

## Barbican Visual Arts events programme – Autumn/Winter 2022

- The latest talks, curators' tours, workshops and special events complimenting exhibitions **Carolee Schneemann: *Body Politics*** and **Soheila Sokhanvari: *Rebel Rebel***, including a Schneemann-inspired cinema season
- New events from Barbican's **Architecture on Stage**, a programme of talks by the world's leading architects, and from **performingborders: Body, Politics & Live Art** series
- Barbican launches a **Pay What You Can** ticket offer for Carolee Schneemann: *Body Politics* every Friday 5-8pm, with prices starting at £3. **On sale on Fri 11 Nov, 10am**
- Free scheme **Young Barbican** members pay £5 across all events

### EVENTS

#### **Architecture on Stage: Adam Khan Architects**

**Tue 8 Nov, 7pm**

**Frobisher Auditorium 1**

Architect **Adam Khan** presents his practice's current work including its competition-winning scheme for Ellebo Garden Room, the regeneration of 260 social housing units in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Founded in 2006, Adam Khan Architects has developed a diverse range of work at a wide range of scales, united by a commitment to the social potential of architecture. Recently completed projects include a series of homes and community facilities in Central Somers Town, Camden, and a pair of buildings at the new Greenwich Design District. Presented by The Architecture Foundation, in association with the Barbican, Architecture on Stage is a series profiling some of the most exciting emerging architects and practices working in Britain today.

#### **Carolee Schneemann Film Series: Art in Flux - Radical Embodiment (15)**

**Thu 10 Nov, 6.45pm**

**Barbican Cinema 3**

Artists **Maria Almena** & **Olive Gingrich** of Art in Flux curate and host an evening of media art, moving images, demos, and a discussion with curators and filmmakers on ritual embodiment and the politics of gender.

The programme highlights the legacy of Carolee Schneemann for today's media artists. It asks how technologies can reveal new experiences of the body, of self and other. The line-up includes work by artists **Tiffany Trendera, Kimatica Studio, Paul Kindersley, Camille Baker, Olive Gingrich, Laura Jean Healey, Ro Greengrass & Maddy James** and **The Analema Group**; live performances by **Analema Group with Winter James, Jake Elwes & Me – The Drag Queen** and **Kimatica Studio with Byuka**; and a panel discussion with **Olive Gingrich, Maria Almena, Jake Elwes** and **Constantine Kaloutas/Anthromophorh**.

### **Architecture on Stage: MBL architectes**

**Mon 14 Nov, 7pm**

**Frobisher Auditorium 1**

Profiling some of the most exciting emerging architects and practices working in Britain today, Architecture on Stage introduces one of the most exciting young practices operating in France, the Paris-based **MBL architectes**, founded by **Sébastien Martinez-Barat** and **Benjamin Lafore**. MBL's projects have twice been nominated for the Mies van der Rohe award and earlier this year the office's work was the subject of a major monographic exhibition at arc en rêve centre d'architecture in Bordeaux. Since 2019 the practice directors have also edited the architecture magazine Plan Libre.

### **Carolee Schneemann: Body Politics Exhibition Tour**

**Thu 17 Nov, 6.30pm**

**Art Gallery**

*Body Politics* curator **Lotte Johnson** gives a special exhibition tour focusing on some of the exhibition's highlights.

### **Kinetic Readings of Carolee Schneemann's Body Politics, led by the Feminist Duration Reading Group**

**Garden Room**

**Mon 21 Nov, 6.30pm**

Writing was integral to Carolee Schneemann's experimental and multi-disciplinary practice. Prose accompanied her research, planning and documentation of artworks, and she engaged in long-standing written correspondence with other artists, writers, and theorists. Schneemann also used text in many works including *Parts of a Body House* (1972) and, famously, in her performance *Interior Scroll* (1975). Her diaristic and biographical explorations, correspondence and experimental writings on creative life, histories and futurities are published in her second book *Cézanne, She Was a Great Painter* (1974).

In this session of the **Feminist Duration Reading Group**, some of Schneemann's writings will be read aloud and discussed alongside texts by other artists engaged in feminist politics across geographies, from Schneemann's contemporaries to now. Guests will be invited to speak, hear, and discuss possibilities offered in artist writing as practice, and to discover what voices and voicing might emerge.

The Feminist Duration Reading Group (FDRG) focuses on under-known and under-appreciated feminist texts, movements and struggles. The group has developed a practice of reading out loud, together, one paragraph at a time, with the aim of creating a sense of connection and intimacy during meetings. **For more information visit:** <https://www.feministduration.com/>

### **Architecture on Stage: New Architects: with Alison Crawshaw, Emily Greeves Architects, Freehaus and Maich Swift**

**Thu 24 Nov, 7pm**

**Frobisher Auditorium 1**

Continuing Barbican's series profiling some of the most exciting emerging architects and practices working in Britain today, Architecture on Stage is joined by four London-based firms, **Alison Crawshaw, Emily Greeves Architects, Freehaus** and **Maich Swift**. Each of the invited practices will present a single project, ranging from a garden in Jeddah to a youth centre

in North London, offering a broad panorama of the concerns of a new generation.

### **Rebel Rebel: Family Day**

**Sat 26 Nov, from 10am**

#### **Level G Studio**

Barbican presents a Family Day of free activities inspired by the Soheila Sokhanvari: Rebel Rebel exhibition. Starting in the morning, artist **Maryam Hashemi** explores Iranian Folktales. In the afternoon, artist **Tara Fatehi** runs a workshop looking at memory, family photos and movement.

A free activity sheet, designed by **Maryam Tafsiri**, is available for families visiting the exhibition. The activity sheet can be collected at the Ticket Desk and a version will be available soon to download from [Barbican's website](#).

### **A relaxed viewing of Carolee Schneemann: Body Politics**

**Sun 27 Nov & Wed 28 Dec 2022, Wed 4 Jan 2023**

#### **Art Gallery**

Throughout the run of the exhibition, Barbican Art Gallery will be hosting host relaxed viewings intended for anyone who would benefit from a more informal approach to noise and movement in the space, or who would feel more comfortable knowing that they can enter and exit freely.

### **BSL Tour: Carolee Schneemann: Body Politics**

**Tue 29 Nov, 6.30pm**

#### **Art Gallery**

A British Sign Language tour of the exhibition Carolee Schneemann: *Body Politics* led by **John Wilson**, exclusively for D/deaf and hard of hearing visitors, highlighting key artworks, using BSL. This tour will not be interpreted for non-BSL users.

### **The Uncollected: An evening of poetry, curated by the87press**

**Wed 30 Nov, 6.30pm**

#### **Frobisher Auditorium 1**

Carolee Schneemann: *Body Politics* has sparked a loose, oblique, tender conversation necessitated by Schneemann's own experiments with writing, text, and her proximity to the 'New York School' of poetry.

*The Uncollected* is an evening of poetry that brings together nine poets and one novelist whose work embraces themes pertinent to Schneemann's practice, from the body as medium to precarious life. Collectively, these writers are thinking of ways in which these important conversations between the art object, the text, and/or the poem are so vital to cultural production in the 21st century, whilst also paying homage to Schneemann as a historic figure and this unique Barbican exhibition which holds over 200 objects and rarely seen archival material.

Readings by **Sarona Abuaker, Kat Addis, Oscar Guardiola-Rivera, Danny Hayward, Bhanu Kapil, Christopher Kirubi/Dove, Luke Roberts, Karenjit Sandhu, Verity Spott, and Jessica Widner.**

This event is curated by [the87press](#), a South London-based, South-Asian, non-binary, and neurodivergent-led independent publisher of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction founded in 2018 by **Azad Ashim Sharma** and **Kashif Sharma-Patel**. the87press have published 28 titles, 100+ mixed-media works via the

online journal of poetics *the Hythe*, and host creative writing workshops internationally. Their events have grown in scale from sold-out pub readings at the Roebuck in Borough to the ICA, Camden Art Centre, and a new quarterly series with Café Oto. Their work focusses on late-modernist, experimental, avant-garde, and hybrid writing produced by under-represented writers from racialised, LGBTQ+, Neurodiverse, and/or working-class communities.

### **performingborders Screenings and Long Table Conversation**

**Part of performingborders: Body, Politics & Live Art**

**Thu 1 Dec, 6.30pm**

**Fountain Room**

An evening reflecting on Carolee Schneemann's legacy and exploring how feminist performance has been carried on by artists working today through a screening of **AMNION (2021) by Lyn Lu**, **Re:seeing in correspondence (2020) by Jade Montserrat** and **A place to sit (2021) by Tara Fatehi Irani**; as well as performances-to-camera from the performingborders archive; followed by a *Long Table* performance to unpack and discuss the work and its themes.

The Long Table is a participatory performance created by artist **Lois Weaver**, to help facilitate non-hierarchical conversations around a table.

performingborders will use this tool in the event to host a discussion session with all those in attendance. There will be a BSL interpreter and refreshments will be provided.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR DESTRUCTION: feminist anti-capitalist scores for the future**

**Part of performingborders: Body, Politics & Live Art**

**Sat 3 Dec, 11am**

**Fountain Room**

**Jemima Yong** (she/they) and **Anahi Saravia Herrera** (she/her) explore manifesto as performance, reading and thinking through examples together, and inviting audiences to write their own against the patriarchy.

Manifestos are seeded from a desire to make (im)possible, (un)reasonable, and necessary demands. They are simultaneously critical writing, performance, textual screams of frustration, instructions for destruction and scores for the future. Manifestos paint political imaginaries whilst evoking emotion and calls to action beyond the page. They can be read as instructions, as scores that mark out how to get out of the situation we find ourselves in and are also speculations on what there might be beyond. There will be a BSL interpreter and refreshments will be provided.

### **Talk + practice sharing session: Feminism & Performance with artist Helena Walsh**

**Part of performingborders: Body, Politics & Live Art**

**Sat 3 Dec, 15 pm**

**Fountain Room**

In this workshop artist Helena Walsh will share elements of her practice, drawing from her work on themes of the body, autonomy, resistance, and feminism through performance. It will be a space for exchange and for workshoping ideas, with opportunities to share your work and discuss what it means to create politically engaged feminist art.

Whilst the workshop will be able to hold the experiences and work of artists and performers, you are welcome to come if you do not have an existing

practice but are thinking creatively about this type of work. There will be a BSL interpreter and refreshments will be provided.

### **Carolee Schneemann: Body Politics Exhibition Tour with Chris Bayley**

**Thu 8 Dec, 6.30pm**

#### **Art Gallery**

Chris Bayley gives a special tour of Carolee Schneemann: *Body Politics*, exploring some of the exhibition's highlights with a special focus on cats.

### **The Miss World Spectacle (1950s - 1980s)**

**Fri 9 Dec 2022, 4pm**

#### **Bishopsgate Institute**

In collaboration with Bishopsgate Institute, Barbican presents this thought-provoking session exploring themes important to Carolee Schneemann's work through original items from their special collections.

The event will include a tour of Bishopsgate Institute's archives, examining feminist flashpoints such as the 1970 Miss World protest using curated sets of historical sources, including zines, newsletters, and pamphlets. The day will cover subjects like agency and control, body politics, gender identity and transgressive acts.

Guests will be encouraged to see modern feminism differently through an increased understanding of feminist activism from the 1960s to the 80s; how women's history interacts with wider cultural and political histories; and the unique and often uplifting stories of women struggling individually and collectively towards recognition, equality, and self-realisation. After the session there will be a tour of the exhibition with curatorial assistant **Amber Li**.

### **Filmfarsi (12) + ScreenTalk with Soheila Sokhanvari and Ehsan Khoshbakht**

**2019, Iran, dir. Ehsan Khoshbakht 84 mins**

**Thu 8 Dec, 6.30pm**

#### **Cinema 1**

Filmmaker and curator **Ehsan Khoshbakht's** *Filmfarsi* explores the history of popular pre-revolutionary Iranian cinema in a screening to coincide with *Rebel Rebel* by Soheila Sokhanvari.

*Filmfarsi* refers to popular genre films coming out of Iran, which were characterised by music, sex, violence and dancing, merging elements of Hollywood – for localised audiences and tastes. The films capture an attempt at modernisation, which would be cut short through the increase in censorship, and celebrate the sleazy, the cheap, the vulgar.

*Filmfarsi* will be shown in connection to the paintings of Soheila Sokhanvari as the artist has repeatedly focused on women who appeared across popular Iranian cinema, celebrating the marginalised performers. Her work, like *Filmfarsi*, captures the deep connection and regard these films are held in, many of which are lost, having been destroyed amidst the crackdown during the revolution. This screening has been locally classified.

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

**Press Information**

For further information, events tickets, images or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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### **Press information available online from the Barbican Press room**

A link to our programme's and all Barbican Centre press releases, image sheets, news announcements and the Communication team's contact details can be found at <https://www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room/>

### **PAY WHAT YOU CAN & YOUNG BARBICAN**

This Autumn, Barbican launches the **Pay What You Can** for people who might find the standard ticket price a barrier or may want to help others enjoy a visit to the art gallery. The offer is available **every Friday, 5-8pm** (last entry 7pm), starting on **Friday 11 November, with tickets on sale at 10am on Friday**. Customers can select a price point between £3 to £18.

Additionally, via the free **Young Barbican** membership, 14–25-year-olds can access discounted tickets to unmissable art and entertainment as well as exclusive events and creative opportunities.

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London, EC2Y 8DS, [barbican.org.uk](http://barbican.org.uk)

### **OPENING HOURS**

#### **Art Gallery & Gallery Shop**

Sat-Wed 10am-6pm (last entry 5pm)

Thursdays & Fridays 10am-8pm (last entry 7pm)

Bank Holidays 12-6pm (last entry 5pm)

24-26 Dec Closed

#### **The Curve**

Daily 11am - 7pm

Bank Holidays 12 - 7pm

### **EXHIBITIONS INFORMATION**

#### **Carolee Schneemann: Body Politics**

#### **Barbican Art Gallery**

**8 September 2022 – 8 January 2023**

[www.barbican.org.uk/caroleeschneemann](http://www.barbican.org.uk/caroleeschneemann)

#caroleeschneemann @barbicancentre

*This exhibition has been generously supported by the Terra Foundation for American Art, Carolee Schneemann Foundation, Helen Frankenthaler Foundation and members of the Carolee Schneemann Exhibition Circle.*

**Carolee Schneemann: Body Politics** is the first survey in the UK of the work of American artist Carolee Schneemann (1939-2019) and the first major exhibition since her death in 2019. Tracing Schneemann's diverse,

transgressive and interdisciplinary work over six decades, the show celebrates a radical and pioneering artist who remains a feminist icon and point of reference for many contemporary artists and thinkers.

Addressing urgent topics from sexual expression and the objectification of women to human suffering and the violence of war, Schneemann's work is concerned with the precarious lived experience of humans and animals. With over 300 objects, the exhibition draws from the Carolee Schneemann Foundation, as well as numerous private and public collections, spanning the extraordinary range of Schneemann's artistic output. Bringing together paintings, sculptural assemblages, performance photographs, films and large-scale multimedia installations, as well as rarely seen archival material including scores, sketches, scrapbooks, programmes and costumes, this exhibition positions Schneemann as one of the most relevant, provocative and inspiring artists of the last century. **Full press release and images are available in the [Barbican press room](#).**

**Soheila Sokhanvari: *Rebel Rebel***  
**The Curve, Barbican Centre**  
**7 October 2022 – 26 February 2023**  
**Free Admission**

[www.barbican.org.uk/soheilasokhanvari](http://www.barbican.org.uk/soheilasokhanvari)

#SoheilaSokhanvari @barbicancentre

*The exhibition has been commissioned by the Barbican, and is generously supported by the Bagri Foundation, Arts Council England, and the Soheila Sokhanvari Exhibition Circle: Marie Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre (Spirit Now London), Sayeh Ghanbari, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Elizabeth and J. Jeffrey Louis, Pat and Pierre Maugüé, Hugh Monk, and those who wish to remain anonymous.*

Barbican Art Gallery presents **Rebel Rebel**, a site-specific installation for The Curve and the first major UK commission by Iranian artist **Soheila Sokhanvari**. The exhibition features a series of 28 exquisite portraits of feminist icons from pre-revolutionary Iran, painted in egg tempera onto calf vellum with a squirrel-hair brush. Each of Sokhanvari's miniatures – hung against a hand-painted mural based on Islamic geometries decorating the 90-metre gallery – is a labour of love, as she transforms The Curve into a devotional space in which these rarely told feminist histories can be contemplated.

The exhibition title, *Rebel Rebel*, borrows from David Bowie's 1974 cult pop song and pays tribute to the significant courage of these 27 female icons, who pursued their careers in a culture enamoured with Western style but not its freedoms. These women include **Roohangiz Saminejad**, the first unveiled actress to appear in a Persian language film; the controversial modernist poet **Forough Farrokhzad**; and the leading intellectual and writer **Simin Dāneshvar**. The title also serves as a lament to the fate of these women, after the Iranian Revolution of 1979 and the subsequent establishment of a conservative Islamic theocracy, left them with a stark choice: to renounce any role in public life, or be forced into exile. **Full press release and images are available in the [Barbican press room](#).**

#### **Barbican Art Gallery Shop**

A selection of exhibition merchandise is available from the Gallery Shop including the exhibitions books and posters as well as limited-edition prints signed by Soheila Sokhanvari. [www.barbican.org.uk/shop](http://www.barbican.org.uk/shop)

## **Barbican Art Gallery and The Curve**

Our visual arts programme embraces art, architecture, design, fashion, photography and film. Many of our exhibitions explore the interconnections between disciplines, periods and cultures, and aim to imagine the world in new ways. Designers, artists and architects are our collaborators in this process.

We invest in the artists of today and tomorrow; The Curve is one of the few galleries in London devoted to the commissioning of new work. Through our activities we aim to inspire more people to discover and love the arts. Entrance to The Curve is free. Through Young Barbican we offer £5 tickets to 14– 25 year olds for our paid exhibitions, children under 14 attend for free.

Our exhibitions are complemented by comprehensively researched catalogues and a full range of public events. We develop engaging online content for audiences and offer special tours for schools. In partnership with renowned museums and art galleries, many of our exhibitions travel to reach both national and international audiences.

## **About the Barbican**

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the Barbican pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over a million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 staff work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the Lakeside Terrace, a glasshouse conservatory, conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra; Associate Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra; Associate Ensembles the Academy of Ancient Music and Britten Sinfonia, Associate Producer Serious, and Artistic Partner Create. Our Artistic Associates include Boy Blue, Cheek by Jowl, Deborah Warner, Drum Works and Michael Clark. The Los Angeles Philharmonic are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the Australian Chamber Orchestra are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra are International Associate Ensemble.

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To support the Barbican in reopening and offering the widest possible audience access to culture and creativity, donations can be made at <https://www.barbican.org.uk/join-support/support-us>