

Julian Abraham 'Togar' *REXONCILIATION*

Large Print Wall Text

24 May – 8 September 2024

Acting as a music studio, a gathering space and an immersive live exhibition, *REXONCILIATION* explores the work of artist Julian Abraham 'Togar' (b.1987, Indonesia) through the lens of his *OK Studio* (2020 – present): a space that urges us to closely listen to the sounds and voices around us.

Here, reconciliation happens through close listening, improvisation and open composition, allowing all to organically come together and create an acoustic space. *OK Studio* embodies different possibilities at once; a composing body consisting of live automated synthesisers and activated musical instruments that creates a continuous soundscape and a space of improvisation. In this space the audience is welcome to engage with the instruments and breathe music back into the exhibition. *REXONCILIATION* is Togar's first solo exhibition in a UK and European institution

and brings together works from his artistic practice from different periods, contexts, and relationships.

By transforming the gallery into a social composing device, *REXONCILIATION* attempts to generate a communal space where sound is the main medium, and the roles of 'host' and 'guest' are intertwined and subverted. Through improvisation, informal gatherings, jamming sessions and conversations, a type of call and response style of engagement takes shape. This collective enquiry into our understanding of community prompts us to consider hospitable and generative ways of making music and listening in collaboration. *REXONCILIATION* holds the gallery open for informal gatherings, listening sessions and conversations under a series of events titled *Feedback Loop*, which alludes to different ways of listening and being together, therefore reconciling with those around us.

RELATED EVENTS

Feedback Loop

Fri 31 May – Sun 8 Sep

An event series hosted in *REXONCILIATION* and consisting of listening sessions, informal gatherings, performances, jam sessions and conversations, reflecting on the question “what kind of hosts are we?”. With contributions from Andrea Zarza Canova, Brother Portrait, Qaa’Sim Uhuru, Chan Fagan, David Soin Tappeser, Dipesh Pandya, Guohan Zheng (Running Circle Records), Mac Collins, Masimba Hwati, Natasha Soobramanien, NWAkke, Paul Nataraj, Paul Pryce, Robin Hood Youth Orchestra, Shamica Ruddock, Sōy Division, Ubuntu, Waste Paper Opera, Yazan Khalili.

Exhibition Walkthroughs

Sun 2 June, 12pm

Andrea Zarza Canova, archivist, curator and researcher.

Wed 5 June, 12pm

Welcome Walkthrough

Explore the exhibition with our team and community partners Ubuntu, followed by refreshments and conversation in the café.

Wed 5 June, 2pm

Sound bath with Nila Shah, Ubuntu.

Wed 12 June, 1pm

Curator's Walkthrough

Join Nottingham Contemporary's curators for a tour of our summer exhibitions.

Wed 3 July, 1pm

Dr Lucy Lopez, curator and writer.

12.30 Talks

12.30pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, starting Tuesday 4 June.

Join one of our friendly Gallery Assistants for a short exploration of one of our current exhibitions.

Artist Talk

Thurs 6 June, 1pm

Yos Clark in conversation with Dwayne Church-Simms. Presented in partnership with FABRIC as part of Transform, a city takeover to celebrate and amplify Global Ethnic Majority talent.

Performance: Ideal Life

Sat 15 June, 6.30pm

A live performance by artist Yos Clark. Presented in partnership with FABRIC as part of Transform.

Summer Solstice Party

Sat 22 June

Join us to celebrate the summer solstice and our fifteenth birthday with a day of events, performance and activities.

The Screen at Contemporary

Our strand of arthouse, cult and classic cinema continues in August and September.

Free Family Activities

Spring Half-Term: 28 - 30 May

Summer Holidays: 30 July – 22 Aug

Explore the themes in the exhibitions through making and play.

For more information about the exhibition, related events and learning programmes, visit nottinghamcontemporary.org or scan here:



Julian Abraham 'Togar': *RE\ONCILIATION* is generously supported by the British Council, and the Julian Abraham 'Togar' Exhibition Circle: ROH, Natasha Sidharta and those who wish to remain anonymous.

The exhibition is co-devised by Canan Batur, Niall Farrelly, Ali Roche, Amanda Spruyt, Klara Szafrńska, Salma Tuqan, and Julian Abraham 'Togar'.

Special thanks to members of the Robin Hood Youth Orchestra, Ian Burton and the team at Nottingham Music Service, and Elias Anastas.

Togar's residency in Nottingham was hosted by Primary.

The Refugee Piano in *RE\ONCILIATION* has been gifted by the Jon Rumney Estate. Following the close of the exhibition, it will be gifted onwards to the local community.

Exhibition graphics by Studio Marie Lusa.

Cover image courtesy Julian Abraham 'Togar'.

Photo: Julian Abraham 'Togar'.

If you would like a quiet space to reflect during your visit, please visit Gallery 0 (room adjacent to Gallery 1).

If you would like to use any alternative forms of interpretation, we have a range of accessible versions on our Access Wall beside Reception.

Environmental: Nottingham Contemporary is committed to advancing sustainability within the organisation and aims to explore and embed sustainable working practices and habits within our workplace and across the sector. This includes standardising environmental considerations at all stages of decision making.

The artwork in *RECONCILIATION* has been transported by sea freight. During Togar's residency and exhibition, instruments, materials and exhibition furniture have been loaned, re-purposed and re-used. This document is printed on FSC Mix paper (Forest Stewardship Council ® certified products manufactured with a variety of sources including FSC-certified virgin fibre, controlled wood and/or recycled materials). Please return to a member of staff or recycle should you not want to keep after your visit.

Nottingham Contemporary is a registered charity and dependent on the generosity of our visitors, partners and supporters. Donate today to directly support our ambitious exhibitions, and the vital work we do with artists, schools, young people, and our local community.

Suggested donation: £5