

ICA ANNOUNCES ITS AUTUMN 2026 PROGRAMME

24 September 2026



In the Round: L'Rain (14 October). Photo: Mackai Sharp.

This season's highlights at the ICA include US performance artist Autumn Knight's first major UK exhibition, cinema retrospectives of Shōhei Imamura and Nicolás Pereda, a new programme of 360° performances in 'In the Round' by artists including Alabaster DePlume and L'Rain, and the fourth edition of the Frieze x ICA Artists' Film Programme bringing together artists' film and moving image selected from galleries participating in Frieze London.

EXHIBITIONS

Presented from **29 September – 29 November**, [Autumn Knight: I Can't Complain](#) is the first major UK presentation of New York-based artist **Autumn Knight**. Bringing together a new installation and audio commission with recent video work, the exhibition considers 'complaint' as a social and political act. The exhibition continues over two months through five newly commissioned performances in the Lower Gallery, across three solo performances by **Knight**, a solo by **Samra Mayanja** in response to the installation, and a live event developed by Knight in collaboration with the performers **Michelangelo Miccolis** and **nick von kleist**.

An accompanying programme extends the exhibition's questions across performance, film and public discussion. **Knight** selects a series of films that

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enter into conversation with complaint, while on **10 November** feminist writer and scholar **Sara Ahmed** presents a lecture, *Complaining, Again!* drawing connections between Knight's exhibition and Ahmed's new book, *No Is Not a Lonely Utterance*.

Coinciding with Frieze London, the **Frieze x ICA Artists' Film Programme** returns for its fourth edition from **12 – 18 October**. Presented in the Upper Gallery and online, the programme brings together artists' film and moving image selected from galleries participating in Frieze London.

For the full programme and bookings visit ica.art/exhibitions

FILM

The ICA continues its sustained engagement with filmmakers whose work expands the possibilities of the medium. [The Lower Depths: The Cinema of Shōhei Imamura](#), presented from **22 October – 13 December** as part of the ICA's **Long Takes** strand, surveys the unruly and formally inventive cinema of **Shōhei Imamura**, one of the key filmmakers to emerge from post-war Japan. From **10 November – 17 December**, **Between the Lines: Films by Nicolás Pereda** presents **Nicolás Pereda's** first UK retrospective, exploring a practice in which fiction and documentary, performance and everyday life repeatedly intersect.

The ICA's [Off-Circuit](#) programme continues to bring new and under-seen independent cinema to UK audiences, with autumn titles including UK premieres of **Ramiro Sonzini** and **Ezequiel Salinas's** *The Night Is Fading Away*, **Nicolás Pereda's** *Everything Else Is Noise*, **Bingham Bryant's** *Mirage* and **Mathilde Girard's** *Recherche Médée*, alongside **Angela Schanelec's** *My Wife Cries*. Further highlights include the London premiere of **James Benning's** *Little Boy*, presented as part of a two-part programme marking the publication of **Erika Balsom's** *The Edges of Cinema*; *After Utopia: The Strugatsky Brothers on Film*; and, in December, **Jean-François Stévenin: Jurassic Man**, including UK premieres of the three features directed by actor and filmmaker **Jean-François Stévenin**.

The ICA also welcomes returning and new festival partners throughout the season, including the **BFI London Film Festival**, **London Korean Film Festival**, **London Palestine Film Festival**, **Doc'n Roll Film Festival**, **Fashion in Film Festival** and **Armenian Film Festival**, alongside the inaugural **London Latino Film Festival**.

For the full programme and bookings visit ica.art/films

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LIVE

From **8 – 30 October**, [In the Round](#) returns to the ICA Theatre, placing performers among the audience and using the venue's d&b Soundscape 360° sound system. Artists include **Gilla Band**, **Issy Wood**, **L'Rain**, **Alabaster DePlume**, **HYD**, **Tara Clerkin Trio**, **PVA** and **Discovery Zone**. Highlights include **Duet Emmo**, the collaboration between Mute founder **Daniel Miller**, and **Edvard Graham Lewis** and **B.C. Gilbert** from Wire, giving their world premiere live performance on **27 October**, almost 45 years after first forming, and **WACK x lovemusic** on **29 October**, bringing **Jennifer Walshe** and **Neil Luck** together with Strasbourg-based **Collective lovemusic** for two UK premieres.

Elsewhere in the **Live** programme, **Circuit des Yeux**, accompanied by Low's **Alan Sparhawk**, performs a new live score to **F. W. Murnau's** *Nosferatu* (1922) on **31 October**. On **4 November**, the ICA presents the UK premiere of a live audiovisual collaboration between Los Angeles-based electronic musician **Nosaj Thing** and artist and technologist **Daito Manabe**. November continues with **Moor Mother**, **Goat (jp)**, **Horse Lords**, **Gold Panda**, **Kiss Facility** and **Faux Real**, alongside programmes presented with **Pitchfork Music Festival London** on **5 – 7 November** including Arthur Russell collaborator **Nirosta Steel**, and **Olof Dreijer** from The Knife and EFG London Jazz Festival present **Robocobra Quartet** on **19 November**.

November closes out with a new three-day partnership with Poland's Unsound festival over **26 – 28 November** featuring boundary-pushing artists **Lorenzo Senni** and **Visible Cloaks**, alongside new festival commissions featuring Poland's foremost experimental artists collaborating with international artists such as **RP Boo & Gary Gwadera**, **Giant Claw** and **Julek ploski**.

December sees headline shows from **Planningtorock**, **TYGAPAW** and **Nightbus**, and a sonically charged double header with **Dis Fig** and the London live debut of **Microplastics**, the new band from three of South London's most distinctive artists: **aya**, **Jennifer Walton** and **96 Back**.

For the full programme and bookings visit ica.art/live

TALKS & EVENTS

Across **Talks & Events**, the ICA convenes conversations around photography, publishing, care, politics and cultural production. Alongside **Sara Ahmed's** lecture and a series of artist and photobook launches, the autumn programme features *I am tired of this shit*, bringing together **Hanna Moon**, **Charlotte Cotton** and **Isabella Burley** to talk about money, power and artmaking. **Benoît Loiseau** is in conversation with **Amelia Abraham** to mark the publication of *The Death of*

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the Clinic: Radical Experiments in the Art of Medicine and, on **25 November**, *On Becoming* presents films by **Harry Lawson**, **Lewis Khan** and **Maite de Orbe** on youth, place and finding community.

The programme also includes a three-day **School of the Damned** project from **22 – 24 October** as part of the ICA's **Pulse** series, while **ICA Creatives x RESOLVE Collective** begins a year-long collaboration centring young people's local knowledge and experience as a starting point for imagination and intervention. Artist Development Resident **Maite de Orbe** concludes their residency with *MOMOSTAR*, an exhibition proposing documentary language as a catalyst to explore fantasy and world-building.

Groundings closes the season from **11 – 13 December** and launches the ICA's 80th-anniversary programme. Its three-day programme spans talks and workshops alongside performance, screenings and music. Artists, curators and thinkers come into conversation with young people and ICA audiences to consider the changing role and responsibilities of arts institutions.

For the full programme and bookings visit ica.art/talks

NOTES TO EDITORS

KEY DATES

29 September to 29 November 2026 – Autumn Knight: *I Can't Complain*
Performances on 1, 12 & 15 Oct and 20 November.

8 to 30 October 2026 – In the Round

12 to 18 October 2026 – Frieze x ICA Artists' Film Programme

22 October to 13 December 2026 – The Lower Depths: The Cinema of Shōhei Imamura

10 November to 17 December 2026: Between the Lines: Films by Nicolás Pereda

11 to 13 December 2026 – Groundings

A three-day programme of talks and workshops, performances and screenings to consider the changing role and responsibilities of arts institutions.

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Press Enquiries

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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

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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.