



MANIFESTO FOR SUSTAINABLE EXPERIMENTATION

Beaconsfield Celebrates 30 Years of Radical Art Practice

Beaconsfield | 22 Newport Street | Vauxhall | London | SE11 6AY

21 May – 2 August 2025 | free admission

Opening celebration | 12.00 – 17.00 | Saturday 31 May

London, UK: Beaconsfield Gallery Vauxhall marks its 30th anniversary with *Manifesto for Sustainable Experimentation*, a landmark exhibition that honours three decades of groundbreaking artistic innovation while charting new territories of aesthetic and political resistance.

Curated by founding directors David Crawforth and Naomi Siderfin, this ambitious, evolving presentation reactivates past commissions alongside newly commissioned works, performances, and sonic interventions. At its core, the exhibition reaffirms Beaconsfield's enduring role as a living laboratory for experimental art practice.

Featuring a dynamic group of artists including Sonia Boyce, Minna Haukka, A.L. Steiner, Trevor Mathison, Bruce Gilbert, BAW (Beaconsfield Art Works), and many more, the exhibition reveals the strategies artists use to persist, provoke, and be heard in turbulent times.

Sonia Boyce opens the celebration with a reprint of her 1995 Beaconsfield commission *They're Almost Like Twins*, a powerful visual statement that once adorned the building's exterior wall for the benefit of Southwestern Railway commuters.

Dubmorphology return to infiltrate the site with covert recording devices, amplifying the architecture itself—building and garden—as a responsive, sentient body.

Meanwhile, Minna Haukka turns archival excavation into live performance, using the gallery as both stage and studio. As the Beaconsfield archive prepares to move to its new home in Tate Britain, Haukka's ongoing presence reanimates forgotten moments, overlooked projects, and early appearances by artists such as Tracey Emin, Mark Wallinger and Bob and Roberta Smith, who have since become cultural fixtures.

A new generation of artists further expands the dialogue. Emily Mulenga weaves pop soundtracks, while Ellis Parkinson's interventions revisit colonial legacies and Luana Duvoisin Zanchi explores laughter as a form of resistance.

An international screening programme curated by queer ecofeminist artist A.L. Steiner extends the exhibition's reach across time zones and cultural borders in collaboration with artists Jill Casid, Kang Seung Lee, Kym McDaniel, Shahana Rajani, Amina Ross, Yo-E Ryou and Sasha Wortzel, forming a digital transatlantic bridge in intersectional resistance.

Roving artist reporters Michael Curran and Simon Tyszko will document the unfolding "exhillation"¹ via video and radio, making the exhibition as much process as product.

Other featured artists and curators will include Tamsyn Challenger and Colin Herd, Fran Painter-Flemming, The Charmers, Luke Turner, Joseph Walsh and others delivering performances and workshops.

Manifesto for Sustainable Experimentation is more than a retrospective. It is a dynamic, durational exploration of how identity is constructed through class, gender, and cultural memory – and a rallying call to recognise 'environment' not only as physical landscape, but as the social and political ecosystems we inhabit and shape.

Key Events

Wednesday 21 May-Saturday 7 June. Kang Seung Lee (South Korea/USA), Shahana Rajani (Pakistan/Canada). FlatScreen moving image Programme 1 curated by A.L. Steiner

Thursdays 22 May-7 August (except 19.06 and 24.07). Joseph Walsh on site in garden residence

Saturday 31 May 12-5pm. Manifesto Opening. Starts in the garden, refreshments all day

Wednesday 11 June-Saturday 28 June. Kym McDaniel (USA), Amina Ross (USA). FlatScreen moving image Programme 2 curated by A.L. Steiner

Saturday 14 June 2:30-4:30pm. Filmic Landscapes, Ruptures in Time. Reading Group with Fran Painter-Fleming. Part One. Book on Eventbrite

¹ Naomi Siderfin, *Invisible Stitches: revealing the seam between making and curating*, 2022. PhD thesis 2023, Slade School of Art, UCL.

Saturday 21 June. Fiction as Method with Maggie Roberts. Laughter as Resistance with Luana Duvoisin Zanchi

Friday 27 June 7pm: Dubmorphology Black Environmental Noise

Wednesday 2 July-Saturday 19 July. Yo-E Ryou (South Korea), Jill Casid (USA). FlatScreen moving image Programme 3 curated by A.L. Steiner

Thursday 3 July 7.30pm. The Charmers a band of timetravelling 17th century Scottish witches Deb Smith, Debbie Armour, Lisa Lux, Tansy Spinks and Anne Robinson

Saturday 5 July 2:30-4:30pm. Language in Live Contexts, Acts of Public Memory. Reading Group with Fran Painter-Fleming: Part Two

Wednesday 23 July-Saturday 9 August. A.L. Steiner (USA), Sasha Wortzel (USA). FlatScreen moving image Programme 4 curated by A.L. Steiner

Friday 25 July 7.30pm. Dark Reading Group + performances

Saturday 26 July 4-9pm. Plastique Fantastique performances

Saturday 2 August 2:30-4:30pm. 'Act of Creation', Tackling Gendered Time. Reading Group with Fran Painter-Fleming: Part Three

About Beaconsfield

Since 1995 Beaconsfield has been a laboratory dedicated to the exploration and evolution of experimental art. It is an uncompromising space where open-minded artists and audiences come to challenge themselves and their understanding of what art can be, and supportive space for taking risks and exploring new ideas.

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[@beaconsfield_gallery_vauxhall](https://www.instagram.com/beaconsfield_gallery_vauxhall)

Gallery open Wednesday – Saturday 12.00 – 17.00

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