

October Dialogues 2017

Fri 20 Oct 2017

The 2017 edition of October Dialogues hosts conversations exploring issues of representation, race and equity in contemporary society and in the cultural sector. For more information please visit: www.octoberdialogues.org

In collaboration with the Arts Council England funded research project The Bigger Picture.

#OctoberDialogues2017

9.30am-4.30pm (Dialogues), The Space

9.30am – Registration with complimentary tea and coffee

10.15am – Welcome and house keeping

10.30am – *Off-site Museum Practices* panel

With Thanh Sinden (Culture Coventry) and Charlotte Holmes (Birmingham Museums Trust) followed by Q&A

11.30am – Coffee Break in The Space

11.50am – *Collaborative Practices with Museums: the durational in socially engaged practices*

With Saziso Phiri (Founder and Curator of The Anti-Gallery) and Kajal Nisha Patel (artist) followed by Q&A

12.50pm – Lunch break in The Space (provided)

2pm – *Co-production of Knowledge through a Community and Academic Research Team*

With Lisa Robinson (Bright Ideas) followed by a conversation with Karen Salt (University of Nottingham) and Q&A

2.50pm – Coffee Break in The Space

3.10pm – *The Archive as a Catalyst for Engagement* with Samia Malik from the Women of Colour Index

4.10pm – Closing Remarks

Vegan food and refreshments provided by Yemoja Foods (www.yemojafoods.com)

5-6pm (Live Music) Café.Bar.Contemporary

4.30pm – Drinks Reception (provided)

5-6pm – Live music by Yazmin Lacey

7pm-12am (Afterparty), Rough Trade Nottingham

SHEAfriq. Black Future Launch Party. Free, all welcome!

SHEAfriq. are a Nottingham-based collective of female visual artists, filmmakers, photographers, DJs, singers, curators, poets, designers and more of black heritage. The collective launch of their Black Future season with a fun and creative night featuring live illustration by Laura Decorum and a DJ set from Aïcha (Honeydips).

Speaker's Biographies

Thanh Sinden champions and supports culture change and organisational development to create and capture value that is of relevance in a changing world of cultural consumption. Thanh is also the equality lead at Culture Coventry, a Trust that manages 4 museums and heritage sites. She works to create an inclusive culture where diversity thrives, and equality and inclusion are rooted in its core purpose to maximise the museums' social impact by being inclusive spaces.

Charlotte Holmes has worked in a range of roles in and for museums for the last 13 years. Prior to joining Birmingham Museums Trust, she ran professional development programmes at the Museums Association, UK. Her current role involves working with people in the neighbourhood where she grew up to collect objects and stories. Charlotte's values centre on kindness, hope, connection, joy and generosity.

Saziso Phiri is an independent creative producer and the founder of The Anti Gallery, a pop-up art gallery inspired by and celebrating urban culture - creating, engaging and exhibiting art outside of traditional art gallery environments. Saziso has produced pop-up exhibitions in alternative spaces, hosted film screenings, workshops, pop-up stalls, street art residencies, digital residencies and participated in various panel discussions.

Kajal Nisha Patel is a visual artist, working between the UK and India. Having previously specialised in storytelling through documentary photography and filmmaking, her evolving practice now includes found Indian textiles and other vernacular objects. Her work spans across disciplines, social groups and contexts. She uses art and social practice to initiate dialogues between different communities.

Lisa Robinson is a community activist and the Director of Bright Ideas Nottingham. She co-organised the October Dialogues 2015, is a member of the #BlackLivesMatter Nottingham chapter that grew out of our conference and spoke at our Get Up Stand Up series. Bright Ideas Nottingham works with local people to effect change and improvement in their communities.

Karen Salt is Assistant Professor at the University of Nottingham. A significant portion of her work investigates the history of black sovereignty as exhibited and performed by black nation-states (such as Haiti and Liberia). Using interdisciplinary methodologies, Karen's work unveils the global challenges that these nations faced or continue to face and the ways that they have politically responded to them.

Samia Malik, for over 25 years Samia has been exploring her experiences as a woman from a Pakistani, Muslim background growing up in the UK through writing, teaching, recording and touring her unique Ghazal songs in Urdu and English and more recently, through visual art.

The Women of Colour Index is a Reading Group set up in October 2016 by artists, Samia Malik, Michelle Williams Gamaker and Rehana Zaman. The reading group meets on a monthly basis to discuss work within the Women of Colour Index (WOCI); a unique collection of slides and papers collated by artist Rita Keegan that chart the emergence of Women of Colour artists during the 'critical decades' of the 1980s and 1990s. Reading group sessions aim to improve the visibility of women of colour artists whilst using material in the archive to generate discussion, thought and practice around current social and political concerns. All people of all backgrounds, genders, sexualities, religions and race are welcome.

For full biographies please visit www.octoberdialogues.org