

Discover & learn through expert talks at London Art Fair 2022

Talks and events schedule
announced for London Art
Fair 2022 (19–23 January)



- Sustainability, representation, and technology are key themes for London Art Fair's talks programme
- Performances will be held at two of the Fair's curated sections – Platform and Photo50
- Live workshops led by artists will provide opportunities to get creative

London Art Fair's annual programme of talks, tours, workshops and performances provide key insights into the latest trends emerging within the art market and important topics of discussion for the contemporary art scene. Curators, artists, directors, journalists and other leading figures within the arts industry join panels exploring the latest developments in collecting, technology, sustainability, and representation, as well as highlighting the curatorial themes that are presented in the Fair.

TALKS AND PERFORMANCES

Technology of the art market will be a prominent focus of the talks programme. Alex Estorick, Contributing Editor for Art and Technology at Flash Art, will chair *NFTs: A New Paradigm for Cultural Institutions?* addressing the burgeoning interest in the NFT as a medium of cultural transmission, with a focus on the implications of blockchain technology for the fine art market and cultural institutions. Chaired by gallery director Annka Kultys and joined by speakers including Alessandro Di Stasio, CEO and Co-Founder of Artscapey, a new digital platform centred around the needs of collectors, *Evolving Models for Collecting* will see a discussion on new ways of acquiring art and managing collections in a digital age.

Sustainability in the arts industry will also be a prominent focus of the Fair. Tatjana LeBoff, Barbican's exhibition organiser, and paintings conservator Joanna Shepard will discuss the opportunities presented by new innovations in courier technology. These innovations have developed as a response to Covid-19 restrictions, but also offer considerable benefits when it

comes to the reduction of carbon footprint for the art industry moving forward. The Fair will also include a sustainability focussed discussion based on the aims of Heath Lowndes' Gallery Climate Coalition. Lowndes will be joined by chair Louisa Buck and artist Gavin Turk to discuss the potential for art to inspire social and ecological change, and the practical measures the art world can take to improve sustainability and lower our collective carbon footprint.

The Fair's 2022 Museum Partner, **The New Hall Art Collection**, will explore the way in which the collection represents a feminist curatorial model and discuss the themes of their London Art Fair exhibition: *Myth-Making, Self-Fashioning: Women Artists from the Women's Art Collection at Murray Edwards College*. Chaired by Sophie Marie Niang, PHD Candidate University of Cambridge, the discussion will explore the collection's unique history, its origins and its evolution over the past three decades to become the largest collection of art by women in Europe. Along the theme of female representation, Catherine McCormack, art historian, curator and founder of the 'Women and Art' study programme at Sotheby's Institute of Art will chair a panel discussion on the future of activism and how artists and arts professionals are grappling with feminist issues today. Catherine will be joined by contemporary artists Adelaide Damoah and Nicole Wassall along with assistant curator of Contemporary British Art at Tate Britain Aicha Mehrez, and Nina Pearlman, Head of UCL Art Collections.



London Art Fair also sees the return of **Photography Focus Day** on Friday 21st January, which will include three critical talks based around the Photo50 exhibition *No Place Is An Island*, whose featured artists will discuss different aspects of the central question asked by the exhibition: *What is an island?* Brett Rogers MBE, Director of The Photographer's Gallery, will initiate by leading a panel discussing the ways in which landscape, photography and politics are connected. Two

additional talks will be led by Photo50 curator Rodrigo Orrantia, with the first of these exploring the various ways in which photography intersects with sculptural and performative artistic practices. The final panel of the day will celebrate the ten year anniversary since Photo50's revered 2012 exhibition, *The New Alchemists*, curated by the late Sue Steward, who was a major influence on the curation of this exhibition. Photography Focus Day will also contain a performance, unfolding as a live collage installation, by Tom Lovelace and Emily Ryalls.

The intersection of visual art and music will be the topic of discussion for **Platform**, London Art Fair's annual themed exhibition. Platform's Curator Candida Stevens will be joined by gallery director Cynthia Corbett, conductor Christopher Gayford, artist Vanessa Jackson RA and Contemporary Applied Arts sculptor Juliette Bigley, to discuss music as a significant influence in the history of art, through to contemporary and popular culture. Composer Dimitrios Skyllas will build further on the theme of art and music by performing a piano recital from *Abyss*, created in response to artist Matt Smith's ceramic piece 'Notes of a love song' which will be exhibited at Platform.

To discuss **the role of art fairs** in the 21st-century, Jeffery Boloten, Art and Business Programme Leader at Sotheby's Institute, will chair a panel joined by arts journalist and author Melanie Gerlis, Piano Noble gallery director Robert Travers and London Art Fair Director, Sarah Monk. Panellist Melanie Gerlis' new book *The Art Fair Story*, published by Lund Humphries,

explores the art fairs' rapid ascent and maps where they might go in a much-changed world. The panel will address how fairs were impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and how in-person events stay relevant in the new art world order.

Later in the week, artwork and interiors will be explored in ***Collecting and curating for the home***, which will see an expert panel including interiors editor Mary Weaver (Livingetc and Homes & Gardens) and art consultant Louisa Warfield, as well as interior designers from BILD, provide advice on how to source and collect art for interiors, and how to create visual impact with art in the home.

THURSDAY LATE

London Art Fair's popular **Thursday Late**, sponsored by Visit Malta, will run from 5pm–9pm. At the late opening, the Campari bar will provide refreshments for visitors to enjoy whilst they experience the Fair after dark.

WORKSHOPS AND GUIDED TOURS

Between 5–8pm on Thursday 20th January, there will be a Live Printmaking Demonstration with Jealous Gallery. Jess Wilson, artist and Creative Director of the print studio will present the creative process involved in silkscreen printmaking. A Family Workshop will also take place on Sunday 23rd January, 1–4pm, exploring place-making and bookbinding with guidance from artist Samantha Humphreys.



There will also be a selection of guided tours throughout the Fair week to enhance the experience of viewing the artworks on display. Highlight tours are provided by Sotheby's Institute of Art and Art Projects tours are provided by curator, Pryle Behrman.

Full information is available at londonartfair.co.uk/talks-programme where spaces for all talks and tours can be pre-booked.

Hannah Payne is curator of the talks programme at London Art Fair.

–ENDS–

Notes to editors:

Press contact:

For further information please contact Faye Cottrill and Julia Safe at **Flint Culture**: faye.cottrill@flint-culture.com | 0203 470 0094 | julia.safe@flint-culture.com | 0203 470 0096

About London Art Fair

London Art Fair will return to London for its 34th edition in 2022, recognised as a platform for connecting the best galleries from around the world with both seasoned and aspiring collectors, providing a unique opportunity to discover and champion outstanding modern and contemporary art.

The Fair seeks to nurture collecting at all levels whilst providing expert insight into the changing international market. Sitting alongside the main Fair, curated sections Art Projects and Photo50

feature the next generation of artists, collectives and gallerists; showcasing increasingly innovative and interactive ways to engage with art. The Fair's strong gallery line up is also complemented by an extensive programme of engaging talks, panel discussions, interactive performance art, and onsite activations from the Fair's partners.

Taking place from 19-23 January 2022 (Preview 18th January), London Art Fair is an unmissable opening to the international art calendar. www.londonartfair.co.uk