



UK  
NEW  
ARTISTS

Lincoln Arts  
Centre

## Symposium: Navigating the Journey for New Artists

Hosted by UK New Artists and Lincoln Arts Centre



*Image: UKNA London Weekender January 2022; Studio of Gibson/Martelli (Ruth Gibson & Bruno Martelli)*

**Date & Time: Friday 20th October 2023, 10.00 - 16.30**

**Venue: Lincoln Arts Centre, Brayford Pool, University of, Lincoln LN6 7TS**

**Free to Attend**

The ***'Navigating the Journey for New Artists'*** symposium takes place during the UKNA ***'Weekend Celebration of Creativity'*** which will be taking place across Lincoln City from 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023. This event is timely as we are post-Brexit & Covid-19 and the sector is working alongside a new arts strategy of "Let's Create". **Lincoln Arts Centre x UK New Artists** wish to discuss some of the key questions for new artists now and going forward in supporting and sustaining their practice and learning what we can do together and for each other.

*\*Please note that the event will be recorded and photographed.*

## Agenda

Time	Notes
<b>10.00 Arrival</b>	Arrive at Lincoln Arts Centre café with tea and coffee served
<b>10.15 Welcome</b>	Introduction from & Ben Anderson, Director of Lincoln Arts Centre and Michelle Bowen, Director of UK New Artists
<p data-bbox="159 533 418 604"><b>10.30 How can you thrive as an artist?</b></p> <p data-bbox="159 653 443 810">Panel Members: Rachel Baynton ('Proto-type Theater'), Milly Bianchini (Margomool) artist, musician.</p> <p data-bbox="159 848 443 940">Chaired by Ben Anderson, Director of Lincoln Arts Centre.</p>	<p data-bbox="537 533 1474 726">In this session we take the opportunity to hear from Lincoln Arts Centre Associates, 'Proto-type Theater' Rachel Baynton and UKNA Alumni artist Margomool, about their journeys and how they have navigated their practices and what the lessons they have learnt as creatives to enable them to thrive and survive and what that journey looks like ahead.</p>
<p data-bbox="159 972 440 1003"><b>11.15: Active session</b></p> <p data-bbox="159 1052 410 1113">Led by Rachel Baynton and Michael Hoar.</p>	<p data-bbox="537 972 883 1003"><b>What constitutes success?</b></p> <p data-bbox="537 1052 1487 1283">Success is a subjective concept that varies from person to person, especially in the context of art and creativity. For some artists, it may mean achieving financial success and widespread recognition, while for others, it could be about personal fulfilment, artistic growth, or making a positive impact on society. What does your success look like and how might you achieve it? What is the best environment for success?</p>
<p data-bbox="159 1400 367 1432"><b>12.00 Question</b></p> <p data-bbox="159 1480 394 1512">Led by Michael Hoar</p>	<p data-bbox="537 1400 1260 1432"><b>What can WE all do to support artists to be successful?</b></p>
<b>12.15 Networking Lunch</b>	Light lunch will be provided in the Café at LAC with an opportunity to chat and network.

Time	Notes
<p><b>13.15 Breaking Down Barriers for Artists</b></p> <p>Hosted by the following members of the UKNA Creative ThinkTank: Hannaa Hamdache, Sarah Le Quang Sang, Ana Silverio, Hoyee Tse and Gaynor Tutani with David McLeavy.</p>	<p>Bringing together the responses from new artists working today on the barriers they face in the arts, this session shares what problem-solving has and can look like, with an opportunity for an open forum discussion on the topic with invited speaker David McLeavy who is an artist, Curator, writer &amp; events producer based in Sheffield</p>
<p><b>14.15 Breaking Down Barriers for Arts in Society</b></p> <p>Panel Member: Ellen Ranson, Artist and Programme Coordinator for East Durham Creates and Suzannah Bedford, Director of City Arts, Nottingham. Chaired by Vikki Jones, Talent Development Manager, UKNA.</p>	<p>In this session, we will explore Arts Council England's Let's Create strategy, its role and its impact for new artists who wish to work in socially engaged practice. We'll discuss the importance of co-creation, good practice and artist development, but also consider if the pendulum can ever swing too far and whether, due to the new focus on social engagement, artists can feel discouraged from making art for art's sake.</p>
<p><b>What's the big picture?</b></p> <p>To round off the day we will be looking ahead at what the next ten years might look like for artists.</p>	
<p><b>15.00 Technology and Artificial Intelligence: An artistic force for good or evil?</b></p> <p>Speakers: Benedict Carpenter &amp; Sam Tahmessebi.</p>	<p>In the first part of this session we will look at a decade which will be marked by rapid advancements in Artificial Intelligence and the growing influence of the Metaverse. The creative sector is witnessing the rise of Generative Artificial Intelligence and blockchain technology. But amidst this transformation, one question looms large: How does this impact the authenticity of an artist's narrative? How can artists maintain the true value of their story and protect copyright ownership of an artwork? What will this future look like? And what are the implications for artists' intellectual property, the feeling of human touch, and the authenticity of the artwork?</p>
<p><b>15.45 How do we look at the big picture? Reason to be hopeful and challenges we need to overcome.</b></p>	<p>A plenary session led by Michael Hoar.</p>

<p><b>16.30 Spoken Word Performance by Georgia Preece.</b></p>	<p>To draw to a close the event we are delighted to share a spoken word performance from New Artist Collective member Georgia Preece.</p>
<p><b>16.45 End of the day</b></p>	<p>Drinks will be provided in the Lincoln Arts Centre café</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ADDITIONAL EVENTS: Everyone is welcome</b></p>	
<p><b>16.45 - 17.30 Artists in the Now Exhibition</b></p> <p>The Link Up, St Marks Shopping Centre.</p>	<p>Opportunity to visit <b>'Artists in the Now'</b>; an exhibition of contemporary work artists based across Lincoln/Lincolnshire and hear from the Curator, Jazz Swali.</p>
<p><b>17.00 - 19.00 Polly Brant: Deconstructing 'A' Workshop</b></p> <p>Lincoln Arts Centre, Studio X</p> <p><a href="#">Free Tickets Bookable via Lincoln Arts Centre Website.</a></p>	<p>You're welcome to join us for a collaborative workshop <i>'Deconstructing 'A'</i> exploring art education, where it happens and who it is for. There will be a focus on championing it to be within the community, inviting art education back into the everyday and shared spaces. This will happen through conversation, writing and making together. The research began with an interest in the history of Art Schools within Lincoln and how art education has shifted over time. The workshop looks at how art education can have a positive future and continue to happen, with a focus on how we would like this to happen.</p>
<p><b>19:00 - 22.00 DEMO</b></p> <p>Lincoln Arts Centre, Auditorium</p> <p>Delegates can book for <a href="#">Demo here</a></p>	<p>Offering a selection of new work from the most exciting artists both regionally &amp; nationally, this event encourages critical discourse in a relaxed and supportive environment. Demo is your chance to see the best new artistic ideas tested out in front of an audience, often for the very first time. DEMO offers a selection of new work from the most exciting artists both regionally &amp; nationally, this event encourages critical discourse in a relaxed and supportive environment.</p>

## About Hosts

**Lincoln Arts Centre** is the University of Lincoln's public arts centre with a focus on contemporary visual and performing arts. We nurture the next generation of artists and artistic ideas to create work that challenges, inspires and delights audiences across our stages, gallery, digital stages and across the campus and the country.

**UK New Artists:** is a nomadic creative development organisation, increasing opportunities for emerging creatives to be seen & heard; empowering artists to develop skills & communicate ideas effectively; helping to ensure a vibrant & diverse future for the UK. We equip artists by providing participation and connection; helping them to be the best they can be. UKNA also runs the Robert Walters Group UK New Artist of the Year Award at the Saatchi Gallery and has delivered high profile combined arts events regionally, nationally & internationally.

## About Speakers and Panel Members

### Rachel Baynton; Proto-type Theater

Rachel is an artist, producer and academic working in cross-artform contexts. Her work focuses on collaboration, co-creation, and contemporary cultural production.

A graduate of Dartington College of Arts, Rachel is a professional director, writer, and producer of collaborative and participatory arts projects with national, and international reach. She has worked with diverse public groups around the UK, and with major commissioning partners such as the NHS, the RAF, and the BBC on projects including 'Fallen', performed live to commemorate and coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. Her practice includes work with and for community groups, including the creation of a large-scale processional performance with women across the City of Lincoln as part of their Suffrage 100 Commemorations, and a new community show for Paines Plough's Roundabout. She has worked on exhibitions and collections management at Lancaster University's Institute of Contemporary Arts (LICA), and is a regular presenter for BBC Radio Lincolnshire. She is Associate Chair of UK New Artists, who support the development of early-career artists from diverse backgrounds, and is on the board of Trustees for Zest Theatre, an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation working to improve the lives and amplify the voices of children and young people through creative experiences. Rachel is Associate Professor and Creative Engagement Producer for the School of Creative Arts at the University of Lincoln, where she has steered the student-led Lincoln Company to critical acclaim.

### Milly Bianchini (margomool)

Described by Line of Best Fit as 'convention-smashing', margomool blurs boundaries between genres, gender, audience and performer. Since landing in the London jazz-ish scene in 2020, the Leicester-born vocalist / producer has independently released three projects spotlighted by the likes of Jamz Supernova (BBC 1XTRA) and Emma-Jean Thackray (Worldwide Fm). margo has taken their solo act and band across the UK to prestigious stages like Love Supreme, bringing

along the inclusive FYE Cypher jam where the audience becomes part of the performance. The artist's practice is influenced by their seven-years experience as a music facilitator with people who are neurodiverse, over 60 and or trans+. Using the voice, rhythm and improvisation as the primary tools for creating, margomool encourages people to enter an embodied and caring conversation with themselves and the unique way they sonically express.

### **Suzannah Bedford**

CEO and Creative Director of City Arts Nottingham, Suzannah also has over 20 years experience as a Creative Producer, Engagement Specialist and Mentor. Her expertise spans across all artforms and includes working directly in theatre, dance, community arts and arts funding. Suzannah fundamentally believes that people are at the heart of shaping and making new possibilities in the arts. She is passionate about broadening access to creative experiences of the highest quality, and ensuring that the arts sector represents the diversity of our society today.

### **Ellen Ranson**

Ellen Ranson is an abstract painter, she lives and works in the North East of England. She received her MA at MIMA School of Art in 2022. She was a Paint fellow at Northumbria University (2018) and British Council Venice Fellow (2022) and on the Contemporary British Painting 2023 Shortlist. Recent exhibitions include: X - Contemporary British Painting at Newcastle Contemporary Art (group), Moonlight Dance on Warm Cement at the Gala Gallery (solo) and Queer Fringe at Pineapple Black (group). Ellen was commissioned by UKNA to undertake a mural, featuring the work of over 100 residents and school children from Sincil Bank, this brand new, inspiring and vibrant wall mural is a celebration of Sincil Bank, its people, places and the memories they have made here. The mural can be seen on Portland Street for Lincoln, LN5 7JX.

### **Vikki Jones**

Vikki is a youth and community engagement specialist and is responsible for UKNA's wider engagement and Talent Development programme, connecting young people with the work of our new artists and encouraging more people to consider the arts as a potential career path. She works closely with our cultural and education partners to deliver collaborative projects that give communities fun and unique opportunities to engage with different artistic ideas and disciplines. Previously she has worked with theatre venues, dance houses, exam boards, national arts festivals and community programmes, all with the focus of getting more young people involved in practical arts and cultural activity. She strongly believes that creative and cultural opportunities make communities happier, healthier and safer and is passionately committed to getting as many people as possible to explore their creative selves.

### **UKNA Creative ThinkTank Member: Hannaa Hamdache**

Hannaa Hamdache is an artist and curator of mixed English and Algerian heritage. Based in Nottingham, UK, she holds a BA (Hons) in Fine Art and Art History from Kingston University London and an MLitt in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) from the Glasgow School of Art.

She works to make the arts open for all through the use of humour and education. Her practice explores the idea of play: playing with context, the exhibition and the everyday. She has delivered curatorial projects working with Glasgow City Council and the Gallery of Modern Art in Glasgow; Somerset House and the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London; and Soho House Museum in Birmingham. Creative Learning Partnerships Manager at LEEDS 2023

**UKNA Creative ThinkTank Member: Sarah Le Quang Sang (SLQS)**

SLQS is a Franco-Vietnamese artist living in East London. Her work is multi-disciplinary and provocative: it questions the politics of space and who is excluded from it. She reclaims space by immersing herself and others in the public realm. SLQS makes and holds space as a woman, a person of mixed heritage, a foreigner, a mother, an artist and an equestrian. She invites her audience to decolonise spatial orders from imperialist, sexist and racist structures. SLQS works in a wide range of media that includes, but is not limited to, performance, live art, photography, writing, walking and visual art and is a member of the New Artist Collective ( Lincoln)

**UKNA Creative ThinkTank Member: Ana Silverio**

Ana Silvério is an award-winning dance artist from Brazil. She received a First-class Honours degree in “Choreography, Methodology and Pedagogy of Dance” from the Saint Petersburg University of Humanities and Social Sciences, in Russia. She acts internationally as a teacher, choreographer, dancer and member of the judging committee for several art and dance festivals. Ana is based in York where she founded ‘Terpsichoring’. A dance company and CIO aimed at the creation and touring of performances and the development of the dance field in the North of Yorkshire. The company was among the performers at the UKNA City TakeOver 2022. Ana likes to develop thoughtful, well-crafted and creative performances that explore topics in a multi-perspective way and storytelling in narrative and abstract forms. At the core of her movement vocabulary is ballet, Brazilian folk dances, physical theatre and contemporary dances.

**UKNA Creative ThinkTank Member: Hoyee Tse**

Hoyee was first trained as an art historian in European paintings in UCL and University of Amsterdam. With her postgraduate research in UCL Institute of Education, she expanded her interest in the relationship between art and society of the past to the digital representation and preservation of visual culture of the present. Currently, she is the Design Trust Curatorial Fellow in the Royal College of Art, developing a socially engaged co-curation model for contemporary art and crafts collection through digital platform.

**UKNA Creative ThinkTank Member: Gaynor Tutani**

Gaynor Tutani (Art Adlib) is a curator, producer and writer who merges her various arts, culture, community and educational passions to produce exhibitions, events and commentaries on art and curating. Her speciality is in public programming - hosting music performances, talks, interviews and poetry programs. She is the Co-founder of EARTHworks [Artists], a curatorial duo that is dedicated to promoting creative collaborations through an intergenerational lens. Their work aims to raise awareness of the benefits of art and art making practices to health and well-being, alongside global issues such as climate change, equality and diversity.

## **David McLeavy**

David McLeavy is an Artist, Curator, Writer & events producer based in Sheffield, UK. As an Artist, he works in a range of ways including sculpture, text and installation. He is currently working on his debut film, which explores the intersections of endurance sport, mental health and chronic illness. As a Curator and Producer, he is currently working on a number of independent projects and exhibitions, along with being the Events Manager at the charity Paces, the Founder and Editor of the web platform YAC | Young Artists in Conversation and the Chair of the Board of Trustees at Our Big Picture. Between 2021 - 2022 he was the Curator at Absolutely Cultured leading on the artistic programme at Humber Street Gallery, Hull and between 2017 - 2021 he was the Director of the contemporary arts organisation Bloc Projects, Sheffield. As well as working with artists to build exhibitions, he works on a series of independent projects ranging from artist mentoring, organisational consultancy, devising and delivering monitoring and evaluation frameworks and advising on professional development programmes for creatives. Previously he was also the Co-Founder of the cycling clothing and lifestyle brand Curbar with artist James Clarkson, 1/3 of the curatorial group Basic Channel, Co-Director of the international residency and exhibition programme Picnic Picnic with Pippa Cook and an Associate Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University. He was also the Chair of Trustees at Turf Projects, Croydon, and is currently on the advisory board for PINK, Manchester. Prior to focusing on curatorial projects, he made work as an artist exhibiting widely across the UK and in some instances internationally.

## **Benedict Carpenter van Barthold**

Benedict Carpenter van Barthold (Ben) is a consultant and UKNA Trustee, who has been an artist for 30 years. He has tasted both success and failure, and is well aware of the pitfalls and opportunities that lie before any artist as they make their way. Ben trained as an artist at Chelsea College of Art and Design and the Royal College of Art, and has a PhD from Manchester Metropolitan University. He was awarded the Jerwood Sculpture Prize in 2001. He has exhibited at the Venice Biennale and completed a number of permanently situated commissions in the UK and abroad. As a consultant, Ben works with emergent technology companies at the intersection of art and technology, to help them attain their goal of democratising access to art and culture.

## **Sam Tahmessebi**

Sam Tahmessebi is a London based visual artist working in a range of mediums including photography, sculpture, paint and installation. Sam Tahmessebi's practice embodies a social commentary, a way of mediating social, political, economic and psychological theory to an audience through any medium that depicts it best. Sam Tahmessebi's practice is concerned with the notion of artistic articulation and art's role in interrogating and materialising critical voice. He investigates psychological, social and political issues, which always emanate from his surroundings and analysis of them. Sam perceives his subjectivity as an agentic site through which to navigate various layers of the contemporary social context, including by mapping experienced 'realities' onto theoretical strands to assimilate a firmer understanding of the issue(s) at hand. His aim is to secure more clinical – or rather – more objective grounds to produce work. Sam is a member of the New Artist Collective (Lincoln).

## Georgia Preece

Georgia Preece is an artist, poet, writer and workshop facilitator based in Lincoln, she is Visual Director and Environment Editor for Radical Art Review and an MA Fine Art graduate of the University of Lincoln. Preece's artistic practice is rooted in political discourse and human emotion, developed from a body of ongoing research, she uses diverse methods of visual practice to explore topics such as: the performativity of protest, working classness and the claimant, environmental concerns, and the liminal space between classes occupied by the working class graduate. She has recently developed a series of workshops that she has been delivering to creative groups in Lincoln and online to facilitate group and individual manifesto writing, allowing participants to reflect on their practice and create space for hopes and aspirations. Georgia is a member of the New Artist Collective (Lincoln).



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