

**Basel Abbas & Ruanne Abou-
Rahme**

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

Dyslexia Friendly 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

Basel Abbas & Ruanne Abou-Rahme Dyslexia Friendly Wall Text

& 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

Basel Abbas & Ruanne Abou-Rahme Dyslexia Friendly Wall Text

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 **O**ct, 10 **N**ov, 15 **D**ec

Early Years **S**ensory **W**orkshops:

We **A**re **W**onderlings

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

OTHER EVENTS

Thu 2 **O**ct, 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

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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.

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Tue 4 Nov, 6.30 p m

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.**

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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
Bouafsoun 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.

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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).