

BRITISH ART SHOW 9

Curated by Irene Aristizábal & Hammad Nasar

British Art Show 9 takes a critical look at art produced in Britain, from 2015 up to the present moment, a period that begins with Britain voting to leave the European Union and closes with the still unfolding Covid-19 pandemic. The exhibition was shaped after meeting with over 230 artists in 23 cities in the UK and beyond.

Responding to this complex time, the 47 artists in BAS9 look at how we live with and give voice to difference, while also extending our understanding of identity to beyond the human. Their projects often blur the boundaries between art and life, and imagine alternative futures. Through their works, they propose alternative economies and ways of living together that emphasise commonality, collaboration and care. They do so through film, photography, painting, sculpture, and performance, as well as through projects that don't sit easily in any one category.

The exhibition is structured around three main themes:

- **Healing, care and reparative history**
- **Tactics for togetherness**
- **Imagining new futures**

These themes were agreed prior to the Covid-19 pandemic and the global recognition of racial injustice sparked by the Black Lives Matter protests of summer 2020. All three are even more relevant now.

Aberdeen 10 Jul - 10 Oct 2021
Wolverhampton 22 Jan - 10 Apr 2022
Manchester 13 May - 4 Sep 2022
Plymouth 8 Oct - 23 Dec 2022

BAS9 has been conceived as a cumulative experience. The exhibition will change and adapt for each of its four host cities, presenting different combinations of artists and artworks that respond to their distinctive local contexts.

Artists (47 in total of which 38 in Plymouth)

A

Hurv'n Anderson
Michael Armitage

B

Simeon Barclay
Cliver Beer
Zach Blas
Kathrin Bohm
Maere Brennan
James Dridle

C

Helen Cammock
Than Hussein Clark
Jamie Crewe
Cooking Sections

D

Oona Doherty

E

Sean Edwards
Mandy El-Sayog
Mark Essen

G

GAIKA
Beatrice Gibson
Patrick Goddard

H

Anne Hardy
Ceia Hampton
Andy Holden
Joey Holder
Margarita Humecu

L

Lawrence Lok
Ghislaine Leung

M

Paul Mahoke
Elaine Mitchener
Oscar Murillo

N

Grace Ndiritu

O

Uriel Crlow

P

Hardeep Pandhal
Hetair Patel
Florence Peake
Heather Phillipson
Jenna Piotrowska

R

Abigail Reynolds

S

Margaret Salmon
Hrair Sarkissian
Katie Schwarz
Tai Shani
Mar annis Sinnott
Sin Wai Kin Ika Victoria
Siu

T

Hanna Tuulikki

W

Caroline Walker
Alberta Whittle

Z

Rahana Zaman

Plymouth long lead projects

- Than Hussein Clark
- Cooking Sections (ACE)
- Oscar Murillo
- Grace Ndiritu
- Abygail Reynolds
- Alberta Whittle (C2C)



For Than Hussein Clark, history isn't fixed, but something to be reinterpreted and retold. Inspired by theatre, fashion and design, his multi-layered installations and plays are dense with references to film and literature, alongside his own memories, experiences and fantasies. His works often explore queer narratives through the lives of well-known 20th-century figures, in which not only people but objects play a role, acting out tensions between appearance, artifice and reality. Fabrication is central to this, and Clark pays extravagant attention to craftsmanship and visual tactility. In *A Little Night Music (And Reversals)* (2020), he dramatises the stories of pleasure-seeking Westerners in mid-twentieth-century Tangier. Transposing and transforming everyday objects, Clark invests them with new and unexpected meaning.

Than Hussein Clark (born 1981) lives and works in London and Glasgow. Clark studied at the University of Edinburgh; Goldsmiths, University of London; and HFBK University of Fine Arts, Hamburg, Germany.

Cooking Sections is a collaboration between Daniel Fernández Pascual and Alon Schwabe, who define themselves as ‘spatial practitioners’. Using a combination of art, architecture and ecology to address urgent issues concerning food and climate, they have probed the ethical and economic impact of British colonial trade, the environmental impact of salmon farms in Scotland, and have investigated ways of watering without water in Sicily among others. Their ongoing research project, CLIMAVORE, encourages a diet and food infrastructure that adapts to the climate emergency. In their words, “Unlike carnivore, omnivore, locavore, vegetarian or vegan, CLIMAVORE is not only about the origin of ingredients, but also about the agency that those ingredients have in providing responses to human-induced climatic events.”

Cooking Sections (est. 2013) are based in London. Fernández Pascual studied at ETSA Madrid, TU Berlin, Tongji University Shanghai and Goldsmiths, University of London. Schwabe studied at Goldsmiths, University





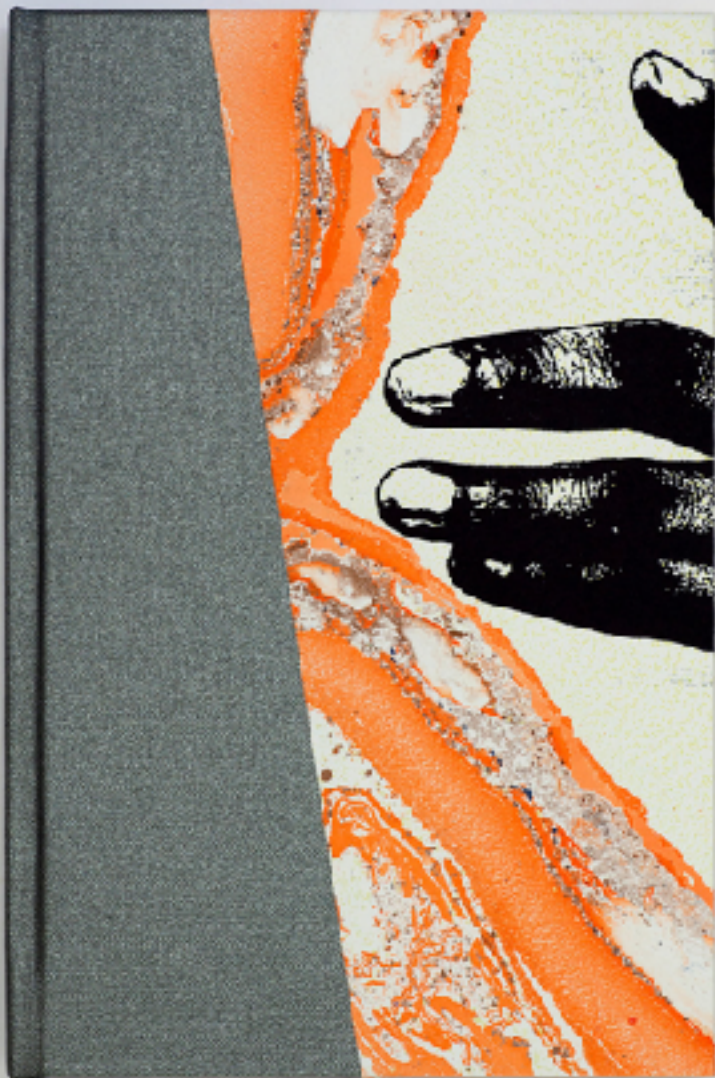
Oscar Murillo's art is concerned with social injustice, migration and the effects of globalisation. Besides painting, sculptural installation and performance, his practice includes collaborative projects with communities across the world. Begun in Colombia in 2013, his ongoing, worldwide school project, Frequencies, engages children in unmediated, unrestricted drawing and mark-making, resulting in visual journals mirroring their lives. Murillo's own work contains a powerful element of theatre. He frequently uses unstretched, blackened canvases as flags, blackout curtains, room dividers, or heaps them, scrumpled, on the floor. His sculptural interventions and actions often include life-size papier-mâché figures embodying working men and women, based on traditional Colombian mateos effigies. Murillo (born 1986, La Paila, Colombia) lives and works in various locations.

Murillo studied at the Royal College of Art and University of Westminster, both London.



Grace Ndiritu's art and activism is inspired by alternative communities, spirituality and lifestyles. In 2017 she initiated her live art project, The Ark, in the migrant suburbs of Paris, France. This 'model for living off-grid in an urban setting' brought together scientists, artists, gardeners, economists and spiritual practitioners. Other ongoing projects involving diverse groups of people in performance, meditation or protest include Healing the Museum, which seeks to re-activate the 'sacredness' of art spaces. Protest, an important facet of Ndiritu's practice, plays a part in Plant Theatre for Plant People, her project for British Art Show 9. With her fashion and economic research project COVERSLUT©, Ndiritu works with refugees, migrants and young artists to create a PAY WHAT YOU CAN clothing line dedicated to class warfare.

Ndiritu (born 1982, Birmingham) lives and works in Birmingham. Ndiritu studied at Winchester School of Art, University of Southampton and De Ateliers, Amsterdam, Netherlands.



Abigail Reynolds's art embraces sculpture, collage, print, moving image and performance, and much of her work is inspired by a deep love of books and libraries. Defining a library as 'a compendium of knowledge, a group identity,' she sees it as a place where time collapses. In 2016 she took a five-month journey along the ancient Silk Road, from China to Italy, in search of lost libraries, the casualties of natural catastrophes, political conflict, and war. When Words are Forgotten (2020) – a 'library of glass' – was originally created in response to that experience. During British Art Show 9, Reynolds will develop Elliptical Reading, a project with and for local libraries and readers.

Abigail Reynolds (born 1975, Stamford) lives and works in Cornwall. Reynolds studied at University of Oxford; Chelsea College of Art and Design, University of the Arts London; and Goldsmiths, University of London.



Growing up in Barbados, Alberta Whittle was keenly aware of the Caribbean's relationship to the UK. On moving here as a teenager, she was surprised that British people had little knowledge of their country's colonial past. Whittle's art explores the legacies of slavery and racial injustice; her filmic and performative installations unravel 'contested, difficult histories' to open up space for reconciliation. *Hindsight is a luxury you cannot afford* (2021), an evolving body of work, reflects on the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower voyage from Plymouth to the 'New World', in which the sea features as 'a crucible for knowledge, a place of torture, a graveyard, a place to forge new communities.

Alberta (born 1980, Bridgetown, Barbados) lives and works in Glasgow. Whittle studied at The Glasgow School of Art and Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh.