

**Nottingham  
Contemporary**

**Allan Weber**

***My Order***

**Easy Read Guide**



# How to use this Guide



In this guide, hard to understand words are underlined. We explain what these words mean after they have been used.

The guide starts with an introduction about the exhibition.

After the introduction, there are sections of the guide telling you about the different things the exhibition thinks about.

You can use the contents page to find out which page of the guide information on each thing is found at.

The contents page is on the next page and tells you what page number to turn to for each section.

The page numbers are written at the bottom of each page.

You don't need to read the whole guide unless you want to. You can pick a section and read it.

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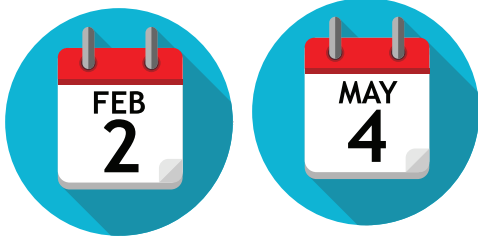
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# Introduction



**This exhibition is a display of artworks by an artist called Allan Weber.**



**We are showing works by Allan at Nottingham Contemporary from 2 February to 4 May 2025.**



**Allan is an artist from Brazil.**



# Rio de Janeiro



Allan lives and works in a city in Brazil called Rio de Janeiro.



Some of the photos in Gallery 1 show Allan's life in Brazil.



Rio de Janeiro has lots of favelas. Favelas are areas where people build their own homes from things we don't often think about houses being made from like sheets of metal and plastic, as well as things like bricks which we might usually expect houses to be made from. These homes are usually very close together and are often not built in a permanent way. This means they won't stay standing forever and can be taken apart quite easily. These homes are usually lived in by people who don't have a lot of money.

# Crime



A lot of people in Brazil think that favelas are full of crime. Crime is anything that is against the law. This includes things like stealing, selling drugs or killing people.



Allan has created some artworks that look like guns.



These artworks are made out of parts of old cameras.



In the place where Allan lives there is a lot of crime to do with drug dealing. Drug dealing is when people sell illegal drugs. Illegal drugs are things like pills or things people smoke to make them feel a different way. This is a bit like how we might take a painkiller when we have a headache to make the headache go away. Illegal drugs are things you can't buy in a shop because the people who make the laws in a country have decided these drugs are dangerous and shouldn't be allowed.



A lot of the people who sell illegal drugs carry guns.



Allan wants to show people that drug dealing isn't the only way to make money. Allan thinks making art is a good way to make money.



**When he made these guns out of cameras, Allan was thinking about the ways selling art is similar to selling drugs.**



**A lot of drug dealers where Allan lives have special names which are different to their real name. They use these names so that people don't know who they really are. They also use these names to make themselves seem powerful.**



**Allan has a special name as an artist. This is a name people in Rio de Janeiro call Allan. This name is "Allan da arte". This means "Allan from the arts". You can see this name written on the cameras.**



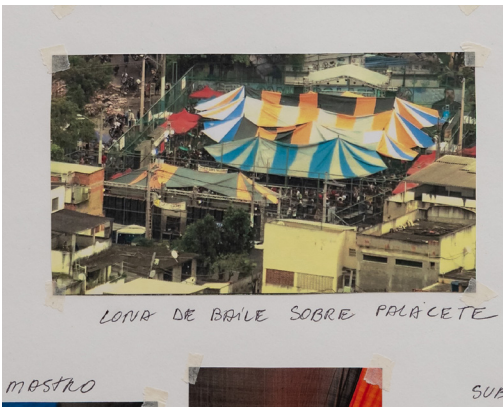
# Funk Parties



Allan knows that favelas are full of more than just crime. He knows that favelas are full of culture. Culture includes things like art, music, dancing and writing.



A big part of culture in the favelas is a type of party called bailes funk. This means funk parties in English. These are parties where loud music is played and people come together to dance and have a good time.



The funk parties happen in tents which are made from big colourful tarpaulins. Tarpaulins are big fabric sheets made from soft plastic.





**Allan makes artworks using tarpaulins.**



**These artworks are about the funk parties in Brazil.**



**The police in Brazil have criminalised funk parties. Criminalised means that something is made illegal and the police tell people not to do it. People can get in trouble if they do it.**



**The police stop a lot of funk parties. They turn off the music and make people go home. Sometimes they arrest people at the parties too. Being arrested means the police take people to a police station and ask them questions. Sometimes these people are sent to prison.**



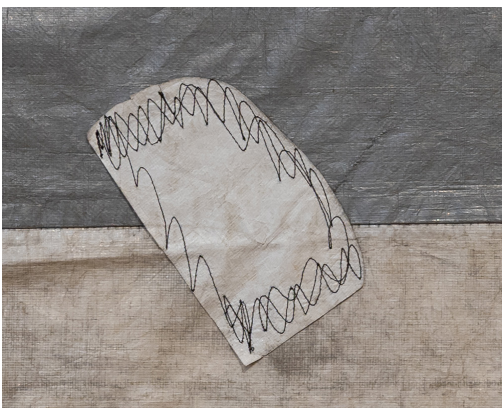
**Allan doesn't think it is right that funk parties are criminalised. Allan thinks funk parties are a good thing where people can have a good time together.**



**The police often cut up the tarpaulins used at funk parties. They use knives to cut the tarpaulins.**



**Allan uses cut up tarpaulins in his artworks to make people think about this.**



**You can see some cuts that have been repaired in the tarpaulins in Allan's artworks. Repaired means fixing something which is broken. The cuts in the tarpaulins have been fixed with threads and patches of fabric.**



Allan has also made some collages about funk parties. Collages are artworks which are made by cutting up pictures and pieces of paper and sticking them together to make a new picture.



Allan's collages show the tents from funk parties at art galleries and museums.



Allan was thinking about how funk parties are normally hidden away in favelas.



Allan thinks funk parties should only be in favelas. He doesn't want them to be in galleries. Allan thinks some art galleries are not very welcoming to all people. Funk parties in favelas are places where everyone is welcome.

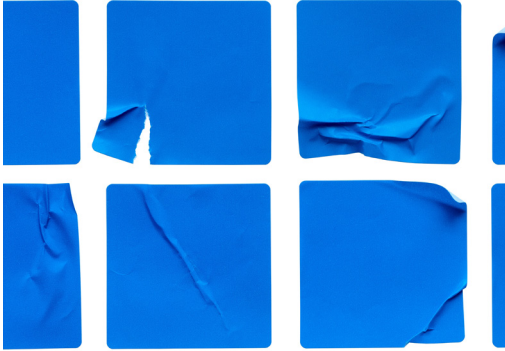




**Allan was thinking about the roles of different buildings and taking over different spaces when he made these collages.**

**Roles are the job or function a person or thing does. A gallery has the role of being a place where people can come to see art.**

# Brazilian Neo-Concrete Movement



Allan is interested in an art movement called the Brazilian Neo-Concrete Movement.



An art movement is a style of art that a group of people make. The people who make it are usually working at the same time as each other and in the same area of the world. An art movement can inspire other artists. This means that people want to make art in the same way or that looks like other art.



The Brazilian Neo-Concrete Movement was an art movement that happened in Brazil in the 1950s and 1960s.





**The Brazilian Neo-Concrete Movement was made by a group of artists who wanted to see more colour and emotion in art.**



**They made brightly coloured artworks about their feelings.**

# Delivery Riders



Allan worked as a delivery rider in Brazil. Delivery riders are people who ride bikes or motorbikes and deliver food.



Delivery riders work for companies like Deliveroo and Uber Eats. These are food delivery companies where people use apps on their phones to buy food. Delivery riders collect the food from restaurants and take it to people's homes.



Allan worked as a delivery rider to make money while he was becoming an artist.



Some of the photos in gallery 2 are from when Allan was a deliveroo rider during the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic was when an illness called COVID spread very quickly and made lots of people ill across the world.



**These photos were some of Allan's first artworks.**



**Allan thought the bag he used during his delivery work was like an art gallery he could move around the city.**



**Allan has made a video artwork which is shown inside a food delivery bag in the gallery. This food delivery bag is the one Allan used when he worked as a delivery rider in Brazil.**



**The video shows people flying kites on a sunny day in Brazil.**





**People in Brazil often fly kites when the weather is sunny. Young people who live in the favelas climb onto the flat roofs of the houses there to fly kites. They jump from one roof to the next roof, following the kites.**



**The delivery bag and the video both make Allan think about Rio de Janeiro where he is from.**



**Allan has also made an artwork out of motorbike helmets, food bags, motorbike seats and nets.**



**The objects in this artwork were all bought in Rio de Janeiro and Nottingham.**



**The objects in this artwork are all things used by delivery riders.**



**Allan thinks it is interesting that the things used by delivery riders are the same in lots of countries across the world.**



**The artwork is hanging from the gallery ceiling.**



**The artwork is held together by stretchy ropes called bungee cords. Bungee cords are often used by delivery riders to attach bags and other things to their bikes.**





The way the ropes and nets in this artwork are hanging looks like a safety net. A safety net is something that catches you if you fall. This stops you from getting hurt.



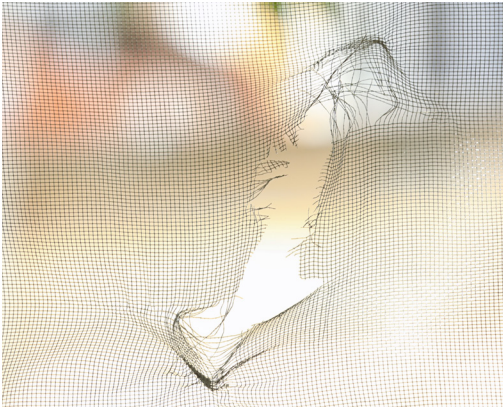
We can think about jobs like being a delivery rider as being like safety nets. The money delivery riders make keeps them safe because it means they can pay for the things they need like food or a place to live.



Allan wants us to think about the way the net in this artwork is hanging from the ceiling.



The artwork is very safe so it won't hurt visitors, but it looks like it's not very safe.



**Allan wants us to think about the way safety nets can break.**



**For delivery riders if there is not enough work for them it is like their safety net is broken. When this happens they don't have enough money to buy the things they need.**

# Allan's Residency in Nottingham



**Last year Allan spent a month living in Nottingham.**



**Allan spent his time in Nottingham thinking about artworks he would make for his exhibition.**



**Allan wanted to get to know lots of people in Nottingham.**

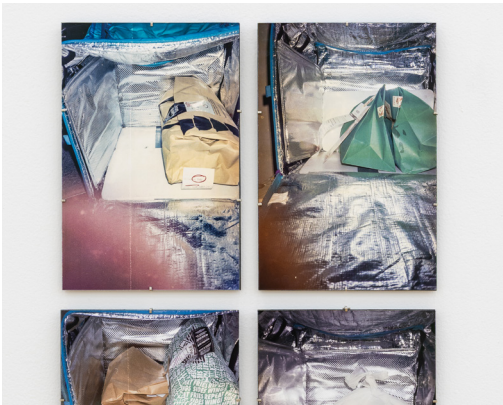




**Meeting new people helped him to get ideas to make new artworks.**



**Allan spent a lot of time meeting people in Nottingham who work as delivery riders for companies like Deliveroo and Uber Eats.**



**Allan worked as a delivery rider while he was in Nottingham. He took photos while he was delivering food. Some of these photos are in Gallery 2.**



**When Allan was in Nottingham he spent a lot of time in a shop and café called Made in Brazil.**



Allan spent time there because delivery riders hang out there.



Allan also spent a lot of time in a barbershop called Arabian Barber in Nottingham. A barbershop is where people go to get their hair cut.



Allan spent time there because it is a place where a lot of delivery riders go to get their hair cut and spend time together.



Allan has made an artwork for this exhibition which is made of razor blades. Razor blades are sharp pieces of metal used to cut people's hair.

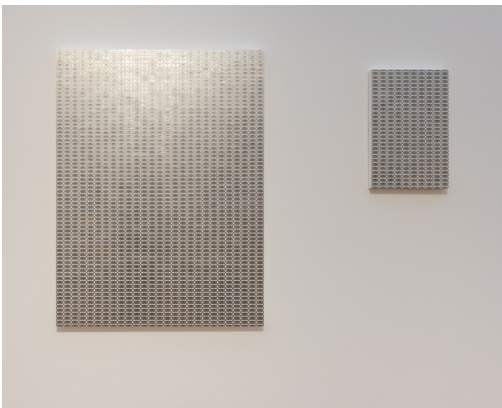




**There is a haircut in Rio de Janeiro which lots of people have. This haircut is called a fade. This haircut is made with razor blades.**



**When he made the new artwork from razorblades, Allan was thinking about haircuts in Brazil and the time he spent in the barbershop in Nottingham.**



**Allan has made three artworks from razor blades. Two of the artworks are in our galleries.**



**Allan has put the other razor blade artwork in the barbershop in Nottingham.**



The razor blade artworks are part of a series of artworks called 'Traficando Arte'. This means 'Dealing Art' in English.



Allan has sold the other artworks he made as part of this series.



Allan was interested in the value of artworks. The value is the amount of money we decide it is worth paying to own something. Allan decided how much these artworks would cost.



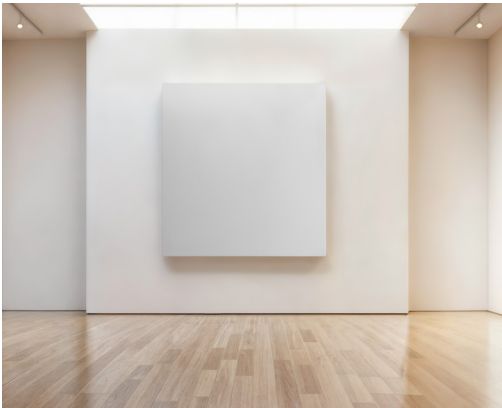
Allan found out how much a haircut costs in the favela he lives in. He decided that each razor blade in the artwork should be worth the cost of one haircut.

So if an artwork has 100 razor blades in it, the artwork would cost the same amount of money as 100 haircuts.

# Art and Football



**Allan is interested in art and football.  
He is also interested in the ways art and  
football can come together.**



**Allan set up an art gallery in  
Rio de Janeiro called Galleria 5 Bocas.**



**Allan wanted this gallery to help local  
artists and the people who live nearby.**



**Allan set up a football team at the  
gallery. The team is called Cinco Bocas  
FC.**





**This football team is for young people who live near the art gallery.**



**Lots of young people who live near the gallery have to commit crimes to make money. This includes things like stealing and selling drugs.**



**Allan hopes that the art gallery and football club can give them jobs and things to do that stop them from having to commit crime.**



**Some of Allan's artworks are about football.**





In gallery 1, there are football shirts which have words written on them. The words are written in Portuguese. This is the language Allan speaks.



These words include:

- things Allan has written



- Words from the Bible. The bible is a book which people from a religion called Christianity read to learn about the stories in their religion. Religion is when people believe in a God or Gods. Lots of people who live in Rio de Janeiro are Christians.



- Proverbs. These are well-known sayings which people say a lot. They are usually said as a way of telling people what to do when they need help. An example of a proverb is the saying “honesty is the best policy”. People in Britain say this a lot. This proverb means telling the truth is better than



**While he was in Nottingham, Allan spent time with local people who are interested in football.**



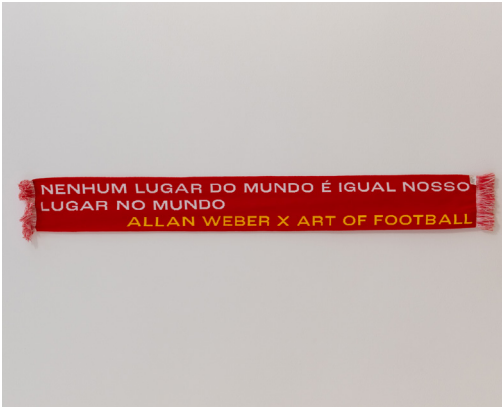
**Allan worked with a clothing brand in Nottingham called Art of Football.**



**Allan and the people from Art of Football looked at football banners, football shirts and football scarves together.**



**Allan worked with Art of Football to make a scarf which you can buy in our shop.**

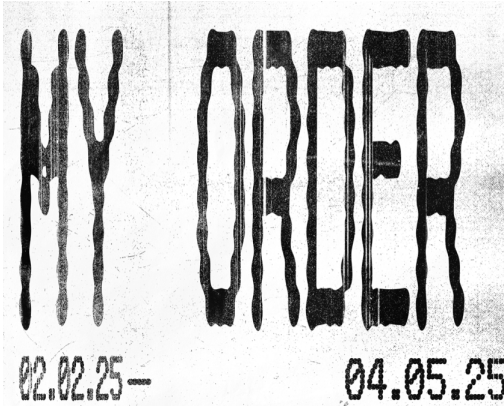


**The scarf has the words “nenhum lugar do mundo é igual nosso lugar no mundo” on it. This means “no place in the world is like our place in the world” in English.**



**This is a saying that Allan uses to mean that everyone’s own home is special to them.**

# The title of the exhibition



**The title of the exhibition is My Order.**

**Allan thinks about the title as meaning three things:**



**- An order people make when they buy food on apps like Deliveroo. Allan received these orders when he worked as a Deliveroo rider.**



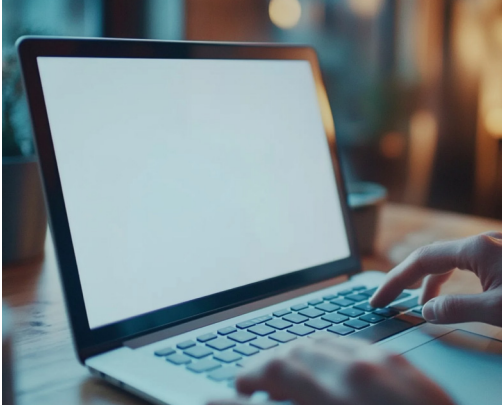
**A rule or law someone makes up to tell you what to do. The favelas in Brazil have lots of rules.**





**Rules in the Christian religion.**  
**Religion is when people believe in a God or Gods. Allan's family followed the rules of the Christian religion.**

# For More Information



You can find out more about what we do by looking at our website here:

[nottinghamcontemporary.org](http://nottinghamcontemporary.org)



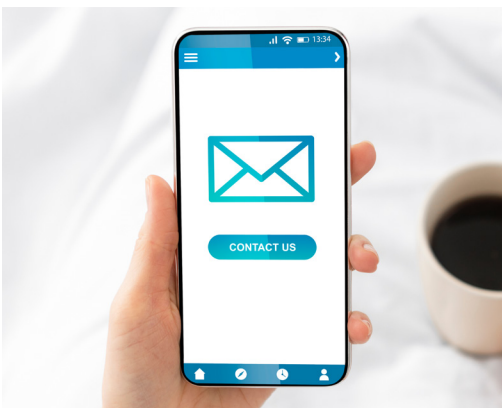
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