

February 2020

As the days become longer and lighter, and the spring flowers emerge from the ground, there has been a flurry of activity from the team, our colleagues and partners. February and March bring a number of opportunities to hear artists talk about their work: [Anna Ridler](#) talking about her work with machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI); Japanese artist [Takahiro Iwasaki](#) discussing his intricate sculptural landscapes at Salford Museum and Art Gallery; [Frances Disley](#) musing on constructing imaginary universes (Castlefield Gallery) and [Gordon Cheung](#) reflecting on his work depicting the growth of China (Edel Assanti). Read on for more details, news of our current projects and updates relating to the Collection, our Graduate Scholars and partners.

Finally, I would like to like to sincerely thank Jennifer Iddon, Marketing and Project Officer, who leaves the University in March. Jennifer has worked for the University for 13 years and has been instrumental in developing the profile of the Art Collection team. We will miss her but wish her lots of luck and success in her new endeavours.

Lindsay Taylor
Curator

Exhibitions

In Focus: Portraiture

Artists include: Albert Adams, Claudia Alonso, Ruth Barker, Mike Disfarmer, Harry Goodwin, Joe Gregory, Gary Hume, Owen Leong, Rory Mullen, Wang Ningde, Alfonso Padilla, Stanley Reed, Harold Riley, Jamie Wilson, Juliet Wood.



Albert Adams, *Self portrait* (1956), Etching. Courtesy of Edward Glennon and the Art Fund.

In Focus: Portraiture explores modern and contemporary portraiture from the University of Salford Art Collection.

The exhibition includes Chancellor portraits, telling the story of some of the individuals who have shaped the University, including recent commissions by former students. In addition there is a selection of paintings, photographs and prints which examine some of the social, personal, and economic factors that can shape our sense of identity.

There is also a display of photographs from the University of Salford Archives, offering a window into changing student life throughout the years.

Exhibition Dates: Until Friday 15 May 2020 (closed bank holidays).

Opening hours: Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm

Admission: Free

Venue: New Adelphi Exhibition Gallery, University of Salford

Thumbs Up

Artists: Michael Beard, Frances Disley, Harry Meadley and Leslie Thompson



Thumbs Up, Castlefield Gallery. Installation photograph courtesy of Harry Meadley.

The eagerly awaited *Thumbs Up* exhibition opened at the end of January to a packed-out crowd. Each of the artists were commissioned to make new work inspired by conversations and studio time with each other. Warm, bright and colourful the exhibition is full of energy and has plenty of physical and emotional space for reflection. Works by each of the artists will enter the University Art Collection at the end of the exhibition, however seeing them all together is must!

The exhibition was commissioned and curated in collaboration between [Castlefield Gallery](#), [Venture Arts](#) and [University of Salford Art Collection](#). In addition academics from the schools of [Health and Society](#) and [Science, Engineering and Environment](#) provided expert guidance and support.

Exhibition dates: Until Wednesday 8 March 2020

Opening hours: Wednesday – Sunday, 12 - 5.30pm

Venue: [Castlefield Gallery](#), Manchester

Vinyasa yoga with Fran

To reflect the themes of the *Thumbs Up* exhibition, which include making use of the gallery spaces in new and more flexible ways, there is an introductory Vinyasa yoga session at Castlefield Gallery, led by yoga expert Francesca Giacomozzi, [Flow with Fran](#).

Date: Saturday 22 February 2020, 12.30 -1.30pm.

Admission: £7.06 per person, per session (includes booking fee).

Book a place on either course [via Eventbrite](#).

Venue: [Castlefield Gallery](#), Manchester

Artist's talk: Frances Disley

Thumbs Up artist Frances Disley gives a talk at Castlefield Gallery on the theme of world-

building - the process of constructing imaginary worlds, sometimes whole fictional universes. For further details visit the [Eventbrite page](#).

Date: Tuesday 25 February, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Admission: £7, free for Castlefield Gallery Associates and Europa Art Collective. For tickets visit the [Eventbrite page](#).

Venue: [Castlefield Gallery, Manchester](#)

Gordon Cheung: *Tears of Paradise*



Gordon Cheung, *Tears of Paradise*, 2020. Installation photograph at Edel Assanti.

Courtesy of Edel Assanti, copyright Gordon Cheung.

Our recently commissioned work by Gordon Cheung features as part of his new solo exhibition *Tears of Paradise* at [Edel Assanti](#), London.

Event: [Gordon Cheung in conversation with Mark Rappolt](#)

Wednesday 19 February, 7 - 8pm

Gordon Cheung will be in conversation with Mark Rappolt, editor-in-chief of ArtReview. Their discussion will focus on ideas raised in Cheung's recent work in which he witnesses and interprets the emergence of China as a twenty first century global superpower, framing current events in the context of the "Century of Humiliation" and the opium wars.

Admission: Free, space is limited. Register at [Eventbrite](#) or email eve@edelassanti.com

Exhibition dates: Until Saturday 7 March

Opening hours: Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 6pm

Venue: [Edel Assanti, London](#)

He was a wild one



Harry Goodwin, *John Lennon - People For Peace*. Courtesy of the artist.

This exhibition includes a selection of British music photography from the 1950s and 1960s, from the Open Eye Gallery archive in Liverpool and the University of Salford Art Collection. Originally at New Adelphi Exhibition Gallery to coincide with *Everything I Have Is Yours*, the popular exhibition has been extended and relocated. It now also includes contemporary music photography by our students, submitted in response to the original exhibition.

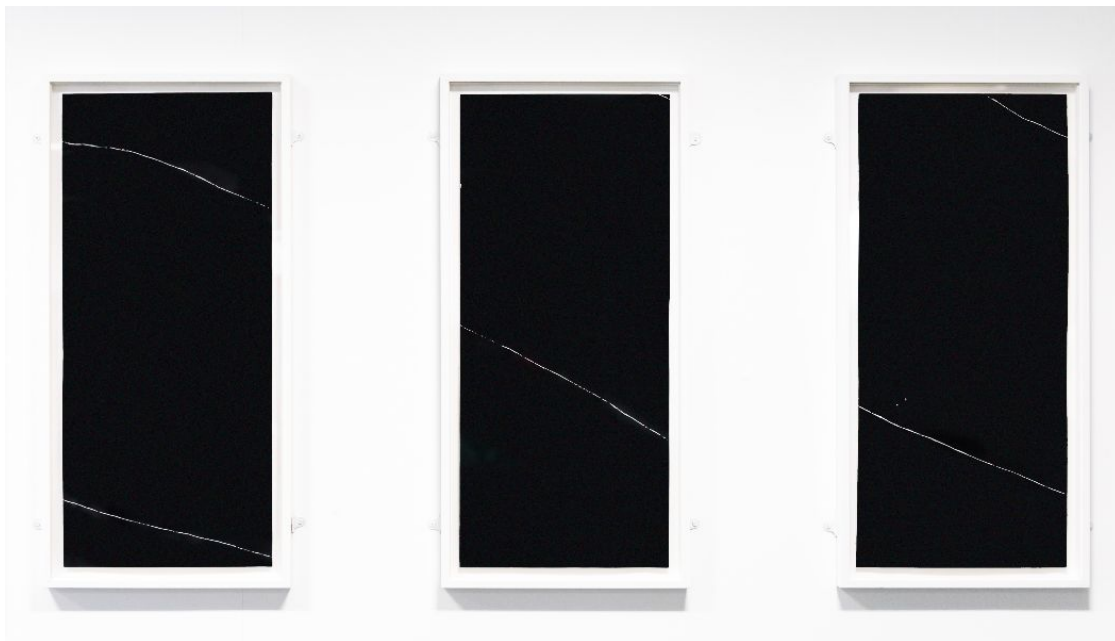
Exhibition dates: From Tuesday 13 February

Opening hours: Viewings by appointment only. Contact the Art Collection team at artcollection@salford.ac.uk or on 0161 295 4436.

Venue: The Council Chamber, The Old Fire Station, University of Salford

#hewasawildone #togetherwemove

Ma Qiusha: *Fog Series*
at Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre



Ma Qiusha, *Fog Series* (triptych), 2013. Watercolour on paper.

© Ma Qiusha. Photograph by Nick Harrison.

Ma Qiusha's *Fog Series* from the University of Salford Art Collection is currently on display at Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre as part of their *Mark Marking* exhibition.

The exhibition includes artefacts from the ethnography, archaeology and fine art collections at Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre, to explore 'mark-making' across a range of materials, from clay and plaster to ink and pencil on paper; in particular domestic items and work made by women.

Exhibition dates: Until Saturday 9 May

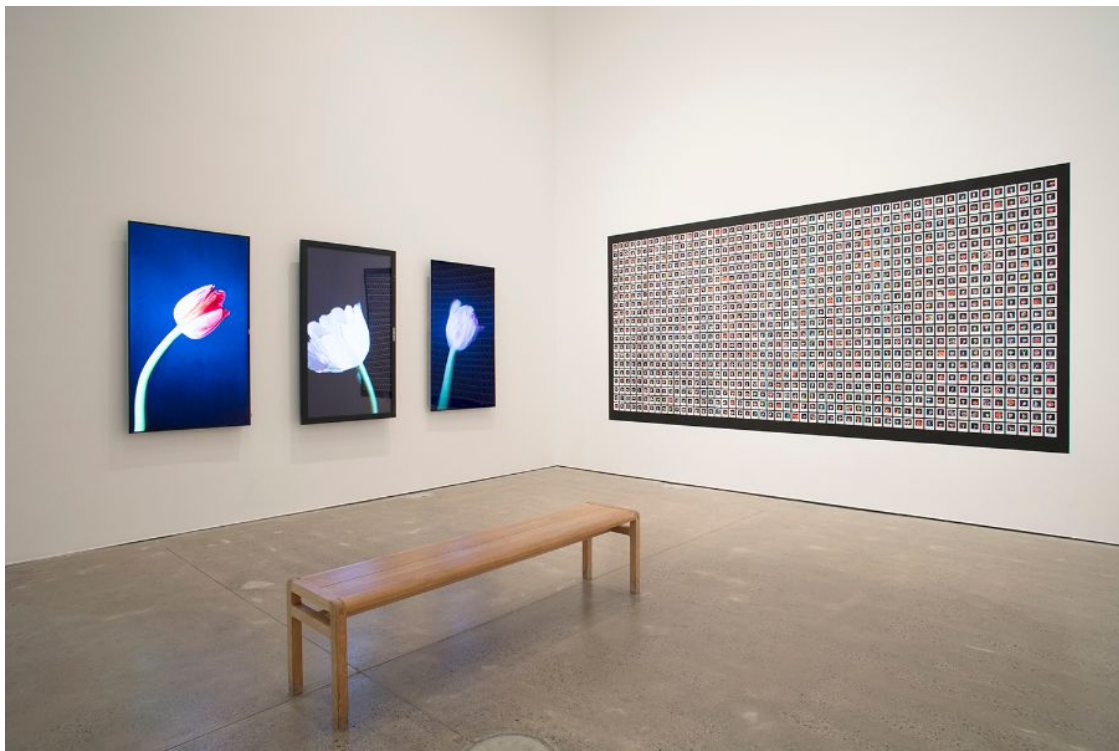
Opening hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm; Saturday 10am - 4.30pm.

Venue: [Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre](#)

Events

Anna Ridler: Artist Talk

Automated Dreaming: Using AI in a creative practice



Anna Ridler, *Peer to Peer* at Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool. Photograph by Tabitha Jussa.

University of Salford Art Collection is delighted to welcome [Anna Ridler](#) to talk about using machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) in her creative practice. She will use tulipmania, a moment in history when the price of a tulip bulb was equivalent to the price of town house in Amsterdam, as an analogy to illustrate the human desire to monetize the natural world and our tendency towards speculative absurdity. This historic phenomenon is used to examine the future in the creation of her works *Myriad (Tulips)*, *Mosaic Virus* and *Bloemenvieling* and to question what can be learnt about value, human control, and the tenuous line between “nature” and “artifice.”

Anna Ridler (b. 1985, UK) is an artist and researcher. She has exhibited at institutions such as the V&A Museum, Ars Electronica, HeK Basel, Impakt and the Barbican Centre and has degrees from the Royal College of Art, Oxford University and University of Arts London. She was a 2018 EMAP fellow and was listed by Artnet as one of nine “pioneering artists” exploring AI’s creative potential. She is interested in working with collections of information, particularly self-generated data sets, to create new and unusual narratives in a variety of mediums, and what happens when things cannot fit into discrete categories. She is currently interested in the intersection of machine learning and nature and what we can learn from history.

Anna’s work was recently shown in *Peer to Peer* (Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool and Shanghai Centre of Photography) where she was selected for one of two new commissions for the University of Salford Art Collection. Her most recent commission, for the [Photographers' Gallery in London](#), opens on 20 February.

Date: Thursday 5 March, 4 - 5.30pm

Venue: [Chapman 1 Lecture Theatre, Chapman Building](#), University of Salford, Peel Park Campus, Salford, M5 4WT

Admission: Free, but booking required via [Eventbrite](#).

The Superlative Artistry of Japan **Talks and workshops**



Takahiro Iwasaki, *Out of Disorder* (Section), 2017. Photograph © Shu Nakagawa.

Our colleagues at Salford Museum and Art Gallery with the support of the Japan Foundation are offering 3 events linked to the *Superlative Artistry of Japan* exhibition:

Artist talk: Takahiro Iwasaki

Wednesday 11 March, 6 – 7.30pm, free, booking required.

Takahiro Iwasaki makes intricate sculptures from banal household items such as towels, duct tape and toothbrushes. Work from his most well-known series *Out of Disorder* is on display in the exhibition. Iwasaki has exhibited extensively internationally, including representing Japan at the Venice Biennale in 2017 and his work is in museum collections in Japan, Australia, Europe and the USA. This talk provides a rare and exciting opportunity to find out more about Iwasaki's practice and the exhibition.

Manga Workshop Masterclass with Shango

Saturday 21 March, 12 – 2pm, £10, booking required.

Shangomola Edunjobi is an award-winning British Manga artist living in London. This workshop will look at the internationally renowned world of Manga, originally a form of Japanese comics, and how to take your ideas for characters and stories and turn them into your very own illustrations.

Exhibition tour by Professor Nicole Rousmaniere

Sunday 29 March 2.30 – 3.45pm, free, booking required

Professor Nicole Coolidge Rousmaniere is the founding Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures and Professor of Japanese Art and Culture at the University of East Anglia. She was lead curator of the Manga exhibition at the British Museum, London in 2019.

Professor Rousmaniere will offer an insightful exploration into the art and artists in the exhibition as well as the history of Japanese artistry.

For further information and bookings for all events visit [Salford Museum and Art Gallery website](#).

Venue for all events: [Salford Museum and Art Gallery](#).

News

Graduate Scholars update

Yesterday was one of our favourite days of the academic year: an opportunity to visit all our current Graduate Scholars in their studios. Along with our partners at Castlefield Gallery and the studio hosts we visited each studio to look at recent work and to discuss how the Scholars are finding the programme. Our current cohort comprises Amy Brown (Fine Art graduate) based at Mirabel Studios, Mollie Balshaw (Fine Art) and Heather Bell (Photography) sharing a studio at Islington Mill, Bridget Coderc (Photography) at Paradise Works and Ieva Sedova (current MA Contemporary Art Practice) at Hot Bed Press. It was a fantastic day – with a wide variety of interests, inspirations and ideas. We look forward to seeing how these manifest in the coming months.

Our 2018/19 Graduate Scholars are currently busy. Photographer Joshua Turner has launched a Kickstarter campaign to produce a photobook entitled Catch Your Breath: a photographic and literary response to the chaotic nature of Venice. Joshua visited the Venice Biennale last year as a British Council Fellow, through the Graduate Scholarship programme.

Sadé Mica is currently exhibiting in group exhibition GIVIN U COY GIVIN U SMIZE, IMT Gallery, London and also has a solo exhibition, It Teks Time, at Outpost, Norwich.

Alena Donely is running a weekend tufting course at the end of this month (29 February - 1 March) Islington Mill. Bookings and further details can be found on the Islington Mill website.

From 14 February - 14 June 2015/6 Graduate Scholar Joe Beedles, along with John Powell-Jones a member of staff in the School of Arts and Media, is in group exhibition Other Transmissions: Conversations with Outsider Art at The Whitworth, Manchester.

Collection artists featured in this month's the Fourdrinier

The February edition of the Fourdrinier features University of Salford Art Collection artists Darren Nixon and Sarah Hardacre; both artists will also be exhibiting at PAPER gallery, Manchester later in the year.

Sculptor William Mitchell



William Mitchell, *Untitled*, 1996. Frederick Road Campus, University of Salford.

The sculptor William Mitchell, whose work features on our Frederick Road campus has sadly died. A huge influence on public art in the 60s and 70s, his three Grade II listed untitled concrete figures were installed to coincide with the opening of Allerton Building in 1966. Anyone can visit the sculptures affectionately known as the *Minut Men* and *Faith, Hope and Charity*. More information on public art sculptures at the University can be found on [our website](#).

Also of interest

Abandon Normal Devices (AND) opportunities

We are currently developing an exciting new co-commission with the AND Festival team for mid-May - more details will follow. The Festival are currently looking for volunteers – this is a great opportunity to gain valuable experience, meet new people and work somewhere you would never have imagined an art festival!

AND are also seeking a Chair of Trustees. Closing date: Friday 14 February.

For details on both positions visit the [AND website](#).

The Lowry

Week 53: The Twenty

Twenty people from Salford have the chance to bring their own creative ideas to life as part of The Lowry's WEEK 53 festival.

There are no limits and no boundaries to what you can do. Twenty people in Salford will be given £500 each to make their own creative ideas a reality.

Criteria: Open to Salford residents only and aged 18+.

Deadline: Proposal by Friday 21 February.

For further details visit [The Twenty webpage](#).

Mark Devereux Projects

Critical Mass: Call for applications

Critical Mass is a new artist learning and development project by Mark Devereux Projects. Designed in response to the needs of artists, Critical Mass has been created to offer learning and development for ten practitioners who have been outside of undergraduate education for three or more years.

The eleven-month programme is punctuated by five creative retreats centred on a specific theme in Macclesfield, Cheshire. Individual sessions and workshops within the retreats will be tailored to the requirements highlighted by the participating artists.

Closing date: Sunday 8 March, 5pm

For further details visit the [Mark Devereux Projects website](#).

Creating / Collecting / Collaborating