

威廉·赫曼 Will Herman



杨紫苑 策展

Curated by Yuana

Amuse-Bouche

餐 前 小 食

2024.11.16-2024.12.14



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

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1996年出生英国伦敦，2023年硕士毕业于英国皇家艺术学院绘画专业。2018年本科毕业于英国布莱顿大学绘画专业，现生活和工作于英国伦敦。

威廉·赫曼喜欢透过创作来述说生活中的所见所闻，且擅长描绘集体场景，创作手法多以丰富大胆的线条、鲜明的色彩去描写，借由短促而精练的用笔不断地在画布上堆叠，似20世纪初期表现主义艺术家们着重情感的表达，但威廉·赫曼创作的主题又非常贴近现代人的生活，在看似疯狂的画面中更能体现作品的叙事情节，让观者仿佛身历其境，更是表现出了“让画面拥有声音与临场感”的感受。

1996 Born in London, U.K. , 2023 MA Hons Painting, Royal College of Art, U.K., 2018 BA Hons Fine Art Painting, University of Brighton, U.K., Lives and works in London, U.K.

William Harman likes to talk about what he sees and hears in life in his creations, and he is good at depicting collective scenes. His creative methods are mostly depicted with rich and bold lines and vivid colors, and he keeps stacking up the canvas with short and concise brush strokes, which is similar to that of the early 20th century Expressionist artists who emphasized on the expression of their emotions, but the theme of William's creations is very close to the life of modern people, and it can better reflect the narrative plots of his works in the seemingly crazy scenes. In the seemingly crazy images, the narrative plot of the work is better reflected, making the viewer feel as if they were there, but also showing the feeling of “letting the picture have a sound and a sense of presence”.

展览资讯

展名：Amuse - Bouche餐前小食

艺术家：威廉·赫曼

展期：2024年11月16日 ~ 2024年12月14日

地点：索卡艺术北京市朝阳区酒仙桥路2号798艺术区707街

开放时间：周二 — 周日 10:00 -18:30

威廉·赫曼：Amuse – Bouche餐前小食

文/杨紫苑

索卡艺术荣幸宣布，将于2024年11月16日在索卡艺术北京空间推出英国艺术家威廉·赫曼个展“Amuse – Bouche餐前小食”，呈现其全新创作的十四件绘画作品。此次展览是威廉·赫曼继2023年索卡台南个展“自由边缘人”之后在中国的第二次个展，作品取材从熟悉的居住区域拓展到新的环境和场景，进一步解开艺术家与“英国性”（Britishness）之间的个人关系。展览由杨紫苑策划，将持续至2024年12月14日。

Amuse-Bouche来源于法语，直译为“唤醒味蕾”，它指的是在西餐文化中，主菜上桌前提供给客人的开胃菜，目的是为等待主菜的食客带来一些娱乐和趣味。威廉的每件作品都像是令人期待的餐前小食，让观众愉悦，惊喜或皱眉，总之每一次“入口”都不寡淡。大胆的用色和夸张的人物面部表现，以一种“漫画式”的处理方式增强了视觉张力，使作品更具大众性和娱乐性。而统一的正方形尺寸画布让作品看起来似一个被切割的画面，聚焦大场所中的小角落，无限放大了戏剧冲突，也引起观众对画外场景的万千遐想，以此投射和反思他们自己的社会角色存在。

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我的每幅画都讽刺了我们看待彼此的方式、英国风俗、阶级结构、当代事务和消遣方式。

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威廉·赫曼的这一系列作品可以看作是他过去一年的回忆日记，记录了足球赛或赛马等活动或社会和政治分歧与丑闻背景下的打斗和抗议。威廉根据新闻中的画面以及自己的经历描绘了他眼中的现实世界，是其对生活经历或当天见闻的直接回应。那些自称“帝国卫士”的团体戴着头巾和十字勋章，上街举行所谓的和平抗议，但往往以酒精引发的暴力冲突收场；“女士日”上盛装打扮出门的淑女，都会在庆典结束时醉醺醺“失了姿态”，跌跌撞撞回家；意在亲近自然的“懒人漂流”只是人们换个地方寻欢作乐，河中美景均沦为烟酒的陪衬。这些道貌岸然的群体活动，披着正经严肃的外皮开场，又总是戏剧性地以闹剧结尾，如此荒诞，又如此符合人间现实。毕竟，这一切都无简单的对错之分，因为人类好像总能合理化他们所做的一切。

威廉·赫曼以“集体经历的哑剧” (pantomime of collective experience)这一理念作为其创作线索，尽管画作的叙述范围很广泛，其中一些可能涉及社会分歧和政治丑闻等更严肃的话题，但这些都 被他用独具个人特色的幽默感包裹起来，不让观者觉得过分激进，而是共感生活的多样性和不可预见性。例如作品《开胃菜Hors D'oeuvres》描绘了一对上流社会的夫妇正在一家高级餐厅高贵地接受着三位侍者的服务，美酒不断，主菜是一枚看似简单的金蛋，但不难看出这一餐的价格可能相当昂贵。这幅画同时参考了詹姆斯·吉尔雷 (James Gillray, 英国 19世纪漫画家) 的社会讽刺作品、《弗尔蒂旅馆》 (Fawlty Towers, 20世纪70年代英国情景喜剧，讲述一家运转不良的酒店里的故事) 以及《伊索寓言》中“下金蛋的鹅”的故事。三个作品虽载体不一，但内核都是一致的。威廉在这幅画中思考了“惯常事物是如何被抬高到偏离其原始性质的”。当人在不同的环境中游移生存时，事物的文化资本在起起落落，它的阶级象征也在发生变化。就像不起眼的鸡蛋，通常是早餐主食，当它在当地一家普通的咖啡厅供应时，它成了一件商品，而当它在米其林餐厅的精致银盘上供应时，它又升级为一件附带贴心服务的高额商品。这些都与阶级、地位和象征有关，“金蛋”便是贪婪和不知节制的象征。正所谓欲壑难填，威廉·赫曼的作品揭露了一幕幕现实的隐喻，如同连接人类欲望的藤蔓，无尽滋长和缠绕。

Exhibition Information

Exhibition: *Amuse – Bouche*

Artists: Will Harman

Duration: 2024.11.16~ 2024.12.14

Location: SOKA ART, 798 Art District, No.2 Jiuxianqiao Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing, China

Opening Hour: Tue to Sun 10:00-18:30

Will Harman: Amuse – Bouche

Text/Yuana

Soka Art is pleased to announce that British artist William Harman's solo exhibition *Amuse-Bouche* will be presented at Soka Art Beijing Space on November 16, 2024, featuring fourteen new paintings, this exhibition is William Harman's second solo exhibition in China after his solo exhibition *Freedom From The Suburbs* in Soka Tainan in 2023. The works are drawn from his familiar surrounding areas to more new environments and settings, further unpicking the artist's personal relationship to Britishness. The exhibition is curated by Yuana and will last until December 14, 2024.

Amuse-Bouche is a French word that directly translates to “mouth amuser”, which refers to the appetizers offered to guests before the main course is served in Western culinary culture, with the purpose of bringing some amusement and fun to the diners waiting for the main course. Each of Will's works is like an Amuse-Bouche, which makes the audience happy, surprised or frowned, each “bite” is anything but bland. The bold use of colors and exaggerated facial expressions of characters enhance the visual tension in a “comic-like” way, making the work more popular and entertaining. The uniform square size of the canvas makes the work look like a cut picture, focusing on the small corners in the large venue, infinitely magnifying the dramatic conflict and arousing the audience's imagination of the scene outside the canvas, also projecting and reflecting on their own social role roles.

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Each of my paintings is poking fun at the way we perceive each other, British customs, class structures, contemporary affairs and pastimes.

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This series of works by Will Harman can be seen as his memoir diary of the past year, recording events such as football matches or horse races, or fights and protests in the context of social and political divisions and scandals. Will depicts the real world in his eyes based on the images in the news and his own experiences, which is a direct response to his life or what he saw that day.

The Group of self-proclaimed “defenders of the realm” wearing headscarves and crosses and took to the streets for so-called peaceful protests, but often ended in violent conflicts caused by alcohol; The ladies who dressed up to go out on “Ladies Day” would be drunk and “lose their elegance” at the end of the celebration and stumble home; “Lazy River” intended to get close to nature is just a place for people to have fun, the beautiful scenery in the river became a foil for cigarettes and alcohol. These moralistic group activities start with a serious appearance and always end dramatically with farce, so absurd, but so in line with the reality of the world. After all, there is no simple right or wrong in any of this, because humans always seem to rationalize everything they do.

Will Harman takes the idea of the “pantomime of collective experience” as a clue in his work, although the paintings cover a wide range of narratives, some of which may involve more serious topics such as social divisions and political scandals, they are all wrapped up in Will's unique sense of humor, which does not make viewers feel overly radical but sympathize with the diversity and unpredictability of life. For example, the work *Hors D'oeuvres* depicts an upper-class couple nobly served by three waiters in a fine dining restaurant, with a flow of wines, and a seemingly simple golden egg for the main course, but it's easy to see how the meal could be quite expensive. The painting draws on references from the social satire of James Gillray (British 19th C caricaturists), *Fawlty Towers* (a 1970s British sitcom about a dysfunctional hotel), and the story of *The Goose that Laid the Golden Egg* from *Aesop's Fables*. The three works have different carriers, but all have the same core. In this painting,

Will contemplates “how ordinary things are elevated to the point of deviating from their original nature”. As people move through different environments, the cultural capital of a thing rises and falls, and its class signifier changes. Like the humble egg, usually a breakfast staple, it becomes a commodity when it is served at a local cafe, and when it is served on an exquisite silver platter at a Michelin restaurant, it is upgraded to a high-dollar commodity that comes with attentive service. It is all about class, status and symbols, and the “golden egg” is a symbol of greed and excess. As the saying goes, desire can never be filled. Will Harman's work exposes metaphors of reality that grow and twine endlessly like a vine connecting human desires.



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

A.D.I.D.A.S.

2023

布面丙烯油画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



A.D.I.D.A.S. Detail





威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

疯狂 *Psycho*

2023

布面丙烯油画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



疯狂 细节
Psycho Detail





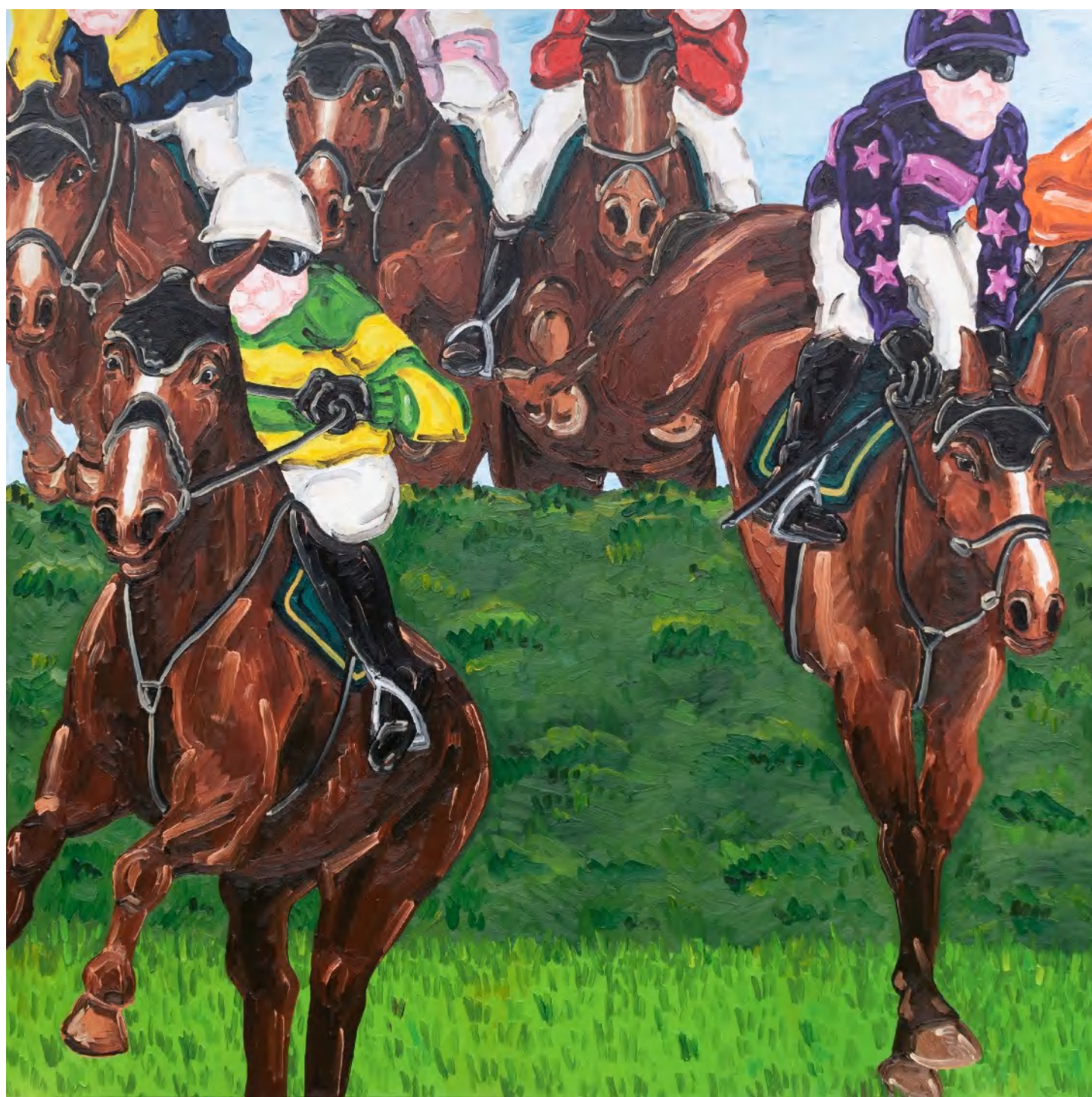
威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

“帝国卫士” *“Defenders of the Realm”*
2024
布面丙烯油画 Oil and acrylic on canvas
180 x 180cm

威廉·赫曼 Will Harman



“帝国卫士”细节
“Defenders of the Realm” Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

飞跃人生 *Jumpers*

2023

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



飞跃人生 细节
Jumpers Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

皇家包厢 *Royal Box*

2023

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



皇家包厢 细节
Royal Box Detail





威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

TLDR
2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas
180 x 180cm



TLDR Detail

威廉·赫曼 Will Harman



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

女士之夜 *Ladies Night*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



女士之夜 细节
Ladies Night Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

酒吧大乱斗 *Bar Room Brawl*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



酒吧大乱斗 细节
Bar Room Brawl Detail





威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

小心；马会伤人；王权至上；谢谢

Beware; Horses May Kick or Bite; Don't Touch the Reigns; Thank You

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



小心；马会伤人；王权至上；谢谢 细节

Beware; Horses May Kick or Bite; Don't Touch the Reigns; Thank You Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

奶酪餐厅 *Cheese Room*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



奶酪餐厅 细节
Cheese Room Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

开胃菜 *Hors D'oeuvres*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



开胃菜 细节
Hors D'oeuvres Detail





威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

女士日 *Ladies Day*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



女士日 细节
Ladies Day Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

懒人漂流 *Lazy River*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



懒人漂流 细节
Lazy River Detail



威廉·赫曼 Will Harman

八卦的邻居 *Nosey Neighbours*

2024

布面丙烯画 Oil and acrylic on canvas

180 x 180cm



八卦的邻居 细节
Nosy Neighbours Detail



威廉·赫曼

1996 出生英国伦敦

2023 硕士毕业于英国皇家艺术学院绘画专业

2018 本科毕业于英国布莱顿大学绘画专业

· 现生活和工作于英国伦敦

个展

2024

“餐前小食”，索卡艺术，北京

2023

“自由边缘人”，索卡艺术，台南

2021

“肉饼，香肠卷”，Changing Room Gallery，伦敦，英国

部分群展

2024

“2024上海廿一当代艺术博览会”，上海展览中心，上海

“Art Taipei 台北艺术博览会”，台北世界贸易中心，台北

“Au Lupin Agile”，Bay Art，威尔斯卡地夫，英国

“It's Really Like That 真的是那样”，Liliya Art Gallery，伦敦，英国

“台北当代艺术博览会”，台北南港展览馆，台北

2023

“Art Taipei 台北艺术博览会”，台北世界贸易中心展览一馆，台北

“Taipei Dangda 台北当代艺术博览会”，台北南港展览馆，台北

“Graduate Show 毕业展”，英国皇家艺术学院，伦敦，英国

2022

“Wells Contemporary”，Wells Cathedral，索默塞特，英国

“Raising Boys 养育男孩”，Black White Gallery，伦敦，英国

“Come One, Come All 来一个，来所有”，The Function Suite，伦敦，英国

2021

“Port of Call 停靠港”，Changing Room Gallery，伦敦，英国

“Football Crazy 疯狂足球”，Black White Gallery，伦敦，英国

2020

“ING Discerning Eye 慧眼”，Mall Galleries，伦敦，英国

“Emergent Vision 新兴愿景”，Uncovered Collective，伦敦，英国

“PAUSE 暂停”，@anotha.page

“Me, Myself and I 我，我自己和我”，Collyer Bristow Gallery，伦敦，英国

2019

“Robert Walters Group - UK Young Artist of the Year Award 英国年度青年艺术家奖”，Saatchi Gallery，伦敦，英国

“Pick N Mix 挑选再混合”，Brixton Beneficiary，伦敦，英国

“Fandom 粉丝”，BadArtPresents，伦敦，英国

2018

“Graduate Show 毕业展”，Grand Parade，布莱顿大学，布赖顿，英国

“Where's the Remote Mum 遥远的妈妈在哪里”，Gallery Lock In，布赖顿，布赖顿，英国

2017

“Inbetween 之间”，Grand Parade，布莱顿大学，布赖顿，英国

2016

“Corridor 走廊”，Grand Parade，布莱顿大学，布赖顿，英国

2015

“Graduate Show 毕业展”，伦敦艺术大学切尔西艺术学院，伦敦，英国

获奖

2024

Popular Vote – Travers Smith CSR Art Award

2019

Shortlisted – Robert Walters UK Young Artist of the Year

出版

Orotund Magazine – ISSUE 1

Penalty Mag Interview

Gravy Zine – ISSUE 1 – WIP (<https://gravyzine.co.uk/ISSUE-1-WIP>)

Will Harman

1996 Born in London, U.K.

2023 MA Hons Painting, Royal College of Art, U.K.

2018 BA Hons Fine Art Painting, University of Brighton, U.K.

• Lives and works in London, U.K.

Solo Exhibition

2024

Amuse - Bouche, Soka Art, Beijing

2023

Freedom for the Suburbs, Soka Art Tainan, Taiwan

2021

Meat Pie, Sausage Roll, Changing Room Gallery, London, U.K.

Group Exhibition

2024

ART021 SHANGHAI contemporary ART FAIR, ShangHai Exhibition Center, ShangHai

Art Taipei, Taipei World Trade Center, Taipei

Au Lupin Agile, BayArt, Cardiff, U.K.

It's Really Like That, Liliya Gallery, London, U.K.

Taipei Dangdai, Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Taipei

2023

2023 Art Taipei, Taipei World Trade Center, Taipei

2023 Taipei Dangdai, Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Taipei

Graduate Show, Royal College of Art, London, U.K.

2022

Wells Contemporary, Wells Cathedral, Somerset, U.K.

Raising Boys, Black White Gallery, London, U.K.

Come One, Come All, The Function Suite, London, U.K.

2021

Port of Call, Changing Room Gallery, London, U.K.

Football Crazy, Football Mad, Patterns of Play, London, U.K.

2020

ING Discerning Eye, Mall Galleries, London, U.K.

Emergent Vision, Uncovered Collective, London, U.K.

PAUSE, @anotha.page

Me Myself and I, Collyer Bristow Gallery, London

2019

Robert Walters Group - UK Young Artist of the Year Award, Saatchi Gallery, London, U.K.

Pick N Mix, Brixton Beneficiary, London, U.K.

Fandom, BadArtPresents, London, U.K.

2018

Graduate Show, University of Brighton, Brighton, U.K.

Where's the Remote Mum, Gallery Lock In, Brighton, U.K.

2017

Inbetween, Grand Parade, University of Brighton, Brighton, U.K.

2016

Corridor, Grand Parade, University of Brighton, Brighton, U.K.

2015

Graduate Show, UAL CCW, London, U.K.

Awards

2024

Popular Vote – Travers Smith CSR Art Award

2019

Shortlisted – Robert Walters UK Young Artist of the Year

Publication

Orotund Magazine – ISSUE 1

Penalty Mag Interview

Gravy Zine – ISSUE 1 – WIP (<https://gravyzine.co.uk/ISSUE-1-WIP>)

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开放时间 Opening hours: 10:00 - 18:30
周一公休 Closed on Monday



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