Nottingham Contemporary

Weekday Cross
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Information for Visiting Groups

Gallery 1: Chico Da Silva
Gallery 2 and 3: Augustas Serapinas

Advance Booking

Our gallery is free of charge to visit. However, we need your support and ask you to consider donating. Your donations make it possible to keep doing everything we do: from our world-leading exhibitions to our activities for families, young people and schools. We do ask groups to book in advance so we can help plan your visit and ensure a safe environment. More information is here: Book Your Visit - Nottingham Contemporary

Arrival

Our main entrance is through automatic double glass doors on High Pavement. On arrival, please go to reception and a member of our team will welcome your group.

Transport and Parking

The gallery can be reached by public transport. Lace Market is the nearest tram stop and there are several bus stops close by. Please contact Nottingham City Transport for buses or NET for trams to check routes and arrange concessional group travel - https://www.nctx.co.uk/customer-services/travel-centre/ and http://www.thetram.net/contact.aspx

If you are arriving by coach/minibus, please note we do not have on-site parking, however you can use the curb side short stay bay for drop off only. Blue badge holders may park in the bay outside the main entrance. There is coach parking nearby; please call 0115 915 3783 for up-to-date information, rates and bookings before you visit. The nearest paid for secure public car park is Lace Market Car Park and Broadmarsh Car Park. See https://parking.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/ for details.

Access

We are working to make Nottingham Contemporary more accessible. We are an accessible building with step free (street level) access and lifts. We have accessible toilets on the third floor and a Changing Places toilet with a changing bed. Service dogs are welcome throughout. Portable folding stools are available to use in the galleries, and a wheelchair is available to use around the building. Hearing loops are fitted in our reception and in The Space. Available at reception desk we have children's and adult's ear defenders, coloured overlays, and magnifiers. Communication cards are available from the reception desk or on our website to print at home or to use with a mobile phone or tablet. Our team are always happy to support with access requirements – please do get in touch. Our full access statement can be viewed online or ask the team for a printed copy. https://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/visit/access-and-facilities/

Facilities

Lockers are available and are operated by a £1 coin (a group of 30 would need approximately three lockers for bags and coats etc.). We have limited lunch space available – please get in touch and book ahead of your visit.

Toilets are in the basement floor. We have accessible toilets, gendered and all gender toilets, and a changing place facility. If appropriate, please accompany visitors to the toilet entrance - it would be greatly appreciated if group leaders could do a quick check of the toilets after your group has used them and let the team know if additional cleaning or a restock is required.

Group Leader Ratios

When visiting as part of a group, we request the following group ratios to be maintained:
1 adult member of staff or helper per 4 Early Years Foundation students
1 adult member of staff or helper per 6 KS1 students and per 8 KS2 students
1 adult member of staff or helper per 10 Secondary School students
1 adult member of staff per community group (visitors aged 18+)

Exhibition Information

A3 written exhibition notes (in English) are provided at the entrance of the gallery; these can be taken freely. Large print panels (in English) on walls around the galleries introduce the artists and their artwork. Our gallery assistants are on hand to answers any questions you might have too. The notes are also available in large print, dyslexia friendly and audio formats. They are available in the gallery and online.

Resources

We offer free resources and notes to support your visit. Please book prior to arrival. Resources contain practical activities and discussion prompts designed to support self-led visits for all ages. They are available here Educational Group Visits - Nottingham Contemporary. Sensory bags are also available in reception.

Gallery Conduct

We encourage visitors to move around and explore works from different angles and to talk and take part in group activities. You are welcome to borrow Ferby pencils, paper and clipboards; please contact us in advance so we can provide these. Our Gallery Assistants welcome questions and conversations. They may also remind visitors to be careful around artworks. Some works of art damage easily so please advise your group not to touch the artworks on display and take care when moving around. Please do not eat or drink in studio one or the galleries or lean on the walls. Photography - no flash, is possible in all galleries.

Risk Assessment, Safeguarding, Access and Exhibition Content

We advise you complete your own planning and risk assessment prior to visiting. Our team are happy to discuss and plan a visit with you. Below you will find more information about the artworks and gallery spaces to consider within your risk assessment. All works can be viewed easily from a wheelchair. Wall labels and other exhibition information is accessible from a wheelchair. Gallery stools and visitor wheelchairs are available from reception.

Gallery 1: Advised capacity 15 pupils + adults

The gallery is divided by temporary walls creating three smaller gallery spaces. The walls interrupt **lines of sight,** and you may want to consider bringing extra support staff to maintain visual contact. The gallery **walls are painted a vibrant orange** and may be something to consider if you have students with sensory considerations. The gallery has slightly **lowered lighting** levels. Across the three spaces are **wall-mounted, unglazed paintings**. Please ask your group to be careful around the artworks and remind them not to touch. Each of the smaller gallery rooms has **a low wooden bench** in the middle of the room.

Galleries 2 and 3: Capacity max 15 pupils in each gallery + adults.
Across these two gallery spaces is a large sculptural installation with sound. The sculptures are **functional gym equipment** constructed from metal frames with cast jesmonite **classical sculptural heads in place of weights.** There are lots of works and **floor space is limited**. The gym equipment is activated at specific times by qualified physical trainers and would possibly **pose a safety risk if a member of the public attempted to activate the equipment.** Across the floor of the two gallery spaces are the lines of a running track marked out in blue vinyl. Please advise your group to keep within the blue lines and that the gym equipment cannot be touched. The vinyl is non-slip and unraised, so there is no change in the surface texture or height. The gallery is **well lit,** and the track has high visibility in the gallery. On the track are **metal hurdles with sculptural heads attached**. The hurdles are free-standing and of a heavy, solid construction. They are not fixed to the floor. People are encouraged to move slowly and carefully around them. Please ask your group not to run. There is a **soundscape** of upbeat 'workout' music playing across the two galleries.

Our school resources encourage small group work. Small groups can gather spaced out along the running track. There is space by the large windows in Gallery 2 and Gallery 3. Please spread out to allow other visitors to pass by and to minimise trip hazards.

Studio 1: Advised capacity 30 pupils + adults
Studio 1 is a learning space for groups leaders to use to brief groups, leave coats and bags and do creative activities. There is a large blackboard wall with chalks and a drawing activity prompt.
The studio is not locked but we do have lockers available. The space is reasonably well lit.
There are 4 tables with a mix of bench and chair seating which can seat between 6-8 people each.
There is also a floor seating area with mats.

Installation View Chico da Silva exhibition at Nottingham Contemporary

Installation View Augustas Serapinas exhibition at Nottingham Contemporary