

Information for Visiting Groups

Our Silver City, 2094

20th November 2021– 18th April 2022

Advance Booking

Our gallery is free of charge to visit however groups do need to book with us in advance so we can help plan and manage your visit. (This is particularly important to ensure a safe environment for visitors and staff with COVID-19. More information can be found at <https://nottinghamcontemporary.org/visit/visit-us-safely/>)

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 check routes with Nottingham City Transport and contact them at <https://www.nctx.co.uk/customer-services/travel-centre/> or NET trams <http://www.thetram.net/contact.aspx> to arrange concessional group travel. If you are arriving by coach/minibus, please note we do not have on-site parking, however your group can use the curb side short stay bay for drop off only. 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; see <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/parking-and-permits/city-centre-parking/car-parks/lace-market/> for details. There is a free public bike rack outside the main entrance.

Access

We are an accessible building with step free (street level) access, lifts, accessible toilets and changing facilities. Service dogs are welcome throughout. Portable folding stools are available for visitors to use in the galleries. Please be aware the exhibition spaces change, which means that sometimes some areas of the galleries are less easy to navigate. Please make contact to advise how we can better support your visit and access requirements. You can view our full access statement online <https://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/visit/access-and-facilities/> or request a copy from staff.

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, which you must book before your visit. Toilets are in the basement floor, and we have a changing place facility. If appropriate, please accompany visitors to the toilet entrance - it would be greatly appreciated if group leaders could check the toilets after your group has used them.

Group Leader Ratios

When visiting as part of a group, it's essential for the following group ratios to be maintained as a minimum:

- 1 adult member of staff per 4 Nursery School students
- 1 adult member of staff per 6 Primary School students
- 1 adult member of staff per 12 Secondary School students
- 1 adult member of staff per community group (visitors aged 18+)

Exhibition Information

A3 written information sheets (in English) are provided at the entrance of the gallery; these can be taken freely. There are often large print panels (in English) on walls inside galleries which introduce the artists' and their artwork. Written information in languages other than English is available on request at Front of House. Our gallery assistants are on hand to answer any questions you might have about the exhibition.

Resources

We offer free Learning 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.

Visitor Conduct

Some works of art damage easily so please advise your group not to touch things on display in the galleries (unless we otherwise state) and take care when moving around the galleries. Please do not eat or drink in the galleries or lean on the walls. Photography and filming are permitted without a flash.

We encourage visitors to move around and explore works from different angles and to talk and discuss. You are welcome to borrow Ferby pencils, paper and clipboards; please contact us in advance so we can provide these. Our Gallery Assistants may remind visitors to be careful around artworks and will welcome questions and discussing the art on display.

Risk Assessment, Safeguarding and Exhibition Content

We advise you complete your own risk assessment prior to visiting. Below are details you may consider:

Gallery 1: The gallery is bright with artworks positioned on solid, but free-standing chipboard structures positioned throughout the space. These interrupt lines of sight and the edges are a little rough. The structures are double-sided with a gap in the middle. It's possible that a small person could squeeze in the middle of these. There are wall hung artworks and a large textile piece on the back wall. Please do not touch these fragile works. Some artwork is displayed in a glass cabinet on a table with pointed edges. Film works are displayed on screens with headphones and wires attached. Benches are positioned in front of the films. One film contains some female nudity - an advert for a beauty product of the future. It is a side shot of the mid torso and legs area - breasts and genitals are not visible. A low volume soundscape is transmitted from a radio high on a shelf. Gallery 2 is entered by the door in G1.

Gallery 2: This gallery is an immersive environment with sound, light, a moving curtain and lower light levels. You enter the gallery underneath a large, wide print which drapes down from above the door. Walls of the gallery are covered a dark wallpaper print. A selection of fossils, artworks and ancient artefacts are on the low table. A tall white plinth has a black rock hovering above it using electromagnetism. Please remind your group not to touch these artworks. A patterned floor to ceiling mechanised curtain divides a quarter of the gallery. Behind it is a projection of a film with wired headphones hanging down from the ceiling. Throughout the day on a loop the curtain pulls back to show a projection, the lights dim, a film starts and there is a soundscape. Ear defenders are available at reception.

Gallery 3: A large wooden structure occupies the whole of the gallery. As you enter there is a low hanging tapestry, please walk around this artwork. A white carpet covers the floor, and beanbags are available to sit on in the space; visitors are encouraged to remove their shoes or wear shoe coverings and wheelchair and mobility aid users are invited into the space. 2D artworks are positioned on the outside walls and within the structure. A selection of 3D ceramic works are on tables that protrude towards the centre. Please remind smaller children to be careful near the corners and not to climb under the tables. Some artworks are in glass cabinets, but most are not and are unglazed and fragile. There is a tall free-standing sculpture made from fake hair in the corner. Please remind your group not to touch. A white heavy curtain separates Gallery 3 from 4.

Gallery 4: The gallery is well lit with an interactive element for visitors. A soundscape, which includes children's voices and nature sounds can be heard. There's a pile of marked stones as you walk in. These can be placed around the gallery floor on vinyl markings. Please take care when moving around this space. A series of free-standing sculptures have wired speakers attached. Take care around these works due to this trip hazard. Large rocks are placed in the centre of the gallery, visitors are invited to sit on these to listen as well as observe the artwork on the ceiling above.