

Press Release

Hastings Contemporary Announces Project Art Works Exhibition: *Ignition* at Coastal Gallery

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[#ProjectArtWorks](https://www.instagram.com/ProjectArtWorks)



Hastings Contemporary, one of the UK's most revered contemporary galleries is delighted to announce that *Project Art Works*, the *Turner Prize* nominated collective of neurodiverse artists and activists based in the historic coastal town of Hastings, will present a new exhibition celebrating their extraordinary creative output at the Foreshore Gallery in Hastings Contemporary.

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Opening on 8th October 2021 and continuing on with the successful partnership already forged between the south coast gallery and this revered charitable organisation, Hastings Contemporary will present works from the Project Art Works archive alongside work created during the Ignition Studio Intervention that took place at Hastings Contemporary during the last lockdown.

Project Art Works temporarily took over part of Hastings Contemporary for a collaborative residency to recover and reconnect as the winter ended and spring began. This collaboration marked the emergence from a long year of lockdown and isolation to a more hopeful and safe environment within the gallery space.

The opening in October of *Project Art Works* collective exhibition will coincide with opening of *The Turner Prize* Exhibition show at The Herbert Gallery in Coventry as part of *The UK City of Culture 2021*. The eventual winner, of which Project Art Works is a nominee, will be announced on 1st December 2021. The awards will be broadcast via a live screening at Hastings Contemporary Gallery, with gallery tours of the exhibition being led by our celebrated Robot and interactive workshops and events will be announced in the coming weeks.

Says Director of Hastings Contemporary Liz Gilmore

Earlier this year at Hastings Contemporary, during lockdown, passers-by looking through the windows of the closed gallery were able to view the studio practices of the astonishing Project Art Works artist collective. It is perhaps not surprising that the extraordinary art and practices of Project Art Works have been nominated for the 2021 Turner Prize. Coinciding with the Turner Prize exhibition in Coventry this autumn, this exhibition gives a chance to see the finished artworks made in lockdown and wider selection of pieces made by this important artist collective. It celebrates the incredible and dynamic contribution of neurominorities to art and society and reflects the commitment and ambitions of Hastings contemporary to be a cultural hub for Hastings.

Says Kate Adams CEO/Artist Director of Project Art Works

Project Art Works has been nominated for the Turner Prize in recognition of our practice over the last 20 years, which celebrates and raises awareness of the dynamic and extraordinary contribution neurominorities make to society, art and culture.

We are thrilled that the contribution neurodivergent artists make to cultural and civic life has been recognised by the Turner Prize curatorial team. Hosting our exhibition at Hastings Contemporary gives local people the opportunity to see the work made in our residency earlier this year and join in our celebration of this nomination. We have collaborated with Hastings Contemporary for a number of years so it's wonderful to have them as hosts of this exhibition.

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Hastings Contemporary has now successfully re-opened to Members, Patrons and to all visitors, with a much-anticipated exhibition *Seaside Modern*, which will remain open until the 31st October.

Ignition Exhibition

Friday 8th October 2021

Join Project Art Works from Hastings Contemporary where we explore our creative practice and how it promotes representation of neurodiverse artists and those who care for them in culture and care.

IMAGES

Credit: Luke Bebb, Untitled, 2021, acrylic on fabriano, 240 x 292cm © Project Art Works

www.projectartworks.org

Find out more about Ignition <https://projectartworks.org/exhibitions/ignition-at-hastings-contemporary/>

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Notes to editors:

About Project Art Works

Project Art Works collaborates with people with complex support needs, families and circles of support. Our practice intersects art and care responds to neurodivergence, its gifts and impacts. Challenging paradigms of inclusion, it spans direct practical and holistic support, film, events, projects and exhibitions.

Our studios provide the conditions for a broad range of autonomous and collaborative practices with neurodivergent artists, who take part on their own terms. Alongside the studios, the Support Collective brings together people who care for people with complex support needs where we share our experience and protect our rights through training, resources and advocacy.

Human connection and what it reveals about identity and how we view each other are explored within our work. Our practice continues to respond to the functional and ethical structures of diligence and care, respecting self-determination and privacy whilst working towards greater visibility and understanding of neurodiversity in culture.

www.projectartworks.org

#ProjectArtWorks

Hastings Contemporary

Hastings Contemporary champions modern and contemporary art. An ambitious programme of temporary exhibitions showcases work by important Modern British artists, internationally celebrated artists, and emerging practitioners, often in Kunsthalle-style displays throughout the building. The gallery has developed a reputation for its focus on painting. Innovative programming, partnerships and collaborations support a commitment to outreach, learning and participation. The award-winning building is located on the town's historic fishing beach among the net huts and working structures of the fishing fleet.

Hastings Contemporary is a registered charity and all proceeds are put back into the gallery, educational programme and community outreach projects.

www.hastingscontemporary.org

#HastingsContemporary #ArtOnSea #HereForCulture *Registered charity no. 1150383*

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