Events Diary

December 2017 - March 2018

All events take place at Ikon Gallery unless otherwise stated.

All events can be booked online at ikon-gallery.org unless indicated otherwise. Alternatively please call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Please consider making a donation for free events, Ikon is a registered charity and your support helps us with everything we do.


Exhibition Opening

Opening night – Edmund Clark and Thomas Bock
Wednesday 6 December, 6–8pm – FREE
Join us to celebrate the opening of our new exhibitions. Pay bar.
Symposia

**Thomas Bock**  
*Convicts, Race and Art*  
Friday 15 December, 10am–5pm – FREE  
Evening reception, 5.30–7.30pm – FREE  
King’s College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS  
(Closest tube station Temple)  
Booking essential  
A day symposium contextualising the life and work of artist Thomas Bock. Debates include art in a time of colony; the representation of Australia’s indigenous peoples; and the politics and experience of transportation from the Midlands to colonial Tasmania. Talks by Dr Gaye Sculthorpe, Head of Oceania, British Museum, and Dr Malcolm Dick, Director, Centre for West Midlands History, University of Birmingham. Evening reception includes a talk by Jonathan Watkins, Ikon Director. The symposium is organised in partnership with the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, King’s College, London. To book visit [bocksymposium2017.eventbrite.co.uk](http://bocksymposium2017.eventbrite.co.uk)

**Edmund Clark**  
*In Place of Hate*  
Monday 12 February 2018, 11am–6pm – FREE  
Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS  
Booking essential  
A day symposium bringing together artists, critics, ex-prisoners and criminologists to consider art, media and criminal justice. Edmund Clark, Ikon’s artist-in-residence at HMP Grendon, is in conversation with Anthony Downey, Professor of Visual Culture in the Middle East and North Africa, Birmingham City University (BCU). Including a paper by Dr Jamie Bennett, Governor of HMP Grendon & Springhill, the symposium is organised in partnership with Elizabeth Yardley, Professor of Criminology and Director of the Centre for Applied Criminology, BCU.

Talks

**Alys Fowler**  
*These Are a Few of My Favourite Things*  
Monday 11 December, 6–7pm – £3  
Booking essential  
Gardening columnist for *The Guardian*, Alys Fowler selects her eight favourite works of art, revealing her personal inspirations. Fowler is widely known for her weekly column; has contributed to *Gardens Illustrated* and *The National Geographic*; and has written five books, the latest *Hidden Nature* is about paddling the canals of Birmingham. Fowler is fascinated by urban nature and how we make space for it. *These Are A Few of My Favourite Things* returns to Ikon after successful runs

**The Art History of Thomas Bock**
**Talk and Book Launch**
**Tuesday 12 December, 6–7pm – £3**
**Booking essential**
Join Jane Stewart, Principal Curator at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, and Trawlwoolway artist Julie Gough for papers and discussion on the art history and legacy of Thomas Bock. The talk is followed by the launch of *The Importance of Being Anachronistic: Contemporary Aboriginal Art and Museum Reparations* (2016). The book, a collaboration between the journals *Discipline* and *Third Text*, is edited by Professor Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll, Chair of Global Art History at the University of Birmingham.

**Peter Tatchell**
**Refugee detention: Britain’s shame**
**Wednesday 28 February 2018, 6–7pm – £7/£5 concs**
**Booking essential**
An opportunity to hear from renowned human rights campaigner Peter Tatchell. Having campaigned for over 50 years, since 1967, at this event Tatchell discusses how the asylum system is rigged against genuine refugees, from the moment they apply through to incarceration, legal aid, tribunal hearings and deportations. [petertatchellfoundation.org](http://petertatchellfoundation.org)

**In the Frame**
**Wednesday 7 March 2018, 6–8pm – £5**
**Steelhouse Lane Lock-up**
**Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham B4 6NW**
**Booking essential**
Photographic historian Pete James discusses the early history of photography in Birmingham, with reference to its use as a means of surveillance by the Birmingham Police Force in the nineteenth century, and in relation to Edmund Clark’s exhibition at Ikon. The talk takes place at Steelhouse Lane Lock-up in collaboration with West Midlands Police Museum. Please note access is via a spiral staircase.

**Winter Craft Market**

**Thursday 14 December, 4–8pm – FREE**
Ikon hosts a special late night opening – shop for unique handmade gifts, cards and decorations; enjoy creative activities and demonstrations by independent Midlands based crafters; get into the festive spirit with music and seasonal treats at Yorks Café; and take advantage of 20% discount in Ikon Shop. Find out more about our stall holders via Ikon’s Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.
Film Screenings

*Van Diemen’s Land*
Wednesday 24 January 2018, 6–8pm – FREE
*Everyday*
Wednesday 31 January 2018, 6–8pm – FREE
*The Last Confession of Alexander Pearce*
Wednesday 7 February 2018, 6–8pm – FREE

Booking essential

In collaboration with Flatpack, Ikon is programming a series of film nights to coincide with the Thomas Bock and Edmund Clark exhibitions. This starts with a screening of *Van Diemen’s Land* (2009), the story of Alexander Pearce, one of Australia's most notorious convicts. In 1822 Pearce and seven fellow convicts escaped from Macquarie Harbour penal station only to be faced with the hardships of the Tasmanian wilderness. Thomas Bock sketched Pearce before and after his execution in 1824 and these portraits feature in Ikon’s exhibition. See Ikon’s website for further screenings.

Workshop

*Collage Workshop with Eloise Renouf*
Sunday 11 February 2018, 1–3pm – £25

Booking essential

Join artist, designer and illustrator Eloise Renouf for some paper play in this nature inspired workshop. Renouf shares tips, techniques and inspirations from her own work so you can create and take home at least one of your own collage pieces. No experience necessary. [eloiserenouf.com](http://eloiserenouf.com)

Tours

*Spotlight Tours*
Every Friday, 1pm and Sunday, 3pm – FREE

Join a member of Ikon staff for a 15 minute spotlight tour focused on a key work in the exhibition. No need to book, meet in Ikon foyer.

*Access Tours*
Available on request – FREE

Booking essential

Ikon can provide British Sign Language (BSL) and audio described introductions to our current exhibitions. Individual or group bookings are free but must be booked. Call Ikon on 0121 248 0708 or email [learning@ikon-gallery.org](mailto:learning@ikon-gallery.org)
The Bock Streets of Birmingham
A guided walk with Ben Waddington
Thursday 1 March 2018, 1.30–4.30pm – £6
Booking essential, places are limited
Meet at Ikon for a tour of the Thomas Bock exhibition, followed by a guided walk led by Ben Waddington, Still Walking Director, exploring the industrial geography of Birmingham and looking for evidence of the city that Thomas Bock would have recognised. Join us for rest, refreshments and conversation afterwards in a local public house. Please wear footwear appropriate to urban walking.
stillwalking.org

Family Events
Free Drop-in Activities

Suitable for all ages. No need to book, stay for as long as you like. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Family Saturdays
Saturday 6 January 2018, 1–4pm – FREE
Saturday 3 February 2018, 1–4pm – FREE
Saturday 3 March 2018, 1–4pm – FREE
Join us for practical and hands-on activities inspired by the current exhibitions. Spend some creative time making and experimenting as a family.

Art Explorer Bags
During exhibitions – FREE
Available at reception
Ikon’s Art Explorer Bags are specially made for each exhibition. They contain short creative activities to help families explore the gallery together.

Bookable Family Workshops

Activities aimed at specific age groups.

Pinhole Portraits
Tuesday 20 February 2018, 1–4pm
Thursday 22 February 2018, 1–4pm
£4 per child
Booking essential
Join us during half-term holidays for an afternoon with artist Jo Gane as we make pinhole cameras from recycled materials. Inspired by our current exhibitions take and process your own images out and about in the galleries.
This workshop is suitable for children over 7 accompanied by an adult. When booking please indicate children’s ages. jogane.co.uk

Ikon Youth Programme

Ikon Youth Programme (IYP) is a group of young people, aged 16–21 years old, who share an interest in visual art. IYP meets once a week at Ikon to tour the exhibitions, get to know the Ikon team, share ideas and work with artists. These sessions are relaxed, friendly and informal. For more information contact James Cockbill on 0121 248 0708 or visit ikon-gallery.org/iyp

People Like Us #4 – Dispossession
Thursday 15 February 2018, 6–8pm – FREE
Booking essential
Join IYP for a special screening of Dispossession: The Great Social Housing Swindle (2017). Dispossession explores the agenda behind the neglect, demolition and regeneration of council estates in the UK over the past thirty years. The film reveals how individuals and communities are fighting against the state and private developers, as they try to save their homes from demolition. The screening is followed by a discussion with artist Mahtab Hussain.

Young People’s Showcase
March 2018
In the New Year IYP collaborates with Free Radical, an exciting and dynamic organisation giving voice to Birmingham’s young people on a new project entitled Theatre for Democracy. Watch this space and check social media for details. beatfreeks.com/free-radical

Teacher Events

Meet the Learning Team
Wednesday 6 December, 5–6pm – FREE
Booking essential
Group leaders, teachers and educationalists are invited to meet Ikon’s Learning team for an introductory tour of the new exhibitions, before discussing how groups of all ages might fully engage with them. Stay for a glass of wine at the exhibition opening from 6pm. Places are free but should be booked by emailing learning@ikon-gallery.org
Creative Teacher Retreat
Saturday 20 January 2018, 12–4pm – £25
Booking essential, places are limited
Tea and cake provided
Inspired by Ikon’s current exhibitions, this creative retreat provides all teachers with an alternative environment to develop ideas through practical hands-on activities and dialogue with colleagues from different educational settings. Join our Learning team and artist Jo Gane to develop approaches to Ikon’s exhibitions and then explore materials and methods to take back to the classroom.
Organised in collaboration with regional teachers’ network 4MAT and Birmingham Educational Partnership.

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Note to Editors:

1. Ikon’s Learning programme is supported by Arts Connect West Midlands, Birmingham City University, Cass Art and the Michael Marsh Charitable Trust.

2. Ikon is an internationally acclaimed contemporary art venue situated in central Birmingham. Established in 1964 by a group of artists, Ikon is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation. The gallery programme features artists from around the world and a variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation. Ikon’s off-site programme develops dynamic relationships between art, artists and audiences outside the gallery. Projects vary enormously in scale, duration and location, challenging expectations of where art can be seen and by whom.

3. Education is at the heart of Ikon’s activities, stimulating public interest in and understanding of contemporary visual art. Through a variety of talks, tours, workshops and seminars, Ikon’s Learning Team aims to build dynamic relationships with audiences, enabling visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art.

4. Ikon is open Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am - 5pm. Admission is free.

5. For the latest news and events follow @ikongallery on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

6. Ikon Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council.

For more information and high-res images or to request interviews please contact Heather Thomas at Ikon on 0121 248 0708 or email h.thomas@ikon-gallery.org

Ikon Gallery, 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
0121 248 0708 / ikon-gallery.org
Open Tuesday-Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am-5pm / free entry
Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon. Registered charity no. 528892.
Steelhouse Lane Lock-up. Courtesy West Midlands Police.

Alys Fowler