Events Diary

March – June 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 Openings

Langlands & Bell, Rie Nakajima and Clément Cogitore
Wednesday 21 March, 6–8pm – FREE
Live performance by Rie Nakajima, 6.30pm
Join us to celebrate the opening of our new exhibitions. Pay bar.
Osman Yousefzada
Wednesday 6 June, 6–8pm – FREE
Come along to mark the opening of Osman Yousefzada's exhibition. Pay bar.

Live Performances

Rie Nakajima
Wednesday 21 March, 6.30–7pm – FREE, drop in
Rie Nakajima makes a special performance at the opening of her new exhibition Cyclic.

David Cunningham and Rie Nakajima
Wednesday 11 March, 5pm–late – FREE, drop in
David Cunningham plays electric guitar, through a delay system which allows the notes played to recycle infinitely, overlapping in different rhythms and integrated within the similar process of Rie Nakajima’s installation. This event is a durational performance and visitors can drop in at any time.

O YAMA O
1-2pm – live performance – FREE, drop in
3-4.30pm – film screening – FREE, drop in
Centrala and Slow Boat, Minerva Works, 158 Fazeley Street
Birmingham, Digbeth B5 5RS
Rie Nakajima and Keiko Yamamoto, vocalist, artist and co-founder of Cafe OTO, perform as O YAMA O. While Yamamoto sings, whispers, roars, walks and dances, Nakajima makes a soundscape of objects arranged by hand. The screening includes films selected by O YAMA O. Part of Flatpack Film Festival Optical Sound programme.

Akira Sakata and Rie Nakajima
Tuesday 1 May, 7–8pm – FREE, booking essential
‘Living in a bubble’ is Japanese saxophonist Akira Sakata’s statement for his activity. Rie Nakajima performs with him for the first time outside Japan.
I think this installation could be a very newly experienced sound world. - Akira Sakata

David Toop and Rie Nakajima
Tuesday 22 May, 6–8pm – FREE, booking essential
David Toop and Rie Nakajima work collaboratively in the fields of time, cooking and flower arranging but there are no clocks, no food to eat, no flowers, only the assemblage of temporary architecture, the sculpting of materials and the awakening of hibernating beings.

Pierre Berthet and Rie Nakajima, Dead Plants & Living Objects
Sunday 3 June, 3–4pm – FREE, drop in
Pierre Berthet and Rie Nakajima create various ways to vibrate things so that their acoustic shadows dance around: invisible air volumes that reshape constantly, move in the space, enter in the most secret places and inside ourselves.
Pierre Berthet’s performance with Rie Nakajima is supported by Wallonie-Bruxelles International.

Cafe OTO at Ikon
Sunday 3 June, 7–9pm, £5, booking essential
Yorks Cafe at Ikon
Cafe OTO, the acclaimed home for creative new music based in Dalston, London, comes to Ikon for an evening of music to mark the end of Rie Nakajima’s exhibition.

Talks

Soweto Kinch
These Are A Few of My Favourite Things
Tuesday 27 March, 6–7pm – £3
Booking essential
Multi-award winning saxophonist and MC Soweto Kinch selects his eight favourite works of art, revealing his personal inspirations. Kinch has made a huge impression on the jazz and hip-hop communities, amassing many accolades. Kinch also hosts The Flyover Show, a day-long music and arts festival housed beneath an inner city motorway flyover in Birmingham. soweto-kinch.com

Rie Nakajima in conversation
Wednesday 23 May, 6–7pm – £3
Booking essential
The day after their performance at Ikon, Rie Nakajima is in conversation with David Toop, Professor of Audio Culture and Improvisation at London College of Communication. Nakajima and Toop met at Cafe OTO in 2012 and have been collaborating ever since. This event is followed by the launch of Rie Nakajima’s new book becoming sounds.

Langlands & Bell Round Table
Tuesday 5 June, 6–8pm
Event ticket only – £3
Event ticket plus signed Langlands & Bell catalogue – £13 (for collection on 5 June)
Booking essential
Chaired by Niall Hobhouse, collector, architectural writer and founder of Drawing Matter Trust, this event includes a round table discussion with the artists on notions of ‘campus’, where people meet and share ideas, adopted by global technology companies. Speakers include Claudia Dutson, PhD, lecturer on the Information Experience Design MA, School of Architecture, Royal College of Art, London.
Film Screening

*Lo and Behold*
Tuesday 10 April, 6–8pm
£10 including a Yorks Cafe burger and drink
Yorks Cafe & Coffee Roasters
29/30 Stephenson Street, B2 4BH
Booking essential
In collaboration with Flatpack Festival, Ikon presents a film screening to coincide with the Langlands & Bell exhibition. *Lo and Behold* (2016), directed and narrated by Werner Herzog, charts the advent and impact of the Internet, beginning with its inception in room 3420 of the Stanford Research Institute. Suitable for an adult audience. flatpackfestival.org.uk

Book Launch

*The Freewheeling John Dowie*
Sunday 15 April, 6–7.30pm – £4
Booking essential
Ikon hosts the launch of a new memoir by Birmingham-born writer, performer and stand-up comedian John Dowie. A reflection on comedy – Dowie began performing in 1969 – and cycling, this is his first hometown gig in many years. Presented as part of Flatpack Film Festival. To book visit 2018.flatpackfestival.org.uk

Symposium

*Finding The Art School*
Monday 16 April, 11am–5pm
Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace – FREE
Tuesday 17 April, 3–7pm
Wolverhampton School of Art – FREE
Booking essential
A symposium focusing on Birmingham and Wolverhampton, and the cultural shift from Victorian art school to modern campus architecture. Day 1 speakers include Steve Ajao, Birmingham musician and graduate of Moseley School of Art; Andrew Brewerton, Principal, Plymouth College of Art; Matthew Cornford, Professor of Fine Art, University of Brighton; Ian Francis, Director, Flatpack Film Festival and Henry Ward, Creative Director, Freelands Foundation. Day 2 involves a tour of the iconic Wolverhampton Art School, built in 1968, and speaker Dr Laura Guy, Lecturer in Fine Art Critical Studies, Glasgow School of Art. Co-organised with Wolverhampton School of Art. See Slow Boat events for associated screening.
Tours

Repeated Cities
Wednesday 18 April, 1.30–4pm – £6
Booking essential, places are limited
A tour of Ikon’s Langlands & Bell exhibition followed by a guided walk led by Alessandro Columbano, Senior Lecturer at Birmingham School of Architecture and Design, exploring the architectural landscape of Birmingham. Join us for refreshments and conversation afterwards in a local public house.
Please wear footwear appropriate to urban walking.

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 tours. Individual or group bookings are free but must be booked. Call Ikon on 0121 248 0708 or email learning@ikon-gallery.org

Workshop

Wikipedia Editathon
Sunday 27 May, 10.30am–4.30pm – FREE
Limited availability, booking essential
Come and learn how to edit Wikipedia. Hear from our Wikimedian in Residence, Andy Mabbett, about ‘the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit’ and write or improve articles on artists with a connection to the gallery, drawing on material from Ikon’s archives. This event includes an introduction to Ikon and a tour of the current exhibitions. Refreshments and Wi-Fi provided through the day.
Please note your own laptop is required.

Pop up Shop

Birmingham Design Festival
Thursday 7 – Sunday 10 June, 11am–5pm
Graphic District, city centre
Ikon Shop attends the first Birmingham Design Festival, a celebration of the dynamic design industry, with workshops, talks, exhibitions, demonstrations and screenings loosely gathered into three Design Districts. birminghamdesignfestival.org.uk
Festival

The Migrant Festival
Thursday 14 – Sunday 17 June
A four day festival, curated by fashion designer Osman Yousefzada, fusing themes of migration, fashion, art and music. Key to the programme is The Collective: an annual publication edited by Osman bringing together protagonists from diverse disciplines and backgrounds. See website for full programme.

Family Events

Free Drop-in Activities

Suitable for all ages. No need to book, stay for as long as you like.

Family Saturdays
Saturday 7 April, 12–4pm – FREE
Saturday 5 May, 12–4pm – FREE
Saturday 2 June, 12–4pm – FREE
Join us for practical and hands-on activities inspired by the current exhibitions. Spend some creative time making and experimenting as a family.

Ikon Family Showcase
Friday 13 – Sunday 15 April, 11am–5pm
Events Room, First Floor – FREE
Come and see a showcase of models created by families during the Easter holiday workshops (see bookable family workshops).

Brindleyplace Family Fun Day
Saturday 16 June, 1–4pm – FREE
Join us in Brindleyplace for a fun, creative workshop based on our current exhibitions.

Art Explorer
During Exhibitions – FREE
Available at reception
Explore the galleries with your family and friends in a fun and creative way. Art Explorer is our specially designed riso-printed guide. Suitable for all ages, just ask at reception.
Bookable Family Workshops

Activities aimed at specific age groups.

Easter Holidays – Model Making Workshops
Tuesday 10 April, 2–4pm
Wednesday 11 April, 2–4pm
£4 per child
Glenn Howells Architects, Bradford Street, Birmingham B5 6ET
Booking essential, places are limited
Families are invited to design and construct their own architectural model with Pierre Greenway, designer and maker at Glenn Howells Architects. This workshop is suitable for children aged over 7, accompanied by an adult. When booking please indicate children’s ages. glennhowells.co.uk

May Half Term – Experimental Music Workshops
Tuesday 29 May, 1.30–4pm
Wednesday 30 May, 1.30–4pm
£4 per child
Ikon Gallery and Slow Boat, Brindleyplace
Booking essential, places are limited
Following a tour of Rie Nakajima’s exhibition, families board Slow Boat for an experimental music workshop turning familiar objects into the unfamiliar with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group sound artist and composer Duncan Chapman. This workshop is suitable for children aged over 3 accompanied by an adult. When booking please indicate children’s ages.

Teacher Events

Learning Social with Harold Offeh
Wednesday 2 May, 4.30–6.30pm – FREE
Booking essential
Art teachers, lecturers and educators are invited to meet Harold Offeh, Reader in Fine Art at Leeds Beckett University, whose work encompasses performance, social practice, video and photography, often using humour as a means to confront the viewer with aspects of contemporary culture and history.

Creative Teacher Retreat
Saturday 23 June, 12–4pm – £25
Booking essential, places are limited
Tea and cake provided
Inspired by Ikon’s exhibition by Birmingham-born fashion designer Osman Yousefzada, this retreat provides an alternative environment to develop your own artistic practice through practical hands-on activities while contextualising your learning background. Join our Learning team and a visiting textile artist to develop
approaches to Ikon's exhibitions and then explore craft materials and methods to take back to the classroom. Organised in collaboration with regional teachers' network 4MAT and Birmingham Educational Partnership.

Ikon Slow Boat

Ikon Slow Boat continues its three year programme, Looping the Loop (2017–2019) in Birmingham's Ladywood. A converted narrow boat, Slow Boat provides a lens through which to consider the unique landscape of Ladywood's waterways in a continuing programme of artistic activity with local communities and artists.

Slow Boat is co-curated with members of the Ikon Youth Programme (IYP) who use Slow Boat as a reconfigurable space. For Spring, Slow Boat becomes a stage, cinema, musical object and production space working with experimental sound artists O YAMA O and artist educator Henry Ward.

**Slow Boat 2018 launch**

**Wednesday 21 March, 5–7pm – FREE**

Drop in, limited capacity

**Brewmaster Bridge, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB**

Slow Boat 2018 launches with a free drop in session, join us to make your own limited edition screenprint co-produced by IYP and designer Keith Dodds.

**Film screening – Thinking Making**

**Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 April, 12–4pm**

FREE, drop in

**Brewmaster Bridge, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB**

Slow Boat becomes a floating cinema, screening Thinking Making (2017) a Freelands Foundation film by Creative Director Henry Ward on an ethos of learning through making at Plymouth College of Art. Half hour duration, screenings on the hour and half hour.

**O YAMA O**

**Saturday 21 April**

1–2pm – live performance – FREE, drop in

3–4.30pm – film screening – FREE, drop in

**Centrala and Slow Boat, Minerva Works, 158 Fazeley Street, Birmingham B5 5RS**

Rie Nakajima and Keiko Yamamoto, vocalist, artist and co-founder of Cafe OTO, perform as O YAMA O. While Yamamoto sings, whispers, roars, walks and dances, Nakajima makes a soundscape of objects arranged by hand. The screening includes films selected by O YAMA O. Part of Flatpack Film Festival Optical Sound programme.
**Slow Boat tour, Perrott’s Folly to Brindleyplace**

Friday 11 May, 5.30–7.30pm – £8

**Limited capacity, booking essential**

Perrott’s Folly, Waterworks Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 9AL

Join us for an exclusive viewing of Max Eastley’s installation *Aeolian Harp and Sculptures for Perrott’s Folly*, followed by a short walk to Icknield Port Loop. Then board *Slow Boat*, and travel to Brindleyplace, joined by the artist for an introduction to his work. Lastly visit Ikon for a tour of Rie Nakajima’s exhibition.

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**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 Latunji-Cockbill on 0121 248 0708 or visit ikon-gallery.org/iyp

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**Roundhouse Birmingham Open Day**

Friday 6 April, 11am–4pm – FREE

Sheepcote Street, Birmingham B16 8AE

No need to book, just drop in

Roundhouse Birmingham, built in 1874, opens the doors for a family friendly day. Join IYP on *Slow Boat*, moored just along the towpath, for a model-making workshop inspired by the building’s iconic architecture. Open to all ages.

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**Group Visits**

Group visits, tours and creative workshops are available for each exhibition. For more information see ikon-gallery.org/learning/adults or call the Learning Team on 0121 248 0708.

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**School Visits**

At Ikon your pupils can enjoy creative learning and develop key transferable skills such as problem solving, communication and literacy. We offer countless opportunities to think creatively and critically, engaging in cross-curricular learning, narrowing the achievement gap and raising attainment. There is a range of options available to suit your needs.
All events can be booked online at ikon-gallery.org unless indicated otherwise. Alternatively please call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

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. 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.

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

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

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

6. 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.
Ikon Family Workshop

Finding The Art School - Moseley School of Art
David Toop and Rie Nakajima. Photograph by Metod Blejec.

Langlands & Bell. Photograph by Bran Symondson.