



*Ugly Duck, 47/49 Tanner Street, Bermondsey, SE1 3PL*

"Art & (H)aktivism" new creative season at Ugly Duck

For Immediate release: 24/04/2018

**From May until November 2018, London arts organisation explores the theme of *Art & (H)aktivism*.**

Working closely with artists of multiple disciplines the Ugly Duck team have sought contributions from fields beyond traditional art forms for the 2018 programme. The plethora of events includes exhibitions, social activism, performance, new media art and workshops.

Led by Creative Manager Geraldine Atger *Art & (H)aktivism* has been developed by **Ugly Duck** with assistance from guest Curators **Ashley Lee Wong** (digital curator and researcher at Sedition and MetaObject), **Nicole Crentsil** (founder of Unmasked Women, an exhibition channelling the Black British female experience) and **Professor Tim Jordan** (Head of the School of Media, Film and Music and Professor of Digital Cultures at University of Sussex)

**Together with a team of influential and engaging contemporary artists the social enterprise will explore how art and creativity can be actioned as an advocate for social change.**



*Transcendence* Kimatica Studio, 2018. Copyright Kimatica Studio. Event: *Art in Flux*, Ugly Duck 31/05 - 03/06



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Creative events throughout the programme will explore various subject matters in depth, questioning and investigating Climate Change, BAME culture, Feminism, LGBTQA+, systems of Permaculture and Drug Policy.

Exhibitions such as *Cosmic Perspective* by **Lumen Studio** will examine the fragility and monumental importance of life on Earth from the darkness of space – as well as how concepts such as the Overview Effect alter collective perception of ecology. **26-28/05**

*Art in Flux* selected by guest curator **Ashley Lee Wong** is an exhibition exploring experimentation in new media art now. *FLUX* is a movement of media artists working on the cusp of technological advancement, using light, sound, movement and other media they challenge perception to facilitate social change. **31/05 - 03/06**

In **June**, **Ugly Duck** will work alongside New York based collective **SXR VXVE** to explore women's suffrage, the industrial revolution, and the relationships between design reforms, technical innovation, the labour movement and early feminist activism. **TBC / 06**

**Ugly Duck** will host and curate a showcase *Art and (H)aktivism* for four days in **July**. This showcase will include an exhibition, events and talks about art, hacking and activism. Asking questions such as how do we dismantle invisible walls and the symbolic containment of existing power structures? The event will create a platform for projects that subvert, improve and criticise systems in place. **18-22/07**

**Ugly Duck** will be celebrating **Black History Month** in **October** with a series of events promoting BAME communities in the arts. The first, *Black Herstory Month* organised by **Lon-art** is an event celebrating Black History Month from a gender perspective. Black women's stories have too often been erased from history or ignored. **05-07/10**

**Book Launch** *The Colour of Madness*, a groundbreaking book exploring the realities of BAME mental health. The anthology will give voice to marginalised groups, an empowering platform for talented BAME creatives and academics, from art, fiction, poetry, academic papers memoirs and essays. **TBC / 10**

Producer **Justyn Hollett** will also host an event, *Young, Black and Gifted* – recognising the talent within underrepresented BAME groups. **20-21/10**

The charity **Release** will also be returning to Tanner Street for their event *Breaking Chains* – challenging drug prohibition through open dialogue and art. **01-04/11**



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Keep informed about all upcoming events for our *Art and (H)aktivism* series via our social media channels, where we will announce the dates of specific events throughout the programme. I: [@weareuglyduck](https://www.instagram.com/weareuglyduck) // T: [@WeAreUglyDuck](https://www.facebook.com/weareuglyduck) // F: [@WeAreUglyDuck](https://www.facebook.com/weareuglyduck)

For information on our 2018 creative season selected projects visit our website: [uglyduck.org.uk](http://uglyduck.org.uk)

### **Notes to Editors**

Ugly Duck is a social enterprise, which revitalises underused spaces. It was founded in August 2012, and funds arts projects and events largely through commercial hires of their venue in Bermondsey.

47/49 Tanner Street is located between London Bridge and Bermondsey.

**Tube:** 10 minute walk from London Bridge and Bermondsey Stations.

**Bus:** Routes 42, 78 and 188 stop just around the corner on Tower Bridge Road.

### **Press Enquiries**

[media@uglyduck.org.uk](mailto:media@uglyduck.org.uk)

**Tickets:** <http://uglyduck.org.uk/create/#upcoming-events>