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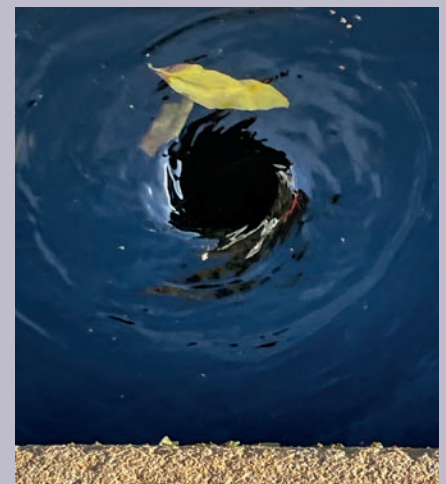
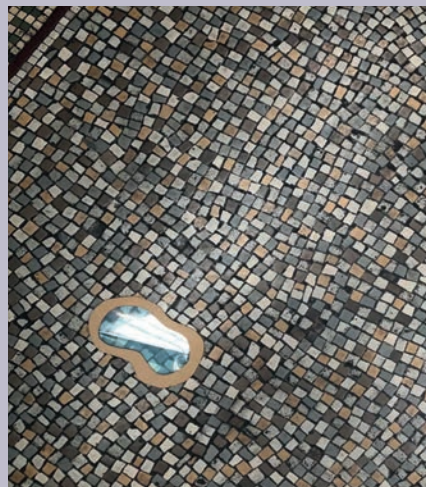
Birmingham School of Art

October Newsletter 2022

Welcome to the second edition of this years School of Art Newsletter. Its my sixth week teaching in the SoA and its been an incredible experience to see the breadth of contemporary and experimental practice being produced across the courses. Now that we are moving towards the middle of the first semester, its great to see so many new friendships and collaborations being made across the school. The Margaret Street family is a thriving community of artists, producers, educators and researchers. This newsletter presents a snap shot of some of the exciting activities that we have achieved together this month.

We are very keen to represent the student voice, please send through your contributions and news stories for the Newsletter to david.osbaldestin@bcu.ac.uk

David



Student Rep of the Year 2022!

We're very pleased to let you know that the BCU Careers+ Team chose Hannah Quill as the winner of the Student Rep of the Year 2022! Hannah is studying on BA Fine Art course at Birmingham School of Art. The judges felt that she really made the most of the opportunity and has been in regular touch with us.



Hannah uploaded images and added her exhibitions to her [AA2A profile](#), and won our Student Rep Challenge earlier this year.

L5 News

We visited the borough of Stirchley to learn more about different models of creative space in the city. First we visited Artefact, a co-op artist-led community space. They have exhibitions, host community group meetings, gigs and film screenings – set up on a shoestring by Fine Art graduate Johnny Graney amongst others.



Next up, we visited [Stirchley Print Works](#), a fully equipped membership based printmaking studio that also runs workshops.

(Art and Design Graduate Gugan Gill is exhibiting in Artefact for 'Left Feet Forward', an exhibition about the cooperative history of Stirchley. Find out more [here](#).)

@artefactprjcts
Birmingham Co-Operatives
artefactstirchley.co.uk

exhibition

Left Feet Forward

free entry

7:30pm
Fri 28th Oct

Show continues until
Saturday 26th November
Wednesday–Thursday 6–11pm
Friday – Saturday 12–11pm

Gugan Gill
Susan Finlay
Chris Neophytou

An exhibition of new works
and historical material about
Co-operative Stirchley

ARTEFACT

The co-operative membership
Central England Co-operative

See Website
and Socials for
related events.

L4 Making A Living: Developing Skills

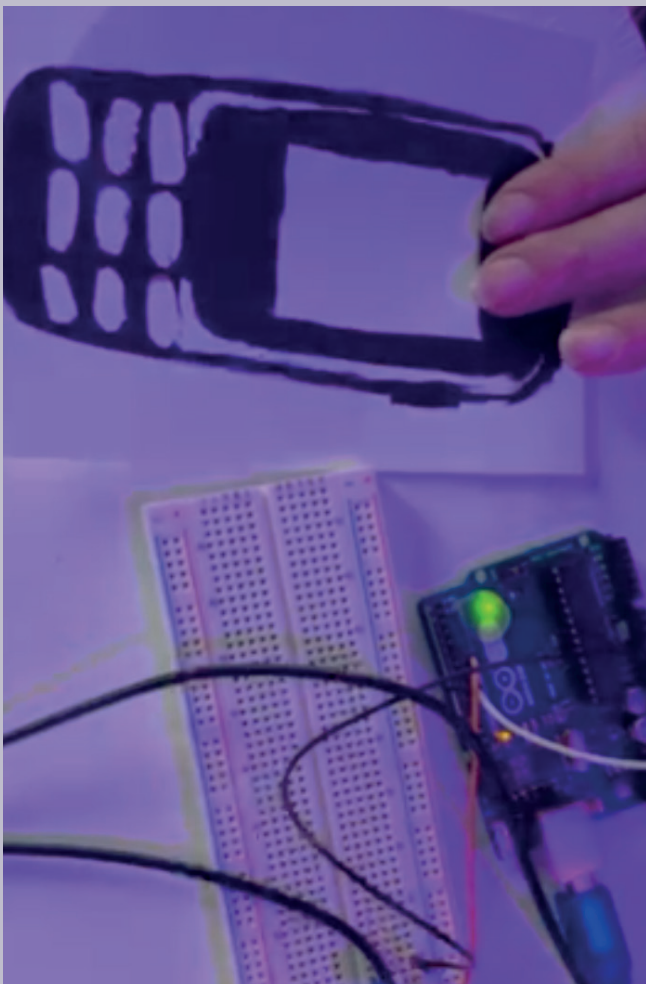
First year BA (hons) Fine Art students have just completed their first workshop rotation where they have learnt new skills in metal, wood, casting, print, photography, video, drawing and construction. Each workshop builds over five weeks and has seen our students make incredible display structures using metal, make jewellery from destroyed furniture (and they got to destroy some furniture), defy gravity through engineering and learn how to document all of this. Confidence has grown week by week. We are all excited to see what comes out of the next rotation.



Creative Technologies workshops



In our Creative Technologies workshops we have been using p5.js to draw portraits as an introduction to coding. We have also been mixing graphite powder with acrylic to paint our Materials Lab objects. Using Arduino kits we then turned the paintings into switches to turn lights on and off. Touch object = Light on!



Visit from Jason Bruges

Our Visiting Professor Jason Bruges, of Jason Bruges Studio, spent the day with us. We talked about Jason's involvement in the design of our new course, and he gave a presentation on the work of his studio.



He then set us a challenge to take apart broken pieces of technology and put them back together in interesting ways that reflect their environmental impact. Jason couldn't resist taking a carpet steamer apart. We are really looking forward to Jason visiting us again later in the year.

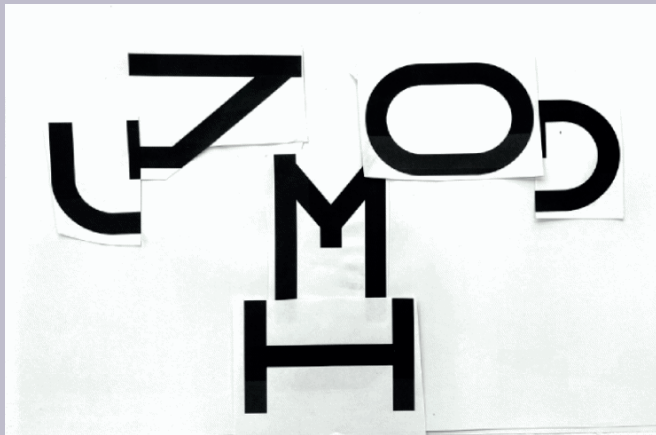


BAAD

NEWS

Typography as Form

L5 BAAD took part in a workshop that explored their understanding of typography as a visual tool, pushing letterforms away from their very purpose and into a place of form as opposed to function. Creating faces, characters and then wordmarks, students created a range of responses to the task, with some even integrating motion and animation skills.



Making Skills

L6 students took on a new making and curating challenge this month. They each made individual model-scale structures that intended to represent an aspect of themselves and their interests. Each tried new ways of working and techniques in construction. All the elements were then brought together to create a model village that would embody a good environment for human and natural habitation.

Each student then photographed their work in various locations around and outside the school, creating mini exhibitions, contextualizing their work through juxtaposition with scale and locations.

Print Club Birmingham @ Night School



Print Club Birmingham were invited to collaborate at October's Night School. With a workshop set live during the evening, participants were challenged to create a large-scale interactive installation, created from A6/small scale compositions. There was a real energy, buzz and atmosphere to the workshop, with each individual collage finding different ways in which to manipulate and push the initial format, leading to a wonderful final installation with a combination of over 250 individual pieces.



BA Art Business

First Cohort 2022!

So exciting to welcome in the very first cohort of the brand new BA (Hons) Art Business (Level 6 top-up). The students have made a flying start, getting to grips with examining the Creative Industries, and the intersections between creativity and business, arts and management.

We have been very fortunate to have visits from Mike Mounfield (Projects Manager at Colmore BID), Kerry Hawkes (Learning Manager at Ikon), John Sewell (Founder of Cosimo Art) and our very own Catherine Baker to inspire the students. They have

been introduced to various roles including arts leadership, education & learning, entrepreneurialism, project management and collaborative practice, beginning the all-important network building. Onwards and upwards!



MA Arts & Education

Exploring Research Pedagogy



During October MA Arts and Education students have been exploring ways of sharing their research and interests in pedagogy with each other. Through the month presentations have explored a day in the life, opening canal locks, family archives and gardening, and transformational education and rebellion.

It's been brilliant to see this work evolve and I'm looking forward to seeing how it shapes and develops work for the core module.

MAAD:IP ARTS IN DESIGN

Monstrous Imaginings

MAAD:IP are developing a 12 week project that responds to radical puppetry practices ranging from Bunraku to the Bauhaus, looking at its rich history of creative subversion, scenography and the design of objects, artefacts and performances. Beginning with a series of collective readings, lectures and active participatory activities, the students have been debating and discussing various methods of consciousness raising design that involve narrative, character design and physical prototyping.



Focusing on puppetry's representation and critique of complex social, cultural and political themes that employ monstrous metaphors as narrative vehicles, we have been exploring how puppetry can be understood, translated and activated in a 21st century technological context.

Hands on workshops with professional puppeteer, maker and performer James Frost have enabled students at all levels to engage

with the practical as well as the conceptual aspects of the project, which centres on character building as a form of politically engaged design. Throughout this module, we have been considering how to forge a critically engaged visual rhetoric, designing with archetypes, symbols and metaphors to confront and communicate complex issues.



The project will then shift its attention to the production of a series of collectively produced puppet plays, building on the format of Japanese Bunraku Play and updating the mythos and monstrous symbolism to confront contemporary socio-political issues. Each student will be responsible for the creation and delivery of a character, puppet and scenery along with a scripted play. The result will be a collective experiment into the collision of historic story telling formats with new media platforms and cinematic environments.



CROSS - SCHOOL in the WORLD

SOA Lecture Series

The School of Art Lecture Series continues every Wednesday at 1pm on Teams during term time.

Talk 4: Faisal Hussain 12/10/22

[Faisal Hussain](#) is an experienced Creative Producer and Artist who graduated from Falmouth Art College in 1999. His work is currently at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and The Midlands Arts Centre, Urban Nation Museum, Berlin, and The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in London.



Talk 5: Cathy Wade 19/10/22

[Cathy Wade](#) is an artist & writer who investigates how practice can be created and distributed in collaborative partnerships and through the creation of commons. Their work seeks to understand the experience of contemporary conditions through exchange with others. They run Black Hole Club, Vivid Projects' artist development programme and the MA in Arts Education Practices at BCU.

Talk 6: Sahjan Kooner 26/10/22

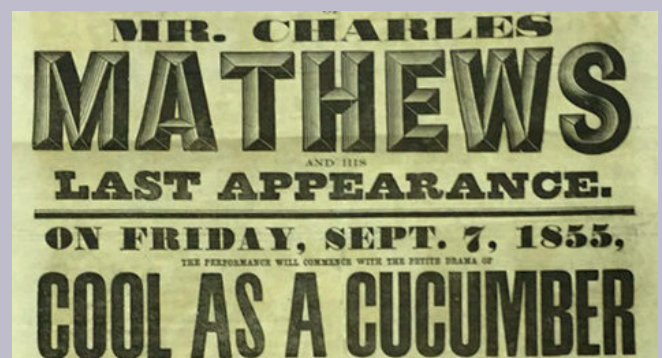
[Sahjan Kooner](#) is an amalgamation of inherited worlds and speculative futures, they work in a freelance capacity to support their practice and owe a great deal to their family, they are a student of the dream state.



Up next:

Talk 7: David Osbaldestin 09/11/22

[David Osbaldestin](#) is Course Director for BAAD, a printing historian and a creative director with a passion for typography. He uses his fine art and design skills to teach the complex art form of the printed letter. David will be discussing the rise of the sans serif printing in reflecting wider changes in society.



Other news / coming soon:

Reimagination

For the past few months, we have been working with artists in Manchester, Cardiff and Birmingham alongside lead curator [Leyla Reynolds](#) to create new work around the theme reimagination!

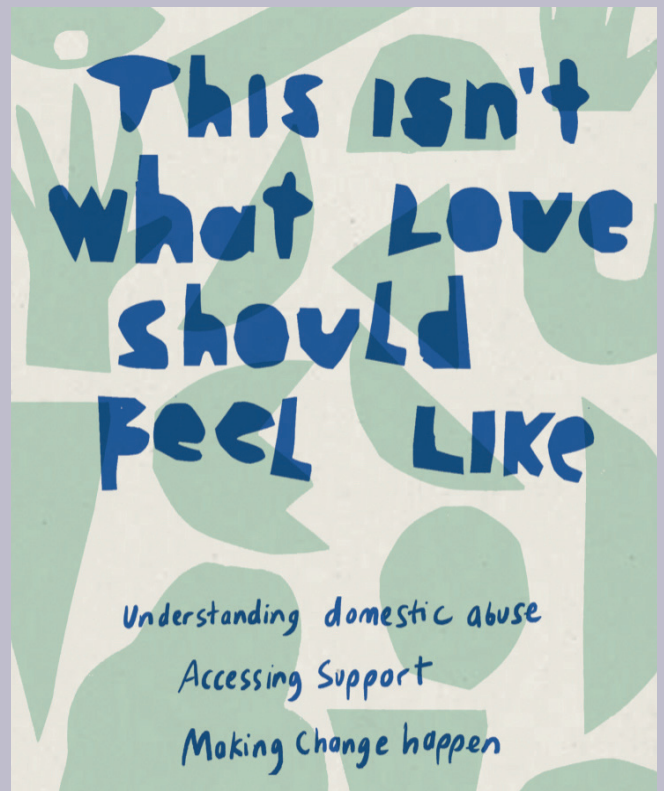
Shado are opening the Birmingham exhibition REIMAGINATION in collaboration with local artists: Izatna, Cherie Kwok, Tolemia Gregory, Imogen Richards, Vidya Patel, Emily Doyle, Caitlin Kiely, Rumbi Savanhu, Jane Thakoordin, Fae Kilburn and our own Art and Design graduate Adam Wynn.

There will also be a spoken word performance by [Beth Slin](#) and a live music performance from [Affie Jam](#).

Doors open at 6pm and performances will start at 8pm. The link to register for tickets is [HERE](#)



Domestic Abuse Awareness Resources



This isn't what love should feel like is a free, easy to upload pdf booklet (or zine). It is short and concise, written in simple, clear language by Katy Sadler, FWFC founder member. Nafeesa Hamid's moving, powerful poetry is written from her own personal experience. The resource features an interview and specialist advice from Anna Fawcett from BSWA. The engaging visual design of This isn't what love should feel like was created by artist Sarah Taylor Silverwood. The resource also includes a social media campaign, visit [@feministsworkforchange](#) on instagram to see the campaign in full.

Louise Anne Ryland Travel Bursary Winner

The winner of this years Louise Anne Ryland travel bursary was: Gugan Gill, graduate from BA Art and Design.



Louisa Anne Ryland (1814 – 1889) was a philanthropist who contributed to the development of young artists, she was the chief contributor to the Birmingham Government School of Ornamental Art, now part of the Birmingham Institute of Creative Arts and home to the School of Art at Margaret street. She endowed a fund for student travel scholarships which is still being awarded annually. This year a total of £1,094 was allotted for all ADM students to apply.

Gugan's proposal was for traveling to Sarmastpur, Punjab, India:

'Stories From Home' is an ongoing, developing project created during my final year of university. It is a visual and poetic investigation into navigating my transcultural, diasporic identity, using my family histories, inherited knowledges and archival materials to help make sense of such experience using tools such as filmmaking, documenting, writing as methods to make, taking a strong approach to research led practice.

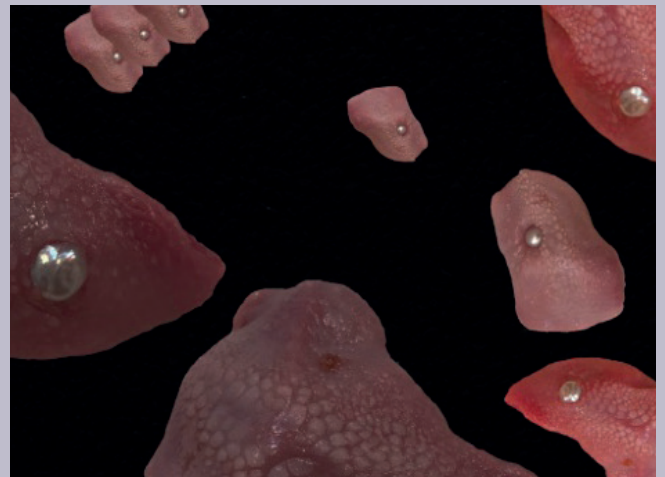
Eastside Projects

[Fer Boyd, Madeleine Stack, Rebecca Close](#)
[Tongues: A Riot! A Mayhem! A Rampage! An Ecstasy!](#)

Wednesday, 30 November 2022

6 – 7.30 pm

An experimental writing workshop that offers the tool of using multiple tongues to approach ideas that feel so kaleidoscopic or frankensteinian that they are difficult to hold in your brain in a single voice. In this workshop, the writers will read from their forthcoming books and screen an accompanying experimental film, before offering individual and collective exercises that take away the pressure of solid, subjective opinion, instead turning to conversations between bodies as a way to use contradiction, ambivalence, and confusion to create scenes, stories or poems that might be complex, funny, or high-octane in the process.



Thank you for reading!

If you have any news you would like to share in the October School of Art Newsletter, please get in touch with [David](#) before the 25/11/22