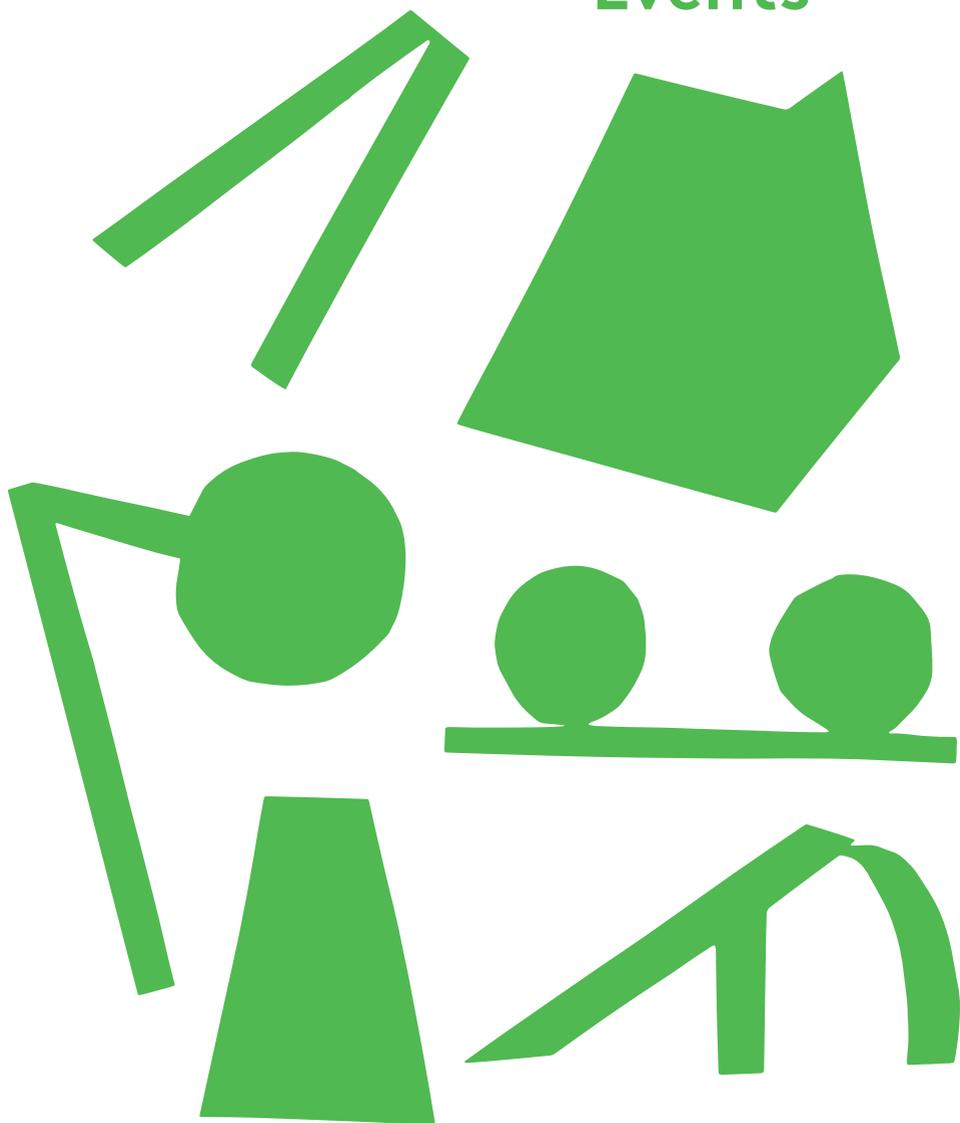


**Spike Island
Winter 2018**

**Exhibitions
Café
Events**



**Iman Issa
Material for 2018**

Exhibition

Iman Issa
Material for 2018
17 February to 15 April 2018
 Preview: Friday 16 February 2018, 6–9pm

Iman Issa (b. 1979, Cairo, Egypt, now lives and works in Berlin) makes work exploring the relationships between history, language, objects, and collective and individual memory. At Spike Island, Issa will present her largest UK exhibition to date.

Material is a series of ten 'displays' presented as alternative forms to existing monuments and memorials. Works with titles like *Material for a sculpture proposed as an alternative to a monument that has become an embarrassment to its people* (2010), question the resonance of monuments as times and ideas move on.

Common Elements (2013) – an installation of texts, photographs and sculpture – also shows how the stories of individuals can speak of wider political and social conditions. Issa mines the autobiographies of four central figures in Arab cultural knowledge, to extract passages that describe not only their own personal circumstance, but also wider historical contexts.

In these works and others, Issa uses a process of distilling or drawing out elements, resulting in different versions of collectively understood historical artefacts, facts and stories. Although her methodology is to define the instrumental qualities of an object or a text, she does not see it as a reductive approach, but rather as a means of understanding the resonance of the original elements in the present moment.

Material for 2018 brings together work made by Iman Issa over the last 7 years and includes her most recent work, *Book of Facts: A Proposition*.

The exhibition has been realised in partnership with Bielefelder Kunstverein, Germany.



Iman Issa *Material for a sculpture recalling the destruction of a prominent public monument in the name of national resistance* (2010) Installation detail. Photograph by Serkan Taycan. Courtesy the artist and Rodeo



Iman Issa *Material for a sculpture commemorating a blind man who became a great writer, opening up to unparalleled world of possibilities to the people of his nation* (2012) Installation detail. Photograph by Serkan Taycan. Courtesy the artist and Rodeo

4 Related Events

Exhibition Tours: Iman Issa

Saturday 10 March, 2pm

Free, no need to book

Led by Polly Maxwell, Spike Island/UWE
MA Curating student.

Saturday 24 February, 2pm

Saturday 17 March, 2pm

Led by History of Art students from the
University of Bristol.

Bristol and Bath Residents Weekend Tour of Monuments

Saturday 3 March, 2pm

Tickets on sale 12–18 February

A special event for residents of Bristol,
Bath, North Somerset and South
Gloucestershire

**£5, limited to 25 participants,
booking essential**

Explore some of Bristol's public
monuments in this guided walking tour
inspired by the work of Iman Issa.

For more information see
www.bbresweekend.co.uk



Iman Issa *Material for a sculpture commemorating the life of a soldier who died defending his nation against intruding enemies* (2012) Photograph by Benoit Pailley. Courtesy The New Museum, New York

5 Events

Discussion: Art and Its Materials

Led by Johnny Golding, Professor of
Philosophy and Fine Art at the Royal
College of Art, London

Thursday 15 March, 6–7.30pm

**£5/£3 (free for Associates),
booking advised**

An ongoing series exploring the
relationship between art, aesthetics
and contemporary materialism.

Study Day: How Do Artists and Arts Institutions Really Work?

Wednesday 28 February, 10am–4pm

**£5/£3 (free for Random Acts alumni),
booking advised**

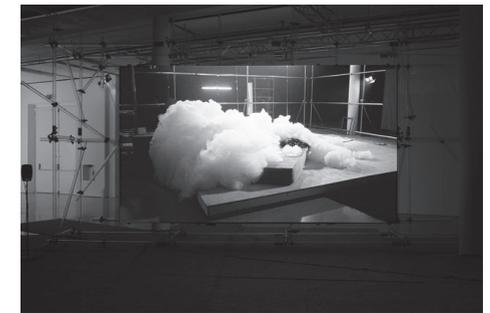
At Plymouth Arts Centre, 38 Looe Street,
Plymouth PL4 0EB

This all-day event focussed on artists' film
and moving image and aimed at early
career artists is a chance to meet and
learn from experienced artists and arts
professionals as they share their ideas and
experience of commissioning, producing
and presenting artists' film.

Study Day: Exploring Film and Video Presentation

Wednesday 24 January, 10am–4pm
**£5/£3 (free for Random Acts alumni),
booking advised**

Aimed at early career artists and film
makers, this all-day event explores film
and video presentation beyond linear,
single screen display. It is a chance
to meet and learn from experienced
artists and arts professionals as they
share their knowledge and expertise on
exhibiting moving image and its myriad
of possibilities.



Patrick Staff *The Foundation* (2015)
Installation view. Photograph by Stuart Whipps

Literature



Greta Schiller's documentary film *Paris was a Woman* (1996) Film still. Screening as part of Bristol Women's Literature Festival Launch (p.7)

Talk: Sally O'Reilly *Look How Everything Falls Apart in My Hands*

Tuesday 30 January, 6–7.30 pm
£5/£3 (free for Associates),
booking essential

Sally O'Reilly, a writer for art magazines, books, opera houses, galleries, auditoria and screens, talks about her recent projects dealing with historical, political and theoretical concerns through means that are absurdist, narrative and fragmenting.

Bristol Women's Literature Festival Launch

Film Screening and Discussion
Friday 16 March, 6.30–8.30pm
£5/£3, booking advised

Step back in time to 1920s Paris, where women from across America and Europe came together to form a community of writers, publishers and artists, and act as one another's muses.

The evening begins with a screening of Greta Schiller's documentary film *Paris was a Woman* (1996, 80mins) which explores the lives of these remarkable women, from Gertrude Stein and Colette, to Sylvia Beach and Janet Flanner, followed by short readings of their work.

Literature

Anneliese Mackintosh *So happy it hurts*

Thursday 18 January, 6.30–8pm

'I want to be a good person. And I want to be happy. So happy it hurts. I need you to help me with that.' Ottila McGregor is thirty years old and has decided it's time to sort her life out. She's going to quit drinking, stop cheating and finally find true happiness. Easy, right? Of course not.



Novel Writers

£5/£3

Each month we invite a debut novelist to read from and talk about their work in an informal setting. Prior knowledge of the text is not essential. Topics of discussion include theme, structure, inspiration and the craft of writing. These sessions are a great way to discover new writing talent and great books. In partnership with Bristol Festival of Ideas.

Zoe Gilbert *Folk*

Thursday 22 February, 6.30–8pm

On a remote and unforgiving island lies a village unlike any other: Neverness. In this world far from our time and place, the stories of the islanders interweave and overlap. Enchantment always lurks, blighting and blessing in equal measure: a girl is snatched by a water bull and dragged to his lair, a babe is born with a wing for an arm and children ask their fortunes of an oracle ox.

Folk is a dark, magical and staggeringly beautiful debut circling the lives of one generation, their own dark folklore twisting fates and changing lives.

ARKADY

PATRICK LANGLEY

Fitzcarraldo Editions

Patrick Langley *Arkady*

Thursday 22 March, 6.30–8pm

Join us for the Bristol launch of *Arkady*

Brothers Jackson and Frank live on the margins of a big urban sprawl. From abandoned tower blocks to gleaming skyscrapers, their city is brutal, beautiful and divided. As tensions bubble to the surface and the teeming metropolis is pushed to the brink, the young brothers sail off in search of the Red Citadel and its promise of another way of life.

A portrait of modern urban living, Patrick Langley's debut *Arkady* is a brilliant coming-of-age novel as brimming with vitality as the city itself.

Studios

Behind the Scenes Studio Visits

Free, booking advised

Meet artists based at Spike Island, explore their studios and view works in progress during these informal encounters. Each artist gives a brief introduction to their practice followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Georgia Hughes

Saturday 20 January, 2pm

Georgia Hughes' interests lie in costume, cloth making and textile industries, particularly the social, political and economic aspects of craft-based communities.

Natasha Rosling

Saturday 17 February, 2pm

Natasha Rosling makes installations, voice and soundscapes that deal with the pleasures, anxieties and contradictions of being a body in the world.

Olivia Jones

Saturday 24 March, 2pm

Olivia Jones' work considers how we perceive and comprehend structures within our environment through drawing, print and sculpture.

Test Space

Test Space is programmed by studio holders based at Spike Island and offers artists a chance to exhibit new works and test ideas. Artists from within the Spike Island community and beyond are included. Please ask at reception for access.

d/UMP

17 February to 4 March

Preview: Friday 16 February, 6-9pm

The first public output by d/UMP, founded by artists Annabelle Craven-Jones and Anja Borowicz, is an open-ended investigation into how diagrammatic tools can be applied to thinking practices within art making.

Art in Motion [AIM]

Homespun

10 to 25 March

Preview: Friday 9 March, 6-8pm

AIM spin tales, sounds, and scenes from the homes of Betty Sargent, Chris Rose, Dave Peace, Jeff Johns and Jonathan Barr Lindsay.

Activities

I am Making Art

Free, booking advised

Materials provided, donations welcome

These monthly activity sessions are led by artists and take place in Spike Island Café. Visitors of all ages and abilities can try out new techniques and approaches to making art, from drawing and painting to collage, sculpture and animation, and are invited to drop in any time during the session.

Baby Art Hour

Friday 26 January, 10-11am

Friday 23 February, 10-11am

Friday 23 March, 10-11am

£3 for the first child in a family group

£1 for each additional child

Booking essential

All materials provided

Led by artist Éilis Kirby, these monthly sessions in Spike Island Café are for under fives and their carers. Come play with colour, shape, texture and learn easy ways to create, using simple methods and materials. The gallery opens early at 11am so you can view the current exhibitions after the session.

PRODUCTIONPRODUCTIONPRODUCTION

Saturday 13 January, 2-5pm

Inspired by the Eastern European tradition седянка (sedianka), members of Spike Associates welcome you to sit-in for a communal session of knitting, weaving, sewing and storytelling.

Viewfinder

Saturday 3 February, 2-5pm

Make and use your own viewfinder and draw what you can see. This session led by Rising Arts Agency associate artists explores ideas of collaborative drawing, playing with scale and pattern.

Dream & Make

Saturday 3 March, 2-5pm

Create sculptures and projections from found materials inspired by Iman Issa's current exhibition with Laura Phillimore of Dream & Make. This session is particularly suited to children aged 5 to 11.



Baby Art Hour at Spike Island

Coming Soon

Alex Cecchetti *At the Gates of the Music Palace*

5 May to 8 July 2018

Preview: Friday 4 May 2018, 6–9pm

Alex Cecchetti's first UK solo exhibition brings together performance, drawing, painting, sculpture and sound installation, turning Spike Island's gallery space into a three-dimensional concert. Visitors are invited to contribute to the musical score as they make their way through an unexpected sensory pathway.

Zoë Paul *La Perma-Perla Kraal Emporium*

5 May to 8 July 2018

Preview: Friday 4 May, 6–9pm

Zoë Paul works primarily with sculpture, textile and drawing to explore the character of domestic spaces, both in architectural and social terms, and in particular, the point where the threshold between the interior and the exterior seems to disappear. Paul's exhibition at Spike Island evolves around La Perma-Perla Kraal Emporium, a collaborative work that invites visitors to sit around a long table and make clay beads, thereby becoming the work at the same time as creating it.



Visit Linda Brothwell in her studio at Spike Island during Open Studios (see p.13) Photograph by Lisa Whiting

Bristol New Music

21 to 22 April 2018

The very best international new music presented at venues across the city. Spike Island, Arnolfini, Colston Hall, St George's Bristol and University of Bristol bring a series of live performances and installations at the edge of music and the visual arts while working to create opportunities for emerging regional artists and musicians.

Open Studios

4 to 7 May 2018

Spike Island Open Studios sees artists and tenants throw open their doors. You are invited to explore the working environments of hundreds of artists, designers and creative businesses. The weekend includes family friendly activities, tours, events and pop-ups by some of Bristol's best street food traders.

Calendar

January

Saturday 13	2–5pm	I Am Making Art	p.11
Thursday 18	6.30pm	Novel Writers: Anneliese Mackintosh	p.8
Saturday 20	2pm	Behind the Scenes Studio Visits	p.10
Wednesday 24	10am–4pm	Study Day: Exploring Film and Video Presentation	p.5
Friday 26	10–11am	Baby Art Hour	p.11
Tuesday 30	6–7.30pm	Talk: Sally O'Reilly	p.7

February

Saturday 3	2–5pm	I Am Making Art	p.11
Friday 16	6–9pm	Exhibition Previews: Iman Issa <i>Material for 2018</i>	p.2
		Test Space: d/UMP	p.10
Saturday 17	2pm	Behind the Scenes Studio Visits	p.10
Friday 22	6.30pm	Novel Writers: Zoe Gilbert	p.9
Friday 23	10–11am	Baby Art Hour	p.11
Saturday 24	2pm	Exhibition Tour	p.4
Wednesday 28	10am–4pm	Study Day: How Do Artists and Arts Institutions Really Work?	p.5
		This event takes place at Plymouth Arts Centre	

March

Saturday 3	2pm	Bristol and Bath Residents Weekend: Tour of Monuments	p.4
	2–5pm	I Am Making Art	p.11
Friday 9	6–8pm	Exhibition Preview: Test Space: Art in Motion	p.10
Saturday 10	2pm	Exhibition Tour	p.4
Thursday 15	6–7.30pm	Discussion: Art and Its Materials	p.5
Friday 16	6.30–8.30pm	Bristol Women's Literature Festival Launch	p.7
Saturday 17	2pm	Exhibition Tour	p.4
Thursday 22	6.30pm	Novel Writers: Patrick Langley	p.9
Friday 23	10–11am	Baby Art Hour	p.11
Saturday 24	2pm	Behind the Scenes Studio Visits	p.10

Book for events online at www.spikeisland.org.uk, call 0117 929 2266 or visit reception.

Support us

Volunteer

Join our dynamic team of volunteers and make a significant contribution to the work we do, while gaining valuable work experience within the arts. Apply online at www.spikeisland.org.uk/ opportunities

Donate

Spike Island is a registered charity (no.1003505) working to nurture artistic talent and bring artists and audiences together. Your gift, via our website or at one of our donations boxes, supports free entry to exhibitions, educational activities, subsidised studios and artists' development.

Workspace Available

Spike Design, our affordable co-working space, provides incubation and collaborative opportunities for creative businesses with a focus on design and related disciplines, including film and TV production, new media, architecture and marketing. Apply at www.spikeisland.org.uk/spike-design

Equipment Hire

We have a comprehensive range of production and presentation equipment available to hire including HD projectors, video cameras and lenses, and exhibition audio. Our edit suite is also available for dry hire or with an experienced editor to suit your project. Find out more at www.spikeisland.org.uk/equipment-hire

Also available in large print.
Ask at reception, email
admin@spikeisland.org.uk
or call 0117 929 2266.

Thank you

Spike Island is a registered charity (no.1003505). Spike Island gratefully acknowledges support from Arts Council England and Bristol City Council.

The exhibition is realised in partnership with Bielefelder Kunstverein, Germany. *Common Elements* by Iman Issa was commissioned by The Abraaj Group Art Prize, 2013.

Thank you to Greta Schiller for permission to screen her film for the Bristol Women's Literature Festival.

Sally O'Reilly's talk is part of the Art Writers Programme organised in partnership with the Art Writers Group.

Art and Its Materials is organised in partnership with the Philosophy Programme and Social Sciences in the City, University of the West of England (UWE) and the Working Group on Contemporary Materialism.

Bristol Women's Literature Festival is produced in collaboration with Bristol Festival of Ideas.

Novel Writers is produced by Spike Island in partnership with Bristol Festival of Ideas.

Study Days 'Exploring Film and Video Presentation' and 'How Do Artists and Arts Institutions Really Work?' are produced in association with Calling the Shots.



Bristol Festival of Ideas/

Art
Writers
Group

Bristol & Bath
Cultural Destinations

Spike Island

Spike Island is an international centre for the development of contemporary art and design. A vibrant hub for production, presentation and debate, it invites audiences to engage directly with creative practices through participation and discussion.

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Mailing list

Visit our website to sign up for Spike Island's fortnightly e-newsletter or email admin@spikeisland.org.uk

Visitor Information

Gallery open Tuesday to Sunday, 12–5pm (during exhibitions only). Admission to the gallery is free. Prices for events vary, please see individual listings for details.

Café open Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm, Saturday and Sunday, 10am–5pm.

 @spike_cafe

Spike Island aims to be a fully accessible building. There are three Blue Badge parking spaces outside the main entrance.

Booking Information

Book for events online at www.spikeisland.org.uk, call 0117 929 2266 or visit Reception.

