

Spring 2022 mkgallery.org



Cinema Exhibitions FamilyFun Café/Bar Shop

Looking for the perfect gift?
We are delighted to announce
that you can now purchase gift
vouchers online and send them
to family and friends.

Gift Vouchers

Opening hours

Tuesday – Sunday | 10am–5pm
Café, bar & shop open late:
Tuesday, Friday & Saturday to 7.30pm
Closed Mondays

Cover image

Ingrid Pollard, *Self Evident* (detail),
1992, 9 colour light boxes © and
courtesy of the artist

MK Gallery
900 Midsummer Boulevard
Central Milton Keynes MK9 3QA

T: 01908 676 900

E: info@mkgallery.org

MiltonKeynesGallery
MK_Gallery
MK_Gallery



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



»»»»»»»» Welcome to MK Gallery ««««««««



Photo: 6a architects

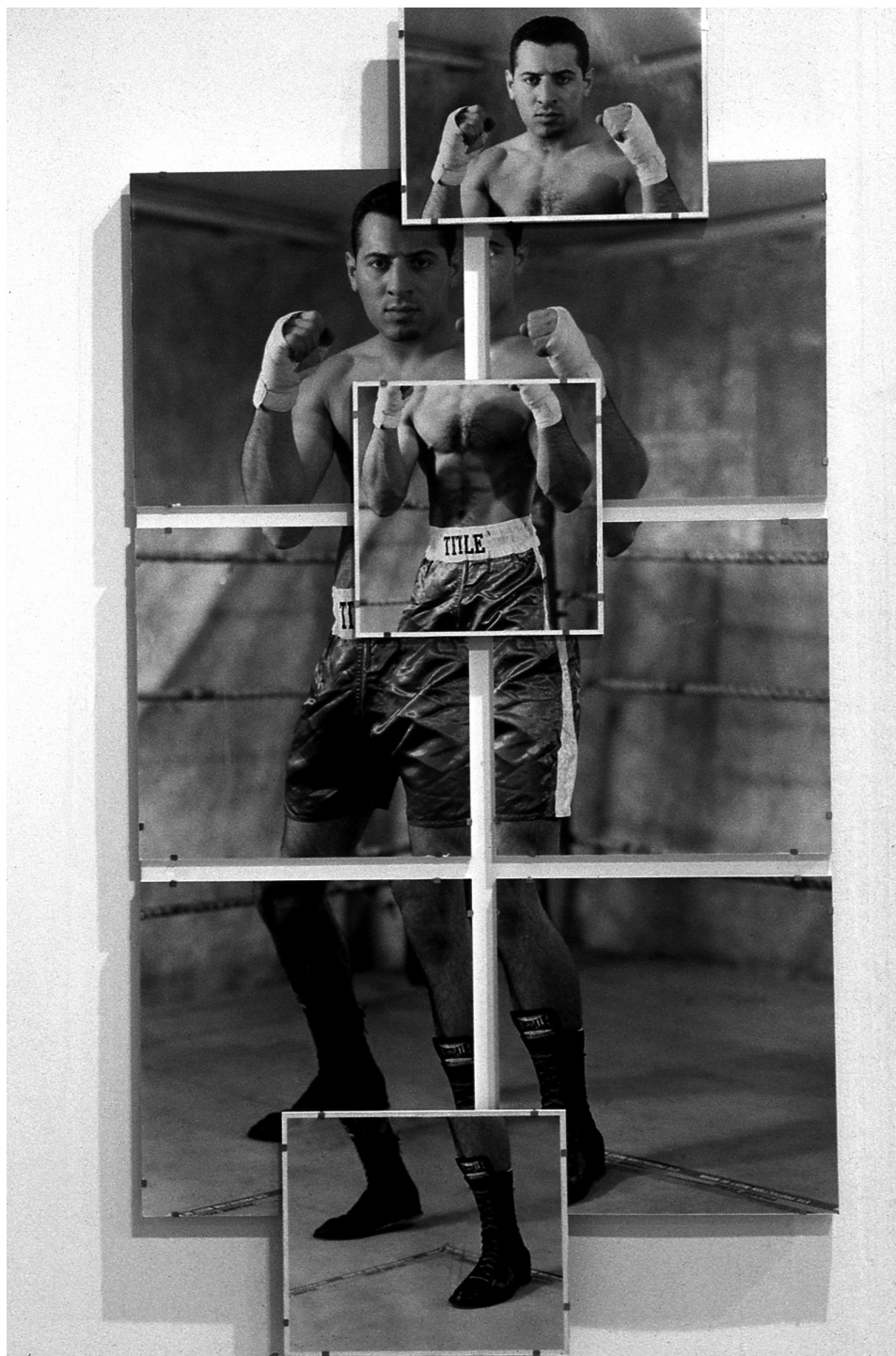
MK Gallery has been described as an ‘architectural gem’ and we were delighted to win a national award from the Royal Institute of British Architecture. Alongside significant exhibitions of contemporary and historic art and design, we also present extensive events and family programmes, manage an independent café and shop and provide cinema with Curzon.

After the success of Laura Knight, we are thrilled to launch our next major exhibition, **Ingrid Pollard: Carbon Slowly Turning**. Pollard featured in our inaugural show, *The Lie of the Land*, in 2019, so we are delighted to present a more in-depth overview of her 40-year career. Pollard is an acclaimed and experimental photographer so our public programmes this season focus on photography workshops, displays and the launch of our Young Photographer competition.

We are also delighted to be working with colleagues and partners on projects related to **Muslimness in the Arts**, a new supported studio programme for neurodiverse participants and plenty of family fun. In the Sky Room, we are offering classics in opera and ballet, alongside more experimental music and performance.

We look forward to welcoming you at MK Gallery!

Anthony Spira
Director, MK Gallery



Ingrid Pollard, *Contenders* (detail), 1995, silver prints, colour prints, 3D objects, dimensions variable. © and courtesy of the artist

»»»»»»»»»» Exhibition ««««««««««

12 March – 29 May 2022

Ingrid Pollard: Carbon Slowly Turning

Curated by Gilane Tawadros, with the artist

Free Entry

Advance booking is recommended

Ingrid Pollard (born Georgetown, Guyana) is one of the leading figures in contemporary British art. This first major survey of her 40-year career includes delicately hand-tinted landscape photographs, a flotilla of small ceramic boats and a cast of protagonists that includes boxers, musicians, tango dancers and writers. The exhibition also includes two new works – a film that meditates on the human body as it moves through space and time, and a triptych of monumental, dynamic sculptures that reference our shared history of power relations and resurgence.

Pollard is renowned for using portrait and landscape photography to question our relationship with the natural world and to interrogate social constructs such as Britishness, race, sexuality and identity. Working across a variety of techniques from photography, printmaking, drawing and installation to artists' books, video and audio, she combines meticulous research and experimental processes to make art that is at once deeply personal and socially resonant.

Friday 6 May | 10am – 5.30pm

Conference

This day-long conference explores the themes around Ingrid Pollard's work including photography and the landscape. Produced with the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, it will feature presentations from a range of artists and writers. Please see website for full programme information.

Tickets £35 / £25 (Full time students/unwaged)

Online tickets: £20 / £10 (Full time students/unwaged)



Winner of the Freelands Award 2020. Exhibition supported by Freelands Foundation. Supported by a Publications Grant from the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art and the Association for Art History. An Exhibition Organised by MK Gallery in partnership with Turner Contemporary.

➤➤➤➤➤➤ Accessible Exhibition Tours <<<<<<<<

Sunday 20 March, Sunday 24 April & Sunday 15 May | 10am – 11am

Relaxed Exhibition Viewings

These are quiet hours tailored to support visitors with neurodiversity, inclusive of communication or sensory needs. Ear defenders and sensory aids are available, the hand dryers in the toilets are switched off, and tickets are limited to reduce the number of people in the galleries.

Free

Saturday 9 April | 11am – 12pm

BSL Exhibition Tour

Gain insight into Pollard's extensive practice and explore the diverse themes. This event will be delivered in BSL only and is suitable for anyone who uses or is learning BSL.

Free

Saturday 23 April & Saturday 28 May | 10.30am – 11.10am

Toddle Tour

These artist-led tours will invite you to explore the sensory qualities of the exhibition, **Ingrid Pollard: Carbon Slowly Turning**. Our Toddle Tours are specifically designed for families with little ones aged 5 and under who want to explore the Galleries in a child-friendly way with lots of interactive elements including music, play, and dress-up!

£5 per family

5 years and under

Saturday 23 April & Saturday 28 May | 11.30am – 12.10pm

Child Tour

Our Child Tours are specifically designed for those with additional needs, including autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD).

£5 per family

A relaxing break out space, with black out tents and sensory aids will be available for use in both tours. Siblings are welcome to join. We accept Short Break Vouchers for payment.

Saturday 7 May | 11am – 12pm

Audio Described Exhibition Tour

Audio described tours are designed especially for those who are blind or partially sighted. Our guides will bring the work of Ingrid Pollard to life, through detailed descriptions.

Free



➤➤➤➤➤➤ Creative Workshops <<<<<<<<

We have taken inspiration from **Ingrid Pollard: Carbon Slowly Turning** to create a series of creative workshops for adults. Two of these will be led by artists whose work focuses on exploring the natural environment and using sustainable materials. The third will explore our relationship to our body and how we express our identity and voice.

Each workshop is £45 per person. All materials will be provided.

Saturday 30 April | 2pm – 5pm

Cyanotypes with Melanie King

No cameras required! Also known as 'sun prints', cyanotypes use the UV reaction from the sun to create stunning and original prints. Join artist Melanie King in a workshop to explore this unique and traditional form of photography.



Saturday 7 May | 10am – 1pm

Watercolour Pigment Making with Lisa-Marie Price

The making of natural watercolours is a very meditative process, each pigment with its own feel, smell and texture. Lisa-Marie will lead you as you forage for materials to create your own watercolour pigments from scratch and use them to create your own watercolour paints.

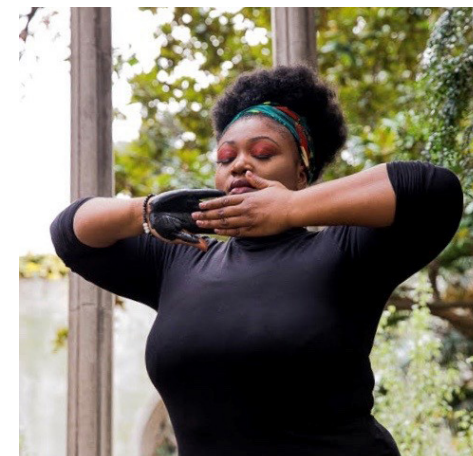
Friday 20 & Saturday 21 May

Body Arcana with Lesley Asare

If your body could speak, what would it say? Join us for a movement and performance workshop with British Ghanaian artist Lesley Asare who creates large scale drawings using her body.

Following a Body Arcana performance, you will explore the wisdom and key life themes that your body holds, through movement, drawing and writing.

Ticket includes performance & workshop.



Project Space

MK Gallery's Project Space is dedicated to sharing artwork and cultural projects created for, with, and by artists and members of the local community. It aims to inspire people to collaborate and explore different forms of creativity that express the cultural identity of Milton Keynes.

5 – 27 March
Every Saturday & Sunday | 11am–5pm

Resource Room by Katie Fields
Creatives, families and Milton Keynes residents are encouraged to visit and collect free resources and materials, create artwork in the communal space or learn a craft at one of our free workshops. Hosted by artist Katie Fields, Resource Room opens in the Project Space every weekend throughout March 2022.

1 April–30 April
tmr: gallery presents
Moments of Integrity
Curated by themusicroom, this exhibition showcases the work of four emerging visual artists and photographers based in Milton Keynes, Zec Luhana, Yan Phong, George Mensah and Sade Popoola. Exploring the everyday instances of integrity, authenticity and originality in our lives, this project is about embracing the reality of our lives and the true nature of our beings.



Zec Luhana, Untitled

7 May–29 May
Muslimness in the Arts
Co-curated with Dr Amina Easat-Daas, as part of a series of events exploring British Muslimness, this exhibition brings together comic book art from two Muslim artists, Tuffix and Arakan Creative. Comic art has been increasingly used by Muslim artists and those interested in the Muslim experience.

7–26 June
Photovoice
Presented as part of a wider research project conducted by the University of Northampton, this project showcases photographs taken by the community at YMCA Milton Keynes as part of a Photovoice project. The aim of the exhibition is to help young people communicate the challenges they faced before living at YMCA, and the impact of the support they now receive.

Free
Entry

Community

Saturday 28 May
British Muslimness: Victorian Britain to the Present Day
This event explores British Muslimness, with creative snapshots spanning from Victorian Britain and its early Muslims to celebrating and marking the diversity of British Muslimness today. Produced in collaboration with Dr Amina Easat-Daas, the Robert Reschid Stanley organisation and Arakan Creative.

7–29 May
Muslimness in Arts
This Project Space exhibition brings together comic book art from two Muslim artists.

Saturday 28 May | 11am
His Own Man: A Victorian 'Hidden' Muslim
Talk by author Christina Longden followed by Q&A
Christina Longden, the three times great granddaughter of Robert Reschid Stanley will share from her book. A stimulating insight and discussion of one of the earliest recorded British converts to Islam, a working-class northern man turned former mayor of Stalybridge, highlighting the long history of Muslimness in Britain and celebrating our collective heritage.

Saturday 28 May | 2pm
Freesia
Film screening followed by Q&A with director Conor Ibrahim
This Bradford-based film presents the intertwining narratives of three diverse young protagonists to subtly explore the challenges facing British youth today, followed by an interactive in conversation with the film's writer and director, Conor Ibrahim.



CURZON

Sky Room Cinema

The home of independent cinema in Milton Keynes, programmed in partnership with Curzon to bring you the best of independent and world cinema, alongside event cinema, family favourites and block busters.

There are some fantastic films coming up over the next three months to look out for including **Duke, Ali & Ava**; Oscar and BAFTA nominated **Flee**; **Downton Abbey: A New Era** and **Sonic The Hedgehog 2**.

Visit mkgallery.org to book

For details of our accessible film screenings please visit our website.

Sky Room Combo



Pre-order your Sky Room or Ultimate Sky Room Combo to save money and enjoy while watching a film.

Event Cinema

This spring we bring you the best in theatre and dance for you to enjoy!

Sun 13 March | 2pm

ROH Live: Rigoletto

In a world of decadence and corruption, Verdi's masterpiece pits power against innocence with devastating effects.

Sat 19 March | 7pm

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde – Live From Leith Theatre (15)

Within the century-old walls of historic Leith Theatre, something sinister is stirring. A gothic tale of double lives and inner demons, The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde takes on its own hybrid identity in this unique retelling.



Tue 5 April | 7pm

Exhibition On Screen: Easter in Art (PG)

Shot on location in Jerusalem, United States and throughout Europe, the film explores the different ways artists have depicted the Easter story through the ages and thus depicts the history of us all.

Sun 17 April | 2pm

ROH Live: La Traviata

19th-century Paris is a place of contrasts; glamour and superficiality, love and lust, life and death. Courtesan Violetta sings some of Verdi's most acclaimed arias including the joyous 'Sempre libera', in her poignant and passionate encounters with Alfredo and Germont.



Sat 23 April | 7pm

NT Live: Henry V (15)

Kit Harington (Game of Thrones) plays the title role in Shakespeare's thrilling study of nationalism, war and the psychology of power.



Sun 24 April | 2.30pm

Northern Ballet: Merlin

Discover how the world's most famous sorcerer mastered his magic to unite a warring kingdom Inspired by the story of a mythical wizard, Northern Ballet's Merlin will take you on a sweeping epic adventure of heartbreak, hope and more than a little magic.

Sun 1 May | 4pm

Bolshoi Ballet: The Pharaoh's Daughter

While traveling in Egypt, Lord Wilson is caught in a sandstorm and finds refuge in the nearest pyramid where Aspasia, the daughter of one of Egypt's most powerful pharaohs, lies entombed.

Sun 22 May | 2pm

ROH Live: Swan Lake

Lured to the banks of a mysterious lake by his alter-ego, the Evil Genius, Prince Siegfried encounters the most beautiful swan Odette and swears his love to her.

Tue 24 May | 7pm

Exhibition On Screen: Pissarro – The Father of Impressionism

Without Camille Pissarro, there is no Impressionist movement. He is rightfully known as the father of Impressionism.

Thursday 26 May | 7pm

NT Live: Straight Lines (12A)

Ralph Fiennes (Antony & Cleopatra) leads the cast in David Hare's blazing account of the most powerful man in New York, a master manipulator whose legacy changed the city forever.

Family Fun



Every Tuesday 4pm (Key Stage 1)
& 5.30pm (Key Stage 2) during
term time

Art Club

Creative weekly workshops with
MK Gallery's Associate Artists with an
opportunity to complete the Explore or
Discover Arts Award.

Tickets £7

Every Tuesday | 10am, 11am & 12pm
during term time

Start the Art

Enjoy exploring senses through new
smells, textures and learning more
about the world through play.

**Tickets £6 per adult & child
(£2 per additional child)**

Friday 8 April – Sunday 5 June

Bramble Ramble

Collect your free Bramble Ramble
kits from MK Gallery to enjoy in
Campbell Park throughout the summer
term. These kits will provide fun and
interesting ways to engage with nature
and enjoy the outdoors.

Free

Save the
dates for Family
Fun Days

**Sat 23 April and
Sat 25 June**

Visit mkgallery.org
for more details

Young Photographer

Calling all budding young
photographers! We're celebrating all
things photography this year through
our Ingrid Pollard and Vivian Maier
exhibitions and this is your chance
to be inspired and get involved.

Young Photographer is an opportunity
for all young people living or
studying in Milton Keynes to develop
photographic skills, take part in an
exhibition this July in MK Gallery's
Project Space, and have their work
judged by a panel of curators and
photographers. Submissions are
welcomed from children and young
people aged 4-19* (*SEND up to
25 years).



Categories are:

Landscape

Portrait

Street

Anything
goes!

Inspirational workshops with photographers and artists will take place throughout
May exploring different photographic techniques including cyanotypes, pinhole
cameras, digital photography and experimenting with materials.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to both individuals and schools, including exhibition tours
and workshops for the winning schools. All entrants will be invited to exhibition
opening on Friday 1 July featuring a photography themed silent disco.

To find out more and receive an application pack please email
youngphotographer@mkgallery.org.

Entries will open between 1 April to 17 June 2022.

Free Teachers CPD | Friday 25 March 4pm–7pm

Join us for a free Teachers CPD evening which includes a tour of the exhibition
and workshop. Please email learning@mkgallery.org to book your place.



Amplify

Participants will generate new ways of thinking about writing, performing and how to give voice to social and political concerns impacting young people today. See website for further information or contact Roisin at rcallaghan@mkgallery.org.

Supported Studio

If you, or someone you know, might be interested in getting involved please contact **Jemima** at jsenior@mkgallery.org.

Taking the Stage, Women in the Performing Arts

MK Gallery is partnering with The Plays the Thing Theatre Company to present Taking the Stage, a four day festival celebrating women in the performing arts. The festival will feature the premier of a new play 'Tapestry' by award winning playwright Chloe Todd Fordham, short plays, scratch pieces and devised performances along with a keynote speech by April De Angelis, a series of talks and workshops, and a programme of African films by female film makers.

Body Arcana with Lesley Asare

If your body could speak, what would it say? Join us for a movement and performance workshop with British Ghanaian artist Lesley Asare who creates large scale drawings using her body.





Music



Coby Sey

**Fri 18 March | Fri 29 April |
Fri 27 May | Fri 24 June
7pm – 10pm**

themusicroom

themusicroom (tmr) is an intimate, curated experience of live music and creative conversations, encouraging musical diversity above all else. As a brand, tmr encourages musical and creative talent, especially those that are home-grown. Previous shows have included MK-based musicians such as Manny & The Coloured Sky, KOCO and Emile Kartel.

Details online up and tickets released at the beginning of each month.

Tickets from £5.50

**Sat 26 March | Doors 6pm
The Joyous Thing 3 – Coby Sey:
Check Rain, I Am Fya & Euso**

Presented by OUTLANDS, The Joyous Thing is an annual gathering for the UK experimental music community and anyone with a curious ear. Following 2021's online event, we are delighted to return to an in person programme, which includes a new commission by Coby Sey, performances from emerging artists I Am Fya and Euso, and DJ sets from network members.

Tickets: Pay what you can

**Saturday 18 June | Doors 7.30pm
MK Festival Fringe Presents**

Once again we are partnering with MK Festival Fringe and musician and writer The Isle of CC to present some of the most exciting artists emerging out of the fertile Neo-Soul scene in the UK. Acts to be announced see website for further details.

**Tickets: £10 (Advance booking)
or £12 (On the door)**



Shop & Café



MK Gallery Shop

Our Gallery Shop is independent with a carefully curated collection of beautiful items, from stunning ceramics and jewellery pieces by local makers to a selection of popular art books, gifts and prints for everyone.

Our range of hand selected products can't be found anywhere else within the city centre, making us the perfect place to pick up gifts for all ages.

Café/Bar

Sit back and relax in our independent café/bar. Choose from our range of locally made cakes, made to order jacket potatoes, soups, sandwiches and much more!

Last food orders 3.30pm or 6pm when café/bar open late.

Afternoon teas

Indulge in a traditional afternoon tea at MK Gallery café. A delectable assortment of finger sandwiches, warm scones, and tempting cakes with a pot of tea.



All profits from the Café and Shop go directly towards supporting our award-winning exhibitions, learning and community programmes.

»»»»»»»»»» Coming Soon ««««««««««

Saturday 11 June – Sunday 25 September

Vivian Maier: Anthology



Vivian Maier, Self-portrait, New York, 1953 © Estate of Vivian Maier, Courtesy of Maloof Collection and Howard Greenberg Gallery, NY.

Full
price
tickets
£9.50

Curated by Anne Morin and produced by diChroma Photography

Vivian Maier (1926–2009) has only recently been revealed as one of the most significant photographers of the 20th century. She was a professional nanny in New York and Chicago for over 40 years but took hundreds of thousands of photographs, which were found when her belongings went to auction in 2007. From carefree children and glamorous housewives to the homeless and destitute, Maier's portraits capture the highs and lows of everyday life. Street scenes with shop fronts, arcades and aerial shots use shadows and reflections to capture the improvised moments that make up a community. Smouldering furniture, abandoned toys, tangles of electric cables all set the scene as families, workers and commuters go about their daily business.

Milton Keynes Residents – free entry on Tuesdays

We would like to encourage visitors to pre-book their tickets to reduce queues in the Gallery.

diChroma
photography

Volunteer

We need you! Volunteer with us today!

Help us bring world class exhibitions to life in Milton Keynes, create amazing experiences for visitors and help them discover about art. You'll meet new people, be given the opportunity to learn more about every exhibition and artist and get discounts in our shop and café. Call 01908 558 305 or email aparmar@mkgallery.org to find out more.



Tuesday 22 March 5pm – 7pm

Volunteer Recruitment Evening

MK Gallery is hosting a volunteer open evening on Tuesday 22 March for those who are curious to find out more about volunteering. Potential newcomers will have an after hours, volunteer-led tour of the **Ingrid Pollard: Carbon Slowly Turning** exhibition while learning about the role of a gallery assistant.

To register your interest please email Annette Parmar aparmar@mkgallery.org.

Venue Hire



Looking for the perfect space for your next event?
Why not host it at MK Gallery's Sky Room?
Contact events@mkgallery.org

Photo: Chris Henley

Become a member at MK Gallery



**10% discounts
in café/bar
and shop**



**Invitation to
member only
events**



**Free entrance to
ticketed exhibitions**



**Discounted
tickets to various
events and our
independent film
programme**



Invitation to exclusive previews

Become a member | £60 or £110 joint membership a year

Support and join MK Gallery to unlock a year of free gallery entry, discounts on selected films and event, exclusive events, discounts in the Café/Bar and shop plus more.