

Basel Abbas & Ruanne Abou-Rahme

***Prisoners of Love: Until the
Sun of Freedom***

Large Print Wall Text

Prisoners of Love: Until the Sun of Freedom

Basel Abbas & Ruanne Abou-Rahme

27 Sep 2025–11 Jan 2026

**Palestinian artist duo Basel Abbas and
Ruanne Abou-Rahme's exhibition**

***Prisoners of Love: Until the Sun of
Freedom* presents a large-scale
multi-media installation featuring a
newly commissioned moving image
work, sound composition and printed
works on fabric and paper. The
immersive installation seeps and spills**

**across multilayered backdrops of
textured panels - concrete, steel and
fabric - to envelope the viewer in sound,
light and imagery.**

***Prisoners of Love: Until the Sun of
Freedom* is the outcome of the artist's
recent research looking at first-hand
testimonies and memories of formerly
imprisoned Palestinians recorded and
gathered by the artists in Palestine. This
material is interspersed with poems and
prose from scholars and revolutionary
thinkers, some of whom were imprisoned
themselves. Utilising their acclaimed**

**digital tactics of layering, splicing and
overspilling projected imagery and
sound, Abbas and Abou-Rahme work
with light and rhythm to illuminate the
wider emotional and psychological
conditions of detention and
imprisonment. These presentational
devices might themselves be defined as
'fugitive': resisting captivity by seeping
into and escaping the rigid structure of a
frame or a screen.**

**The work considers imprisonment not
just in relation to the body, but also the
imaginary and the mind. It investigates**

**the relationship between the
imprisonment of people and the
imprisonment and occupation of a land
as a whole. This work sits with the
testimonies, writings and songs of
prisoners in Palestine to think how these
critical modes of resistance in word and
rhythm illuminate the wider conditions of
Palestine itself as imprisoned.**

**Illuminated through this resistance is a
story of love and loss, a story of a refusal
to be broken - in Palestine and beyond.**

**Throughout *Prisoners of Love: Until the
Sun of Freedom* is a search for a
reconnection to a severed broken land,**

**community and history, one that haunts,
imprisons and moves us all at once.**

RELATED EVENTS

ARTIST TALK

Sat 27 Sep, 2pm

**Basel Abbas & Ruanne Abou-Rahme in
conversation with Hazem Jamjoum.**

WALKTHROUGHS

Wed 1 Oct, 12pm

Welcome Walkthrough

Explore the exhibition with our team and community partners, Manjit Sahota, Poets Against Racism and Anna Ball, HEAL (Hostile Environment, Art-fuelled Living) followed by refreshments and conversation in the café.

Wed 22 Oct, 1pm

Curators' Walkthrough

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

Wed 19 Nov, 1pm

**With Victor Kattan, Assistant Professor in
Public International Law, University of
Nottingham.**

Wed 17 Dec, 1pm

BSL Exhibition Tour

**With Jason Tennant, BSL tour guide for
the Turner Contemporary & British
Museum, BSL teacher & presenter.**

Wed 7 Jan, 1pm

**With Bint Mbareh, sound and water
researcher.**

12.30 Talks

**12.30pm every Tue, Thu and Sat, starting
Tue 7 Oct**

**Join one of our friendly Gallery Assistants
for a short exploration of one of our
current exhibitions. For more details visit
our website.**

Thu 2 Oct, 4.30pm

Teacher CPD Session

**An art-making and practice-sharing
session in our galleries. For educators of
all stages.**

FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**October Half-Term: 21 Oct - 30 Oct, Tue,
Wed & Thu**

**Explore the themes in the exhibitions
through making and play.**

Mon 6 Oct, 10 Nov, 15 Dec

**Early Years Sensory Workshops: We Are
Wonderlings**

**Explore the world through sensory free
play in a safe and stimulating
environment.**

OTHER EVENTS

Thu 2 Oct, 7pm

111

Three live performances rooted in the expression of Louis Carnell's collaborative record. Featuring Louis Carnell, Wu-Lu, Li Yilei, Juliana Day & Tom Harris.

Wed 8 Oct, 6:30pm

Tender Stones by Lucy Suggate with Cool Company

Live performance exploring the transferable properties of stone, petrification, heaviness and tenderness,

presented as part of Nottdance 2025.

Suitable for all.

Fri 10 - Sun 12 Oct

Print Fair Contemporary

**Over 35 stalls showcasing a wide range
of printmakers, illustrators and artists.**

Wed 15 Oct, 7:30pm

**Mōnad by Alexandra 'Spicey' Lande with
MC Jai Nitai Lotus**

**A contemporary dance performance
exploring how we approach different
incarnations of the same life, presented**

**as part of Nottdance 2025. Suitable for
ages 18 and over.**

Sat 25 - Sun 26 Oct

Festival of Resistance

**Join us for a special weekend of
community celebration and solidarity.**

**Meet community groups and activists,
take part in talks and creative workshops
and be part of the action.**

Sat 1 Nov, 10:20am & 1:30pm

**The Show for Young Men by GuestHouse
Projects**

A funny and tender contemporary dance performance that considers the complexities of modern-day masculinity, presented as part of Nottdance 2025. Suitable for ages 8 and over.

Tue 4 Nov, 6.30pm

Jarman Award 2025

Jarman Award Touring Programme 2025, followed by an in-conversation with Morgan Quaintance.

Fri 5 - Sun 7 Dec

Craft Fair Contemporary

**40 stalls from independent designers
and makers showcasing a variety of
specialisms.**

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



COLOPHON

**We are grateful to all those whose
generosity made this exhibition possible.**

**Headline Supporter: Diane and Tariq Al-
Ghussein**

**Exhibition Circle: Fadi Kassis, Louisa
Macmillan, Lorenzo Legarda Leviste and
Fahad Mayet, Rafic Said, Maria Sukkar,
The Abu-Suud Family in memory of
Ghazwa Abu-Suud, Sara Tayeb, Yafa
Foundation, Marwan Shehadeh, Selim &**

Houda Bouafoun and those who wish to remain anonymous.

Commissioning Circle: Nissreen Darawish, Gabriela Galcerán, Hamza Serafi, Carlo Solari and Paula del Sol, and those who wish to remain anonymous.

The exhibition is co-commissioned by Nottingham Contemporary, Kunstinstituut Melly, and MACBA.

The exhibition is curated by Salma Tuqan and Niall Ó Faircheallaigh.

Exhibition graphics by Waste Studio.

**Nottingham Contemporary is a
registered charity and dependent on the
generosity of our visitors, partners and
supporters.**

**If you would like a calm space to reflect
during your visit, please feel free to use
Gallery 0 (room adjacent to Gallery 1),
where you can also find support
resources and tools. Please speak to a
member of staff for more information.**

If you would like to use any alternative forms of interpretation, we have a range of accessible versions on our Access Wall beside Reception or alongside the wall text in the exhibition.

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.

Where possible materials have been borrowed, re-used or re-purposed. The exhibition graphics have been produced and installed by local suppliers Hayman Creative. The digital prints in Gallery 3 and Gallery 4 have been printed locally. Our exhibitions are always built and installed by local fine art technicians. Our exhibition notes are printed on FSC Mix paper (Forest Stewardship Council ® certified products manufactured with a variety of source including FSC-certified

**virgin fibre, controlled wood and/or
recycled materials).**