giardina Papa: *She Flickered In and Out of History***, an immersive video and mixed-media installation by the Italian artist. Centring on the history of an island that refused to be claimed by European powers, the exhibition explores the geological, mythological and political

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

temporalities of the Mediterranean. Through film, installation and research-led practice, **Giardina Papa** traces how histories are recorded, obscured or allowed to disappear, while attending to forms of refusal that unsettle dominant accounts of sovereignty and history.

The exhibition is accompanied by a programme of events beginning on Saturday 18 July, when **Giardina Papa** will be in conversation with scholar and critic **Erika Balsom**. A related film series takes place in the cinema across the run of the exhibition, with screenings on 22 July, 29 July, 12 August, 26 August and 2 September. Selected in dialogue with the exhibition, the programme expands on **Giardina Papa**'s concerns with island histories, contested geographies, archival absence and the politics of visibility.

Autumn Knight: I Can't Complain

29 September – 29 November 2026, Lower Gallery

Leading the autumn visual arts season, ICA presents **Autumn Knight: I Can't Complain**, a new commission by the New York-based artist. Developed across an experimental installation and series of performances, the project addresses complaint, disappointment and justice, extending **Knight**'s ongoing interest in language, power, embodiment and social exchange.

For more information and bookings visit ica.art/exhibitions

FILM

In Focus

Spotlighting international filmmakers, ICA's summer film programme opens with **Time to Play: Films by Jacques Rozier**, running from 1 to 30 July. One of the most original yet under-sung voices of the French New Wave, **Rozier** developed a cinema attuned to the beauty and heartbreak of chance encounters, improvised days and spontaneous play. In August, ICA presents **Cinema and State: Films by Nagisa Oshima**, running from 4 August to 1 September. Bringing together nine films, with a particular focus on the late 1960s, the programme illuminates the anti-establishment politics, formal radicalism and sustained critique of state power that define **Oshima**'s cinema.

Off-Circuit

ICA's **Off-Circuit** programme offers audiences a chance to encounter this generation's landmark films on screen for the very first time, carving out a much-needed theatrical space for seminal and medium-redefining artists beyond

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

the film festival circuit. Off-Circuit continues from 17 July with the UK premiere of **Hong Sangsoo's** *The Day She Returns*, a subtle meditation on memory and performance that continues the filmmaker's exploration of the boundaries between lived experience and artistic creation. From 7 August, the strand continues with **Vladlena Sandu's** *Memory*, a poetic debut feature in which the filmmaker, a survivor of the war in Chechnya, turns to cinema as a means of confronting and transforming traumatic memory. **Off-Circuit** continues from 4 September with the UK premiere of **Alejo Mogueillansky's** *Pin de Fartie*, a playful and subversive take on Samuel Beckett's *Endgame*. From 25 September, the strand continues with **Maureen Fazendeiro's** *The Seasons*, a portrait of the Alentejo region of Portugal weaving together oral histories, archaeological field notes, regional legends, poetry and song.

Jean-Luc Godard: Unmade and Abandoned

July also continues **Jean-Luc Godard: Unmade and Abandoned**, a programme exploring the unmade, abandoned and unrealised projects that run throughout **Godard's** vast oeuvre. Bringing these phantom works into relation with his completed films and those of other directors, the season sheds light on his creative process and the speculative edges of his cinema.

Special screenings and festivals

On 5 July, **Jukebox Film Club** presents the long-overdue UK premiere of **Don Askarian's** *Komitas*, in partnership with Armenian Film Society London and Armenian Heritage Month campaign. **The London Indian Film Festival** returns to ICA from 9 to 14 July for its 17th edition, bringing together new cinema and restored classics. On 16 July, artist **Alexander Carey-Morgan** presents *To the Horizon and Back* followed by a Q&A, documenting a process in which the artist buries himself within half a ton of clay for three days in an act of endurance, self-discovery and creative metamorphosis.

Jukebox Film Club returns on 8 September with the UK premiere of **Tamara Stepanyan's** *In the Land of Arto*, presented by Armenian Film Society London. On the 10 September, Contemporary Films begins their 75th Anniversary celebrations with a special screening of Joan Churchill and Nick Broomfield's *Soldier Girls*. From 11 to 13 September, **Howard Brookner: Films, Archives and the Avant-Garde** traces **Brookner's** legacy through **William S. Burroughs, Robert Wilson**, downtown New York and AIDS-era memory, shaped by **Aaron Brookner** and **Paula Vaccaro's** 15-year effort to preserve, remaster and reactivate his archive.

From 17 to 20 September, Portuguese filmmaker **Marta Mateus** curates **Cinema According to... Marta Mateus**, a special programme tracing her own journey through cinema, from the films that shaped her conception of the medium to the

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

filmmakers whose methods of working continue to inspire her. On 24 September, *Picture This* screens with a Q&A, introduced by **Professor Anna Fox**, whose film follows women from refugee and migrant communities as they use photography to reinterpret and communicate their experiences.

On 26 and 27 September, ICA presents **Five Films by Michael Snow and Joyce Wieland**, a programme of works by two pioneering experimental filmmakers, presented in collaboration with Dream of Light. The month closes with **Bodies Adrift: The Short Films of Fernando and Miñuca Villaverde, with Mayami Nuestro**, a double programme running from 27 to 29 September that brings together restored experimental shorts by Cuban filmmakers **Miñuca** and **Fernando Villaverde** with **Carlos Oteyza's** *Mayami Nuestro*.

For more information and bookings visit ica.art/films

LIVE

ICA Live continues its programme of experimental music, performance and cross-disciplinary practice across the ICA Stage, bringing together international artists working across sound, choreography, electronic music and expanded performance.

On 4 July, ICA presents a double bill with songwriter and composer **Samba Jean-Baptiste** and *Nacre*, the most recent work by choreographer **Samara Langham**. Moving between music and performance, the evening brings together two artists developing distinct approaches to voice, movement and composition.

On 1 August, Finnish artist **Marika Peura** presents *Amalgam Melee*, a performance that begins from the artist's inner contradictions around cultural heritage, Brownness, Whiteness, and the hierarchies of power and violence embedded within Finnish society. Wearing pink tsinelas and a hela belt, **Peura** brings together objects from distinct cultural lineages to explore the body as both shaped by, and implicated in, the mechanisms of white supremacy.

On 5 August, ICA welcomes **HTRK**, the Australian duo of **Jonnine Standish** and **Nigel Yang**, whose songs move through dub, dream, memory and slow-burning intensity. September opens with two intimate performances by post-punk/noise-rock outfit **Model/Actriz** on 1 and 2 September. On 6 September, Canadian composer and multimedia artist **Scott Morgan** brings his long-running electronic music project **Loscil** to ICA, with support from London-based electronic duo **AM sin**. On 9 September, **Loraine James** returns to ICA following the release of *Detached from the Rest of You* on Hyperdub, joined by **Eden Samara** who releases her new album on **Local Action Records** later this year. On 10 September,

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

GHOSTWOMAN perform with support from **Desert Liminal**, presenting music from *Welcome to the Civilized World*.

On 17 September, **Destroyer** performs solo. Led by **Dan Bejar**, **Destroyer** began as a home-recording project in the early to mid-1990s and has since moved through glam, MIDI, yacht rock and other unstable pop forms. On 24 and 25 September, **CTM x ICA** returns for its fourth collaboration, immersing audiences in the intersections of music, visuals and performance. The month closes with an artist whose practice moves fluidly across music, image and performance: Irish musician, composer and analogue filmmaker **Hilary Woods** on 29 September.

For more information and bookings visit ica.art/live

TALKS & EVENTS

The season's Talks & Events programme brings together artist-led practice, young people's creative development, publishing, performance and critical conversation across the ICA.

ICA Creatives and Young Artist's Programmes

Celebrating the finale of their residency with the ICA's Young Artist's Programme offering free artist-led creative workshops for people aged 16-30 ICA presents the final takeover of **ICA Creatives x Diasporas Now** from 2 to 8 July, bringing together work made by young artists over a of year workshops and creative development. The opening night features performances, workshops, talks and screenings across ICA's building, alongside a special exhibition in the Upper Gallery, open to the public for one week. Looking ahead, ICA announces interdisciplinary design collective **RESOLVE** as lead artists for **ICA Creatives 2026-27**, which runs from September 2026 to July 2027 and culminates in an exhibition in 2027.

On 14 July, ICA's **Youth Collective** presents a screening and discussion marking the conclusion of its programme with **iniva** and the **June Giovanni Pan African Cinema Archive**. The group will curate an evening of screenings inspired by the course, followed by a discussion and Q&A.

Artist residencies and PULSE

ICA's artist residency programme continues with **Maite de Orbe**, who is developing new work from ICA's Studio. Their practice explores how to move beyond the fixed image, addressing the complexity of identity-making through sexuality, gender and queerness, belonging, migration and community. On 22 July,

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

the next iteration of **PULSE** focuses on de Orbe's work, with an open studio and performance of new material developed as part of the artist's ongoing research.

Talks, screenings and publishing

On 2 July, ICA presents a screening of *Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask* (1996), followed by a conversation between the film's director, **Sir Isaac Julien**, and academic and writer **Françoise Vergès**. On 9 July, the next event in **Visible Justice's** Collective Residency explores carceral justice through an evening of talks and screenings. On 15 July, **MACK Cinema Club** returns to ICA with artist **Liz Johnson Artur**, who will curate a special evening of screenings.

Publishing and performance remain central to the season. On 7 July, ICA hosts the launch of *Too Little Too Hard*, a collection of essays on work and value edited by **Lucy Mercer** and **Livia Franchini** and published by Peninsula Press. On 29 July, *Gushing to Perform: IF I MAY*, curated by PRIM's **K Bailey Obazee**, brings together singer **Nali**, performers **Sienna King** and **Sabrena Osei-Tutu**, and creative **Cash Nahum**. On 31 July, ICA celebrates the launch of *Marfa #26* with a screening of *Mr Goodbar*.

Glue 2026

From 12 to 13 September, ICA presents **Glue 2026** book fair across the building. Celebrating artists, publishers and independent book makers working across visual arts and contemporary culture, Glue brings together creative practices that span disciplines and genres. Alongside a vibrant book fair, the weekend features a special exhibition and public programme championing the role of artist-led ecosystems and communities in nourishing creative practice and shaping urgent, independent publishing today.

Presented as part of **Glue**, **Jesse Glazzard: *The Sound of Dirt and Beauty*** brings together new and archival images in a solo presentation that proposes an expanded notion of family rooted in care, pain and the enduring love found in the everyday. The exhibition coincides with the launch of **Glazzard's** new photobook, published with Self Publish, Be Happy.

For more information and bookings visit ica.art/talks

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Press Enquiries

Fiona Russell, Rees & Co: fiona.russell@reesandco.com

Francisco de Borja Herzog, ICA: press@ica.art

To download press images, visit [ICA's Dropbox](#)

Visitor Information

ICA opening hours:

Tuesday to Sunday, 12 – 11pm

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

Exhibition tickets: from £6.00

Pay What You Can: Tue to Sun, 12 – 1pm

Members go free

Exhibition opening times:

Monday: Closed

Tue to Sun: 12 – 8pm

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 ica.art/media/01795.pdf

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

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.

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.