

MODERN ART OXFORD

NOV 2018 – MAR 2019



FREE EXHIBITIONS
CAFÉ BAR

SHOP
EVENTS

WELCOME

Welcome to the winter 2018–19 programme guide for Modern Art Oxford.

This season we are thrilled to bring you the first major art exhibition by director Penny Woolcock. As one of the UK's most groundbreaking visual artists, Woolcock's career spanning film, opera and television is widely celebrated for her intimate and uncompromising portrayals of social inequality in cities. As a former resident of Oxford, Woolcock is familiar with both the fictional portrayals and the lived reality of the city. Her exhibition *Fantastic Cities* reflects on differing accounts from a number of cities and works to translate people's real experiences into film.

Our public programme delves deeper into the themes of Woolcock's expansive works including a talk about using art as a political tool and a fascinating exploration of the research that is running alongside the creation of Woolcock's new work *When the Same Road is a Different Road*. There will also be a series of workshops suitable for all ages available in our dedicated learning space, Moving Image.

We look forward to seeing you in the gallery this winter.

Penny Woolcock, *Utopia* (2015). Photo by Sarah Ainslie.
Image courtesy the artist.



Penny Woolcock, *Fantastic Cities* (2018). Photo by Sarah Ainslie. Image courtesy the artist.



EXHIBITION

Penny Woolcock: *Fantastic Cities*

17 November 2018 – 3 March 2019

Free entry

Preview Tour: Friday 16 November, 6.30–7pm

Preview Party: Friday 16 November, 7–8.30pm

Fantastic Cities is the first major solo exhibition by award-winning artist and director Penny Woolcock (b.1950, Buenos Aires, lives in London). Woolcock is widely celebrated for her intimate portrayals of people experiencing systemic inequalities in society. Her pioneering work, both compassionate and challenging, spans street-cast fiction film, documentary, opera and major arts projects.

Centred on personal stories, and created in close collaboration with her subjects, her exceptional narratives offer powerful, honest and often humorous insight into the complex reality of life on the margins. The exhibition focuses on the contrasts and similarities of lived experiences in contemporary cities and includes a number of newly commissioned works.

“For some the city is a playground, for others a battlefield, but humour and acts of kindness burst through the cracks to give us hope.”
– Penny Woolcock

When the Same Road is a Different Road (2018)* is a dynamic new film installation presenting the startlingly different responses of two individual narratives, one the artist and the other a young gang member, on a short walk through the same city streets. *When I First Saw A Gun* (2018) portrays honest reflections on personal gun use from a range of diverse people. *Fantastic Cities* (2018) is a sound and film installation interrogating perceptions of Oxford and Los Angeles, two cities famously represented by fictitious narratives created through film and literature. *Fantastic Cities* explores the idea that, for many, the lived experience of these cities may at times be more unexpected than fiction.

Penny Woolcock, Behind the scenes photo from *Fantastic Cities* (2018). Photo by Sarah Ainslie. Image courtesy the artist.



Penny Woolcock, *Fantastic Cities* (2018). Photo by Sarah Ainslie. Image courtesy the artist



PROJECT SPACE

Moving Image

17 November 2018 – 3 March 2019

Free entry, all welcome

Moving Image invites visitors of all ages to respond creatively to the work of Penny Woolcock.

Inspired by Woolcock's wide-ranging practice in film, television, art and opera, Modern Art Oxford have constructed a unique small film set that allows you to edit your own personal experiences using archive images from Oxfordshire History Centre. Visitors can construct, adapt and recreate familiar Oxford scenes to share narratives that convey different aspects of the city.

Working collaboratively with Oxfordshire Printmakers Co-operative (co-founded by Penny Woolcock in 1977), a series of bookable workshops are available to develop and share skills using different print processes such as linocut, etching and monoprinting.

For full details of the workshops, please visit
www.modernartoxford.org.uk.



Penny Woolcock, Behind the scenes photo from *When the Same Road is a Different Road* (2018). Photo by Ravi Lloyd. Image courtesy the artist.

FILM

Francis Alÿs, *The Nightwatch*, (2004).
© Francis Alÿs. Courtesy David Zwirner, New York/London/Hong Kong.



Artist Film Programme: Penny Woolcock

1–16 November 2018

Penny Woolcock has selected four films that have informed and influenced her practice to be shown in the run up to *Fantastic Cities*.

Francis Alÿs, *The Nightwatch*, 2004

This film documents Alÿs' release of an urban fox into London's National Portrait Gallery in the middle of the night. It uses the museum's CCTV system to follow its movements and, for Woolcock, represents a creature from one part of the city entering the environment of another.

Penny Woolcock, *Road Movie*, 2015

This fascinating short love story between two plastic bags documents the artist's interest in the objects and people we discard as a society. She suggests that the things we ignore

and consider worthless can be very beautiful when looked at properly.

Maya Brandt, *Funny Valentine*, 1979

Seen for the first time by Woolcock in 1979 at what was then called the Museum of Modern Art Oxford, this short film is a cautionary tale of love and marriage told using plasticine figures.

Alexander Fry, *Yes, Sure*, 2018

Screened for the first time, this film by Woolcock's long-term collaborator is an exploration of personal memory, class and changing physical landscapes.

TALKS

Art at Westgate* : Art Tour and Artists' Panel Discussion

Friday 2 November
Curator-led walking tour, 3–4pm
Panel Discussion, 4.30–5.45pm

This tour and talk celebrate Art at Westgate, a programme of public art featuring work by some of the most respected artists working today: David Batchelor, Daniela Schönbachler, Rana Begum, Nicky Hirst and William Cobbing. This special event brings all five artists together in a discussion chaired by Modern Art Oxford Director Paul Hobson. It is preceded by a curator-led tour of artworks commissioned for locations throughout Westgate.

Tickets £6, £4 concession

Fantastic Cities: In Conversation with Penny Woolcock

Thursday 22 November, 6.30–8.30pm

Join Penny Woolcock and Modern Art Oxford's Head of Programme and Chief Curator Emma Ridgway for an in-depth discussion about the themes of and inspirations behind Woolcock's four-decade long practice.

Tickets £5, £3 concession

Art as Culture War with John R. Blakinger

Thursday 31 January, 6.30–8pm

Over the past few years, dramatic controversies have become a defining feature of contemporary art. Why has the pristine space of the museum become a battlefield? This lecture relates the recent collision of art and politics to past culture wars and a deeper history of political conflict in the gallery. John R. Blakinger is a Terra Foundation Visiting Professor of American Art at the University of Oxford.

Tickets £5, £3 concession

Cultivation of the Mind

Thursday 21 February, 6.30–8pm

Hip hop artist Zimbo Freemind and friends, discuss the influence of arts and culture on their lives and share accounts of the long-term impact of participating in Woolcock's award-winning film *One Mile Away* (2012).

Tickets £5, £3 concession

Same Road, Different Road*

Saturday 2 March

A unique public discussion between specialist neuroscientists and young people who have experienced violent crimes in London and Oxford forming part of the research project that runs alongside the creation of Woolcock's new commission *When the Same Road is a Different Road*.

Tickets £5, £3 concession

WORKSHOPS

Oxford Printmakers Workshop

Saturday 17 November, Saturday 9 February, and Sunday 10 February, 10am–4.30pm

Join Oxford Printmakers member Rahima Kenner for a series of workshops exploring drypoint/mono printing. Participants will be able to produce and take away a small print on the day. Rahima Kenner runs short courses in etching for Oxford Printmakers and outreach workshops around the county as well as exhibiting regularly.

Tickets £10, £8 concession*

From Storyboard to Screen

Saturday 8 December

& 26 January, 1–4pm

Storyboards are often used as a mock-up for movie scenes, TV and

theatre and can be created by hand or using digital technology. Learn how to map your own story and bring it to life in this hands-on workshop.

Free, booking essential

Early Years Workshops: Make Play

24, 31 January and 7, 14, 21 February, 11am–12pm & 1–2pm

Make Play sessions offer a sensory creative space for children aged 6 months to 5 years to explore with their parent/carer. Drawing on materials and themes within our exhibition, each session offers different experimental activities. Inspired by Penny Woolcock: *Fantastic Cities* these sessions explore sound and moving image.

£2 per session or £7.50 per 5-week season*

▲ Bursaries available, for details contact creativelearning@modernartoxford.org.uk

Work from a drypoint chine colle day workshop. Photo courtesy of Oxford Printmakers.



▲ Art at Westgate is a programme of artworks commissioned by Westgate Alliance for Westgate, curated by Modus Operandi.
 ● Same Road, Different Road is supported by the Wellcome Trust.

PERFORMANCE

Modern Art Oxford Presents: Zimbo Freemind + Awate + Black Jack + Side

Friday 16 November, 8–10pm

The new film works that form *Fantastic Cities* feature voiceovers, lyrics and performances from hip hop artists from London and Oxford. To celebrate the opening of the exhibition, featured artists including Zimbo Freemind, Awate, Black Jack Tha Activist and Side will perform live at Modern Art Oxford.

Free, booking essential

EMPRES presents: The Art of Noises II Thursday 29 November, 6–10pm

Oxford University's EMPRES Collective take over the gallery to present innovative performances and installations that explore the boundaries between music, sound and technology. They are joined by the legendary BBC Radiophonic Workshop and internationally renowned sound artist Signe Lidén.

Free, booking essential



EMPRES The Art of Noises I, 2018.

TOURS

Exhibition Tours

Staff-led tours are a fantastic opportunity to explore the exhibition in more detail.

All tours take place at 4pm.

Free, booking essential

**Najia Bagi, Creative Learning Assistant
Friday 30 November**

**Emma Ridgway, Head
of Programme, Chief Curator
Friday 14 December**

**Sara Lowes, Curator
of Creative Learning
Friday 4 January**

**Stephanie Straine, Curator
of Exhibitions and Projects
Friday 8 February**

**Jonathan Weston, Assistant Curator
Friday 1 March**

CAFÉ BAR

BRICK @ Modern Art Oxford. Photo by Philippa James.



Modern Art Oxford's café bar is run by BRICK, and serves tasty lunches made with locally sourced ingredients, sensational coffee and delicious homemade cakes. Passionate about music and supporting local talent, BRICK also host a range of gigs in the basement of Modern Art Oxford. For more information visit www.modernartoxford.org.uk/cafe

HIRE THE GALLERY

Photo by Edmund Blok.



Celebrate the end of the year by holding your festive party in our unique spaces. This year we are offering free gallery tours led by our curators who will take your guests through our exhibitions on arrival. Everything our catering team serve is from carefully selected local producers, to ensure welfare and sustainability. Find out more: www.modernartoxford.org.uk/venue-hire

SCHOOLS & GROUPS

Future Knowledge Preview Party.
Photo by Edmund Blok



Learning is at the heart of Modern Art Oxford's programme. Each week we offer free educational opportunities for schools and groups, reaching thousands of young people from Oxfordshire and beyond. Our programme is designed to engage visitors of all ages to explore creative processes and enrich knowledge around contemporary visual culture.

“Thank you very much for making it so personal for everyone. Great ideas, warm and friendly staff”
– Workshop participant, 2018

For more information or to book a free school or group tour, please contact us on **+44 (0) 1865 722 733** or **creativelearning@modernartoxford.org.uk**.

Creative opportunities inspire confidence, curiosity and ambition. To support our work with schools and young people, please contact us on **+44 (0) 1865 813 813** or **development@modernartoxford.org.uk**.

▲ The creative learning programme is supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Rothschild Family Foundation.

EXPLORE AT WWW.MODERNARTOXFORD.ORG.UK

THANK YOU

Modern Art Oxford is a leading arts charity shaped by a longstanding commitment to education and inclusion. All of the events in this guide have been supported by generous individuals, whose donations support important work in education and the community to ensure that the multiple benefits of arts and creativity are shared freely and widely. All donations play a vital role in helping us realise our ground-breaking work, which reaches hundreds of thousands of people each year. There are a number of ways in which you can support Modern Art Oxford.

Find out more at www.modernartoxford.org.uk/support

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Patrons

Kirsty Anson, Kate Aouad, Hussein Barma, Nicholas Berwin, Marie Boyle, Paul & Gisele Caseiras, Judith Chapman, Sandra Clarke, Jemma Clouston-Pile, Lizzie Collins, William Conner, Rachel Cooper, Loraine da Costa, Miff Crockford, Karen David, Martina Domonkos-Klemmer, Sarah Elson, Mallory & Elizabeth Factor, Pravin Fernando, Angela Flynn, Didi & Peter Forster, Jessica & Peter Frankopan, Emilie Gregg, Victoria Harper, Andrea Hartley, Kate & Mark Hindmarsh-Smith, Tim Jefferson, Vera Jefferson, Martin Kemp, Audrey Klein, Frank Krikhaar, Paula Lent, Anthony & Jenny Loehnis, Catherine Loewe, Joanna Mackiewicz-Gemes, Diviya Madhvani, Dena & Gordon McCallum, Anne Millais, Lois Moore, Gabrielle Mowat, Bozena & William Nelhams, Flavia Nespatti, Marie-Hélène Oliver, Midge & Simon Palley, Elizabeth Parker, Sarah Percy-Davis, Myriam Phillips, Kate Rittson-Thomas, Karen Smith, Paul Smith, Lucy & John Stopford, Nicholas Tresilian, Chloe Vine, Sarah Wiseman, Tom Woo, and those who wish to remain anonymous.

Honorary Patrons

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EVENTS CALENDAR

1–16 Nov	Artist Film Programme: Penny Woolcock	Film
2 Nov, 3–4pm	Art at Westgate Tour	Tour
2 Nov, 4.30–5.45pm	Art at Westgate Panel Discussion	Talk
16 Nov, 6.30–7pm	Penny Woolcock: <i>Fantastic Cities</i>	Preview Tour
16 Nov, 7–8.30pm	Penny Woolcock: <i>Fantastic Cities</i>	Preview Party
16 Nov, 8–10pm	Zimbo Freemind + Awate + Black Jack + Side	Performance
17 Nov 2018 - 3 Mar 2019	Penny Woolcock: <i>Fantastic Cities</i>	Exhibition
17 Nov 2018 - 12 May 2019	Moving Image	Project Space
17 Nov, 10am–4.30pm	Oxford Printmakers Workshop	Workshop
22 Nov, 6.30–8.30pm	In Conversation with Penny Woolcock	Talk
29 Nov, 6–10pm	The Art of Noises II	Performance
30 Nov, 4–4.30pm	Tour with Creative Learning Assistant	Tour
8 Dec, 1–4pm	From Storyboard to Screen	Workshop
14 Dec, 4–4.30pm	Tour with Head of Programme, Chief Curator	Tour
4 Jan, 4–4.30pm	Tour with Curator of Creative Learning	Tour
24, 31 Jan & 7, 14, 21 Feb, 11am–12 pm & 1–2pm	Early Years Workshops: Make Play	Workshop
26 Jan, 1–4pm	From Storyboard to Screen	Workshop
31 Jan, 6.30–8pm	Art as Culture War	Talk
8 Feb, 4–4.30pm	Tour with Curator of Exhibitions and Projects	Tour
9 Feb, 10am–4.30pm	Oxford Printmakers Workshop	Workshop
10 Feb, 10am–4.30pm	Oxford Printmakers Workshop	Workshop
21 Feb, 6.30–8pm	Cultivation of the Mind	Talk
1 Mar, 4–4.30pm	Tour with Assistant Curator	Tour
2 Mar	Same Road, Different Road	Talk

These listings are correct at the time of going to print. For up-to-date listings and information please visit www.modernartoxford.org.uk.

EXPLORE AT WWW.MODERNARTOXFORD.ORG.UK

COMING SOON

Akram Zaatari, *The Script*, 2018.
© Akram Zaatari.



Akram Zaatari: *The Script*[▲] 23 March – 12 May 2019

In spring 2019, Modern Art Oxford presents a new film commission as part of a solo exhibition of works by renowned filmmaker, photographer, archival artist and curator Akram Zaatari (b. 1966 Sidon,

Lebanon). Zaatari is co-founder of the Arab Image Foundation and his work focusses on collecting, studying and archiving the photographic history of the Arab World.

Claudette Johnson 1 June – 1 September 2019

In her first major institutional solo exhibition since 1990, London-based artist Claudette Johnson (b. 1959, Manchester) explores the lived experiences of black women and men. With works spanning her

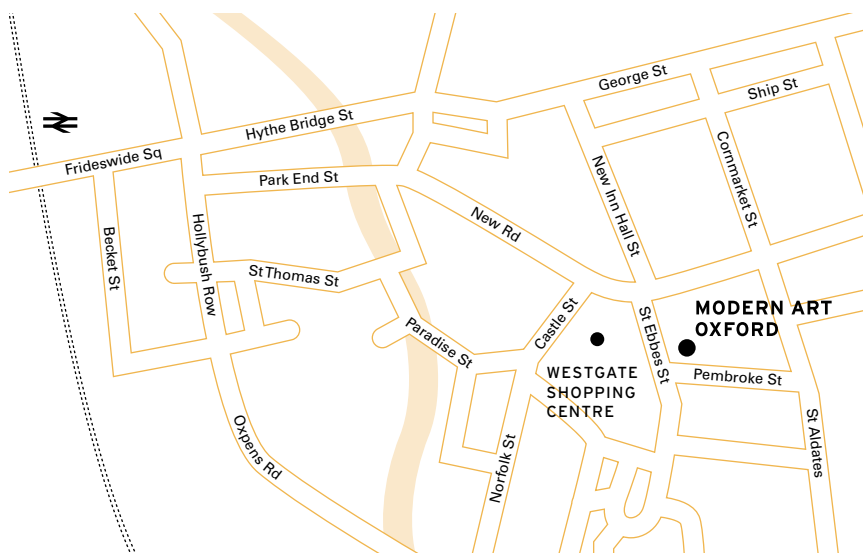
involvement with the BLK Art Group in the early 1980s through to the present day, this exhibition presents an essential overview of one of the most important figurative artists working in Britain today.

▲ *The Script* is a touring exhibition by New Art Exchange in partnership with Turner Contemporary and Modern Art Oxford. Funded by Arts Council England and supported by Thomas Dane Gallery.

BOOK EVENTS ONLINE OR CALL US +44 (0) 1865 722 733

VISIT

Modern Art Oxford is one of the UK's leading contemporary visual arts organisations, renowned for its bold, ambitious and distinctive artistic programme. Founded in 1965, it is a charity and a public space that is free and open to all.

**Address:**





Modern Art Oxford
30 Pembroke St
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Opening hours:

Tues–Sat 10am–5pm
Sun 12–5pm
Closed Monday

Booking and enquiries:

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Designed by narratestudio.co.uk
Printed by Holywell Press