

EXHIBITION

Kiki Smith: *I am a Wanderer*[▲]
28 September 2019 – 19 January 2020
Preview Tour: Friday 27 September, 6.30–7pm
Preview Party: Friday 27 September, 7–8.30pm

Kiki Smith, *Pool of Tears II*, 2000. Image courtesy of and published by Universal Limited Art Editions. © Kiki Smith and Universal Limited Art Editions.



Experience the unique vision and invention of prolific artist Kiki Smith (b. 1954, Nuremberg, Germany, lives and works in New York, USA). This exhibition focuses on three distinctive areas of her practice: the intricate Jacquard tapestries produced since 2012; small sculptures created from the mid-1980s to the present day; and a selection from her innovative printmaking practice.

Smith’s early works tackle bodily taboos such as decay, intimacy and mortality as a way of creating a compassionate universality of experience. In the 1990s Smith began depicting the natural world, conjuring a menagerie of real and mystical creatures, delicate plants and mythical goddesses, which are presented to us in an astonishing abundance of materials.

“I am a Wanderer”, Kiki Smith says, and as she roams she collects inspiration from a myriad of sources and cultures. Through her work we are transported with her to folkloric lands and epochs, discovering new forms, crafts and stories as we follow her wondrous journey.

“I love tapestry. It buffers and makes a cushion between you and the world.” – Kiki Smith

[▲] Kiki Smith: *I am a Wanderer* is curated by Petra Giloy-Hirtz and supported by Timothy Taylor, London/New York.

Front page: **Kiki Smith**, *Sky*, 2012. © Kiki Smith. Courtesy of Timothy Taylor, London/New York and Magnolia Editions.

CREATIVE SPACE

Creative Space, 2019. Photo by Andrée Latham.



Our Creative Space offers visitors and their friends and family the opportunity to have their own creative experiences. Every weekend between noon and 4pm, our friendly art practitioners will be here to help visitors create their own artworks. This autumn the Creative Space will host our annual graduate exhibition *Platform* before being transformed into a space exploring the storytelling and digital weaving that is so central to Kiki Smith’s work.

CAFÉ

The Modern Art Oxford café serves a range of delicious lunches, irresistible cakes, and sensational coffee created using our house Lavazza blend.

SHOP

Modern Art Oxford’s Shop. Photo by Edmund Blok.



Modern Art Oxford’s Shop is the perfect place to pick up unique gifts, art books, toys, jewellery and stunning pieces by local designer-makers. Inspired by Kiki Smith’s exhibition? Take home a memento by purchasing exclusive merchandise including bags, postcards, notebooks and greetings cards. Find out more by following @mao_giftshop on Instagram.

EXHIBITION

Platform Graduate Award 2019[•]
5 September – 13 October

Amy Richardson, *There’s nothin’ soft about hard times*, 2019. Image courtesy the artist.



Celebrating new artistic talent from across the South East, *Platform Graduate Award 2019* is a series of three solo exhibitions by selected Fine Art graduates from Oxford Brookes University, University of Reading and The Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford. The initiative supports emerging artistic talent to further their practice, and awards one outstanding artist a £2,500 bursary and mentoring from a professional artist.

Grace Robertson
Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford (5 – 15 September)
Event: Drop in conversations with the artist, 8, 11 and 14 September at 3pm
Grace responds to the gallery space at Modern Art Oxford by exploring drawing as a contemporary practice.

Amy Richardson
University of Reading (19 – 29 September)
Event: Artist Talk, Saturday 28 September, 12–3pm
Amy’s work explores the intricacy and dedicated labour associated with textile embroidery through a retelling of her uncle’s story of homelessness.

Kulsuma Monica Khatoon
Oxford Brookes University (3 – 13 October)
Event: Artist Talk, Saturday 12 October, 2–3.30pm
Kulsuma is a profoundly deaf artist whose work explores her daily struggle to understand and be understood.

[•] Platform is led by the Contemporary Visual Arts Network South East (CVAN South East) and is a partnership between four galleries: Aspek in Portsmouth, MK Gallery in Milton Keynes, Modern Art Oxford and Turner Contemporary in Margate.

EVENTS

Talk
Keynote Lecture: Kiki Smith
Thursday 26 September, 5–6pm
Room 6, Examination Schools, University of Oxford
Experience this rare opportunity to hear from the artist Kiki Smith, as she discusses her practice and new exhibition *I am a Wanderer*.
Tickets £5, £3 concession, booking essential

Music
Lazy Day
Friday 27 September, 8–10pm
Infectious with warmth and energy, Lazy Days originated as a solo project in Tilly Scantlebury’s bedroom. Now a two-piece band, they bring the party with their wonky pop sensibility.
Free, booking essential

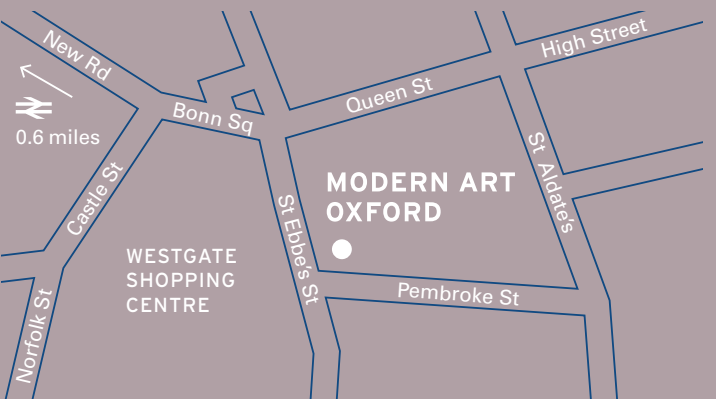
Tour
Exhibition Tours
18 October 10.30–11am, 24 October 1–1.30pm and 6 December 1–1.30pm
These staff-led tours are an excellent opportunity to learn more about the current exhibition and the day-to-day work of the gallery.
Free, booking essential

Music
EMPRES presents: The Art of Noises IV
Thursday 31 October, 6–10pm
Oxford University’s EMPRES Collective and Modern Art Oxford present another evening exploring the boundaries between music, sound and technology. Taking over the galleries, the evening holds a series of innovative performances and installations.
Free, booking essential

Film
Kiki Smith: Work (2015) and Women Artists: Kiki Smith (2016)
Thursday 7 November, 6.30–8pm
These two insightful documentaries by leading Berlin-based filmmaker Claudia Müller give unprecedented access to Kiki Smith’s life, work and studio practices.
Free, booking essential

VISIT US

Modern Art Oxford is one of the UK’s leading contemporary visual arts organisations.



Address:
Modern Art Oxford
30 Pembroke St
Oxford OX1 1BP

Opening hours:
Tues–Sat 10am–5pm
Sun 12–5pm
Closed Monday

Accessibility:
Modern Art Oxford’s public spaces span three floors. We have stair-free access to all floors. The entrance on St Ebbe’s Street is at street level and there is a platform lift at the Pembroke Street entrance.

Schools and groups:
The gallery provides free school and group tours. For more information, contact +44 (0) 1865 722 733 or info@modernartoxford.org.uk.

Support Modern Art Oxford:
Creative opportunities inspire confidence, curiosity and ambition. To find out more about supporting the work we do, contact +44 (0) 1865 813 823 or development@modernartoxford.org.uk.

Booking and enquiries:
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EVENTS CALENDAR

Platform Graduate Award 2019 5 September – 13 October	Exhibition
Keynote Lecture: Kiki Smith Thursday 26 September, 5–6pm	Talk
Lazy Day Friday 27 September, 8–10pm	Music
Kiki Smith: <i>I am a Wanderer</i> Friday 27 September, 6.30–7pm Friday 27 September, 7–8.30pm 28 September 2019 – 19 January 2020	Preview Tour Preview Party Exhibition
Make Play Thursdays 17, 24 and 31 October and 7 and 14 November, 11am–12pm and 1–2pm	Workshop
Exhibition Tours 18 October 10.30–11am, 24 October 1–1.30pm and 6 December 1–1.30pm	Tour
EMPRES presents: The Art of Noises IV Thursday 31 October, 6–10pm	Music
Kiki Smith: <i>Work</i> (2015) and <i>Women Artists: Kiki Smith</i> (2016) Thursday 7 November, 6.30–8pm	Film
MAO Social Thursday 21 November, 6–10pm	Gallery Late
Kiki Smith and the Object of Photography Thursday 28 November, 6.30–8pm	Talk
Weaving/Wandering: Kiki Smith and the Middle Ages Thursday 16 January, 6.30–8pm	Talk
Cabinet of Curiosities Saturday 18 January, 1–4pm	Workshop

Join the conversation online:
@mao_gallery on Instagram and Twitter
and ModArtOxford on Facebook.

These listings are correct at the time of print. For latest listings and information visit modernartoxford.org.uk.

EVENTS

Gallery Late
MAO Social
Thursday 21 November, 6–10pm
Join the Modern Art Oxford team to celebrate contemporary visual culture and design in this community get-together, open to all. Performances and workshops bring artists and audiences together to explore the nature of our individual experiences in gallery spaces.
Free, booking essential

Talk
Kiki Smith and the Object of Photography
Thursday 28 November, 6.30–8pm
In this talk Professor Geraldine A. Johnson (Department of History of Art, University of Oxford) responds to Kiki Smith’s photography of her life-sized cast sculptures and other sculptural installations, featured in the exhibition *I am a Wanderer*.
Tickets £5, £3 concession

Talk
Weaving/Wandering: Kiki Smith and the Middle Ages
Thursday 16 January, 6.30–8pm
Join Professor Robert Mills (Professor of Medieval Studies, University College London) for this insightful talk which explores the medieval inspiration behind Kiki Smith’s Jacquard tapestries and considers how medieval art and culture has been a source for modern and contemporary artists.
Tickets £5, £3 concession



Kiki Smith, *Spinners* (detail), 2014. © Kiki Smith, courtesy of Pace Gallery.

Workshop
Cabinet of Curiosities
Saturday 18 January, 1–4pm
In this participatory workshop for adults, join Oxford-based artist Madi Acharya-Baskerville to create small sculptures inspired by the practice of Kiki Smith, incorporating patterns from different cultures using natural found materials and hand-made papers.
Tickets £12, £10 concession, booking essential, 18+

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Modern Art Oxford is dedicated to providing enjoyable and engaging activities for the whole family. Each season we have a series of hands-on workshops and events in our Creative Space.

Play the Jacquard loom
18 October 2019 – 19 January 2020
Inspired by the technology behind Kiki Smith’s tapestries, the Creative Space plays host to a Loom Computer Synthesiser created by Owl Project, allowing you to connect a loom to electronic sound. Using punch cards you will be able to weave your own patterns and create your own electronic soundtrack.
Free, drop in

Early Years: Make Play
Thursdays 17, 24 and 31 October and 7 and 14 November, 11am–12pm and 1–2pm
Make Play sessions offer a sensory creative space for children aged 6 months to 5 years to explore with their parent and/or carer. Drawing on materials and themes within our exhibition, each session offers different experimental activities.
£2 per session or £7.50 for a 5-week session, booking essential

Activity sheet
Our activity sheets provide fun and informative activities for children and families that are linked to our current exhibition. Pick one up for free from our Information Desk or Shop.



Creative Space, 2019. Photo by Najja Bagi.

#learnatMAO

COMING SOON



Johanna Unzueta, *September Berlin*, November NY 2018, 2018. Courtesy of the artist and Proyectos Ultravioleta.

Johanna Unzueta: *Tools for Life*
8 February – 10 May 2020

This compelling overview of the work of Johanna Unzueta (b. 1974, Santiago, Chile, lives and works in New York, USA) focuses on the human body’s relationship to forms of labour and the history of industrial production. The exhibition includes Unzueta’s large-scale felt sculptures, a site-specific wall drawing and a new film work shot at a textile factory in Chile.

Ruth Asawa: *Citizen of the Universe*
30 May – 6 September 2020

This unprecedented exhibition of Japanese-American artist Ruth Asawa (b. 1926, Norwalk, California - d. 2013, San Francisco) is the first major exhibition in Europe. It showcases her stunning suspended wire-mesh sculptures and celebrates her dedication to art’s role in education and society.

MODERN ART OXFORD



AUTUMN/WINTER 2019-20

WHAT'S ON