

The Migrant Festival Curated by Osman Yousefzada 14 – 17 June 2018



The True Cost (2015) Dir. Andrew Morgan

Ikon hosts *The Migrant Festival*, a four day festival curated by Birmingham-born fashion designer Osman Yousefzada, fusing themes of migration, fashion, art and music.

Events include a film screening of *The True Cost* (2015) with an introduction by Executive Producer Livia Firth; fashion activist Caryn Franklin in conversation with Oriole Cullen, Curator of Fashion and Textiles, V&A; *Diaspora Disco*, a night of reggae and disco including DJs from *Saathi Night* and a headline set from London-based artists George Henry Longly and Prem Sahib (*Anal House Meltdown*); and much more.

The Migrant Festival is organised to coincide with Osman's exhibition at Ikon Gallery *Being Somewhere Else* (6–29 June 2018). His first solo exhibition, it consists entirely of new commissions and includes a personal consideration of the contemporary fashion world and its inherent inequalities, juxtaposed with representations associated with the experience of immigration.

Book online at ikon-gallery.org or 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.

Full programme:

Thursday 14 June

Film Screening and Discussion

***Slow Boat*, 12-1pm - FREE, drop in**

Join Chang Liu and Zhou Wei, students on the MA in Chinese Contemporary Art, Birmingham City University, and Yu-Chen Wang, Grand Union artist-in-residence, onboard *Slow Boat* for a discussion on the portrayal of migrant workers in contemporary art.

Discussion - Creative Conversations with Asian Women

Yorks Café at Ikon, 5-6pm - FREE

Booking essential

Introduced by Piali Ray OBE, Sampad Director and chaired by Professor Aisha K. Gill, Professor of Criminology at University of Roehampton, this panel examines the lives of British Asian women in the light of their creative talents. Speakers include photographer Suki Dhanda, fashion consultant Deep Kailey, community activist Kulsoom Yusuf and poet Mona Arshi.

Workshop - Fashion illustration

Selfridges, 5.30-7.30pm - £15

Booking essential, limited capacity

A life drawing session led by fashion illustrator Gregory Mark Lewis who has worked in Paris at some of its leading fashion houses. Lewis is now based in Birmingham and for this event works with a contemporary dancer from Elmhurst Ballet School.

In conversation - Kit de Waal

Ikon Gallery, 6.30-7.30pm - FREE

Booking essential

Pre-order *The Trick to Time* online at ikon-gallery.org, discounted price £10.99

Kit de Waal discusses her new book *The Trick to Time* (2018) with fellow Birmingham-based author Catherine O'Flynn. Her novel follows Mona, a young Irish girl in 1970s Birmingham, with the thrill of a new job and her own room in a busy boarding house. This event includes a book signing.

Friday 15 June

Demonstration - Boats & Totes

***Slow Boat*, 12-4pm, FREE - drop in**

The Solihull Embroiderers' Guild use textile off-cuts to make morsbags for The Real Junk Food Project Birmingham. Run by volunteers, TRJF Brum collect surplus food and feed anyone and everyone at cafes, boutiques, events and sharehouses on a Pay As

You Feel basis in exchange for donations, time and skills. Drop in and find out more about how you can help.

Film Screening - *The True Cost*

Birmingham City University

2-4pm - FREE

Booking essential

A free screening of *The True Cost* (2015), directed by Andrew Morgan. This groundbreaking documentary film considers the impact of the clothing industry on our world and features an introduction by Executive Producer Livia Firth, Founder and Creative Director, Eco-Age. Part of Birmingham City University's *Inspired Festival* (9-17 June). bcu.ac.uk/inspired

Exhibition Tour - 100 Years, So What:

Polish Multimedia Artists on the Centenary of Women's Voting Rights

Centrala, 5-6pm - FREE

Booking essential

Join curators Alicja Kaczmarek and Karina Cabanikova for a tour of this group exhibition by Polish multimedia artists including Malgorzata Dawidek, Iwona Demko, Dorota Hadrian, Zofia Krawiec, Katarzyna Perlak, Alicja Rogalska and SIKSA. This exhibition considers the significance of 100 years of women's voting rights in Poland and the UK. #100yearsSOWHAT Please note the exhibition space is only accessible via a number of stairs.

Diaspora Disco

Centrala, 10pm-4am - £5

Booking essential, limited tickets available on the door

Diaspora Disco presents a culturally diverse night of music with a mix of reggae and disco plus guest DJs from Saathi Night, founded in Birmingham in 2001 combining bhangra and drag elements, finishing with a headline set from London-based artists George Henry Longly and Prem Deep (Anal House Meltdown) who have run club nights since 2011. The party provides a fitting context for Osman's t-shirts — *Bhangra Boy*, *Bhangra Girl*, *Daytime Disco* — available to buy at Selfridges and Ikon. Please note that *Diaspora Disco* takes place across two floors, one of which is only accessible via a number of stairs. Age guidance: 18+

Saturday 16 June

Performance - The Scent of Home

Ikon Gallery, 12-4pm - FREE, drop in

Sample *The Scent of Home*, a perfume developed by writer Emily King and perfumer Nadjib Achaibou as part of Osman's exhibition at Ikon Gallery.

Family Day - Patchwork blanket

Oozells Square, Brindleyplace

1-4pm - FREE, drop in

A call out to all Birmingham sewers and stitchers to help families make patchworks to add to a composite textile inspired by Osman's exhibition at Ikon Gallery. Customise the blanket with hand stitching, textile painting and printing. Organised as part of the Brindleyplace Family Fun Day. This workshop, based outside Ikon, is suitable for children over 3 accompanied by an adult.

Fashion Parade

4-6pm - FREE, drop in

This fashion procession of Osman's designs is led by Saffiyah Khan, activist, model and member of Ikon Youth Programme. She is accompanied by percussionists from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Samba Ensemble and dancers. Please see Ikon's website for a map and further details of the procession.

In conversation - Osman Yousefzada

Yorks Café at Ikon, 6.30-7.30pm - FREE, booking essential

Introduced by Ikon Director Jonathan Watkins with Claudia Croft, Contributing Editor at *British Vogue*, Osman discusses the diverse cultures referenced within his designs and how these reflect his experience of growing up in post-industrial Birmingham.

Sunday 17 June

In conversation - Caryn Franklin with Oriole Cullen: Disruptive Fashion Force

Yorks Café at Ikon, 2-3pm - FREE

Booking essential

As a fashion activist with an interest in identity politics, Caryn Franklin has challenged and changed the British fashion world. As young fashion editor for *i-D* magazine, to famed *Clothes Show* presenter and MBE, Franklin has provoked the industry to be more considerate, inclusive and positive. Chaired by Oriole Cullen, Curator of Fashion and Textiles at the V&A.

Concert - Themba Mvula leads the European Youth Music and St Chad's Sanctuary Refugee Choirs

Yorks Café at Ikon, 3-3.30pm - FREE, drop in

To mark the start of Refugee Week (18-24 June), Ikon hosts a performance by the European Youth Music Refugee Choir. Young refugees and asylum seekers make up the choir which is accompanied by the St Chad's Sanctuary Refugee Choir. Both choirs meet at St Chad's Sanctuary with choral tutors Themba Mvula, Baritone and Lizzy Cragg, Soprano, at Birmingham Opera.

Soapboxes & Riceboxes

Yorks Café at Ikon, 3.30-5.30pm

£6, includes a Yorks ricebox

Booking essential

Birmingham poet, rapper and educator Casey Bailey chairs 20 quick-fire, soapbox presentations in response to Refugee Week's 20 *Simple Acts* campaign. Bailey kick-starts the event with *He's not coming back*, his poetic response to the Windrush scandal, and presenters include Celebrating Sanctuary and DESIblitz. In 2018 Refugee Week celebrates 20 years (18-24 June). refugeeweek.org.uk

Discussion - Threads of Hope

Ikon Gallery, 5.30-6.30pm - FREE

Booking essential

Osman Yousefzada and documentary film-maker Shaheen Dill-Riaz are in conversation with Diana Campbell Betancourt, Artistic Director of Samdani Art Foundation and Chief Curator of the Dhaka Art Summit. They discuss drawing inspiration from migrant communities and how their work challenges readings of complex social issues, including income inequality and gender based violence through a celebration of human resilience.

Film screening - *The Happiest People*

Ikon Gallery, 6.30-8pm - FREE

Booking essential, limited capacity

The Happiest People (2005) (12A) is a powerful visual journey that shows film-maker Shaheen Dill-Riaz reconnecting with four old friends in the chaotic metropolis of Dakha. Watch as he follows his friends in their search for happiness — each in their very own way. Introduced by Aftab Rahman, Director, Legacy West Midlands.

VENUES

Ikon Gallery & Yorks Café at Ikon

1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace

Birmingham B1 2HS

ikon-gallery.org / 0121 248 0708

Ikon *Slow Boat*

Brewmaster Bridge, Brindleyplace

Birmingham B1 2JB

ikon-gallery.org / 0121 248 0708

See website for access details

Selfridges

The Bullring, Upper Mall East

Birmingham B5 4BP

selfridges.com / 0800 123400

Centrala

Unit 4 Minerva Works

158 Fazeley Street, Birmingham B5 5RT

centrala-space.org.uk / 0121 439 3050

Birmingham City University

Parkside Lecture Theatre (P350), Faculty of Arts, Design and Media

5 Cardigan Street, Birmingham B4 7BD bcu.ac.uk / 0121 331 5000

The Migrant Festival is supported by Selfridges, Leila Elling, Dazed and Michael Marsh Charitable Trust. It is presented as part of Birmingham City Council's Year of Movement.

For more information, high-res images and to request interviews please contact Rebecca Small or Emily Luxford on 0121 248 0708 or email r.small@ikon-gallery.org or e.luxford@ikon-gallery.org

Social Media Handles:

Instagram, Twitter and Facebook: @ikongallery #IkonGallery @osmanstudio #ThisisOsman

Links: ikon-gallery.org osmanlondon.com

Note to Editors:

1. Ikon exhibition opening: Osman Yousefzada, *Being Somewhere Else*, Wednesday 6 June, 6-8pm.
2. In 2008 Osman was nominated for the annual Designs of the Year Award at the Design Museum and awarded the prestigious British Fashion Council NEWGEN Award. He was shortlisted for the BFC/Vogue Designer Fashion Fund in 2011, 2013 and 2015 and recently participated in the Dhaka Art Summit 2018. Osman's designs have previously been displayed at the V&A Museum and the Design Museum, London. For more information about his work visit osmanlondon.com
3. Selfridges, Birmingham is the exclusive Midlands stockist for Osman's designs. The business was founded by American entrepreneur Harry Gordon Selfridge in 1909 and was widely regarded as the first and best example of a modern department store. Harry Gordon Selfridge ran the store himself until he retired in 1940. After several ownerships the company was de-merged from the Sears Group in 1998 and floated on the London Stock Exchange. In 2003 W. Galen Weston purchased Selfridges and under his ownership Selfridges has become an extraordinary global destination for fashion, luxury and retail theatre. In June 2010 Selfridges was named Best Department Store in the World for the first time by the IGDS (Intercontinental Group of Department Stores). The title, which Selfridges held until June 2012, is the industry's highest accolade. Selfridges won the title again in June 2012, and again in 2014 for an unprecedented three times consecutively. In May 2016, Selfridges won the inaugural award for World's Best Sustainability Campaign at the IGDS world summit for its long-term commitment campaign, Buying Better Inspiring Change, which it launched earlier in January. Selfridges has four stores in London, Birmingham and Manchester (Trafford Centre, Exchange Square) and the international website now delivers within the UK and to over 130 countries, trading in eight currencies. Selfridges today continues Harry Gordon Selfridge's legacy - a shopping experience that promises to surprise, amaze and amuse its customers by delivering extraordinary customer experiences. www.selfridges.com
4. 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, 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. www.ikon-gallery.org

5. Ikon is open Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am - 5pm. Admission is free. Ikon Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. For the latest news and events follow @ikongallery on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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Suki Dhanda, *Race, Place and Diversity by the Sea*, Plymouth (2017)



Osman Yousefzada

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Registered charity no. 528892



Caryn Franklin



The Happiest People (2005), Dir. Shaheen Dill-Riaz



The True Cost (2015) Dir. Andrew Morgan

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Kit de Waal, photo: Sarah Lee (2018)



Themba Mvula, photo: Alex Wheeler



OSMAN. AW18, photographer Mitchel Sams