

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

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Images: available to download [here](#)

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Reframe: The Residency Exhibition - Black and Black mixed heritage artists respond to the climate crisis



Image credit::Dancing in Desolation/Tanning on Tarmac © Shemel Rose-Thompson

Today, the public is invited to experience the powerful responses of 77 Black and Black mixed heritage artists to climate change through an immersive exhibition titled **Reframe: The Residency Exhibition**, created as part of the Southbank Centre's landmark career acceleration programme Reframe: The Residency.

Reframe is an initiative to empower the next generation of Black creatives in the UK and helps address and remove the systemic barriers to career development Black creatives face in the arts and creative industries. This ground-breaking programme is part of Apple's global Racial Equity and Justice Initiative and includes partners Factory International in Manchester, Birmingham City University's STEAMhouse and Midlands Arts Centre in Birmingham.

The exhibition is a collaborative body of climate-focused work by artists from Manchester, Birmingham and London, curated by renowned photographer Misan Harriman, Chair of the Southbank Centre. The free immersive installation combines film, photography, music and sound design and offers a unique perspective on the climate emergency, grounded in the cultural backgrounds of the artists. Through stunning visuals and soundscapes presented in a new exhibition space at the Southbank Centre - Reframe Studios - it reflects on the urgent need for collective action.

Responding to their familial heritage from the African continent and the Caribbean to the urban landscapes of Britain, the artists offer a profound response to an emergency that disproportionately impacts global majority communities.

The free exhibition opens Wednesday 19 July and closes Sunday 27 August.

Information about the 13 artworks can be found [here](#).

The free exhibition is part of the Southbank Centre's **Planet Summer**, a multi-artform season that explores themes of care, hope, connection and activism in response to the climate emergency which takes its inspiration from the latest Hayward Gallery exhibition, ***Dear Earth: Art and Hope in a Time of Crisis***.

Misan Harriman, Chair of the Southbank Centre, said: *"We, the next generation of storytellers, are needed more than ever. The level of talent and intentionality in the Reframe project is second to none. I am incredibly proud of this cohort."*

Alisha Johnson Wilder, Director of Racial Justice Equity Initiative at Apple, said: *"Climate change is one of the most consequential crises of our time, and uniquely impacts underrepresented communities around the world. We're inspired to see the impactful work these creatives have produced which focuses on this critical issue. Our partnership with the Southbank Centre, Birmingham's MAC and STEAMhouse and Manchester's Factory International allows some of the brightest young Black talent from across the UK to share their extraordinary creativity and drive awareness around climate action with thousands of visitors to the Southbank Centre this summer."*

The project aligns with Arts Council England's Let's Create Strategy, which strives to build sustainable cultural communities across the country.

For more information on Reframe click on the link [here](#).

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Press images can be downloaded [here](#).

For further press information please contact:
press@southbankcentre.co.uk

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#REFRAMEresidency
#REFRAMEinspire

NOTES TO EDITORS

Apple's relationship with the Southbank Centre began in summer 2022 with support for the Southbank Centre's Photo-Fantastic accelerator programme for aspiring image makers. Fifteen emerging, London-based Black photographers took part, and their work was exhibited at the Southbank Centre in September 2022. Information [here](#).

The groundbreaking partnership to support Black and Black Mixed heritage creatives in the UK was announced by Apple's Tim Cook at the Southbank Centre in Autumn 2022. Information [here](#).

Reframe: The Residency

Reframe: The Residency was supported by tutors who are established artists: Riley Bramley-Dymond (writer and director); Holly-Marie Cato (photographer and director); dubmorphology - Gary Stewart (production and performance group); Caleb Femi (writer, director and photographer); Joshua Inyang (music producer, artist and radio host); Nicole Justice (singer, performer, composer, producer and audio engineer); Tayyib Mahmood (filmmaker); Denise Maxwell (photographer); and Tanya Weekes (photographer).

Reframe: Inspire Schools

As part of Reframe: Inspire Schools over 500 secondary school students from 21 schools across Manchester, Birmingham and London developed their literacy and digital skills as well as their activism and creative practice by contributing towards a digital zine exhibition which is available to view [here](#).

On Monday 10 July, all 21 schools came together at the Southbank Centre to celebrate the launch of the online zine exhibition, accompanied by a physical zine fair. Students heard first-hand from artists and activists including Tori Tsui and Love Ssega as well as experienced a premiere performance of an anthem of lyrics drawn from participating students, composed and performed by Love Ssega, Nicole Justice, Reece Williams and Arji Manuelpillai.

Reframe: Inspire Schools is supported by Apple and produced by the Southbank Centre with Factory International and the Midlands Art Centre.

About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre occupying a prominent riverside location that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. We exist to present great cultural experiences that bring people together and we achieve this by providing the space for artists to create and present their best work and by creating a place where as many people as possible can come together to experience bold, unusual and eye-opening work. We want to take people out of the everyday, every day. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. The Southbank Centre is made up of the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as being home to the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. It is also home to six Resident Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Philharmonia Orchestra).

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/>

About Factory International

Factory International commissions, produces and presents a year-round programme of original creative work and special events at Aviva Studios, its landmark new home in Manchester, online, and internationally through its network of co-commissioners and partners. It also stages the city-wide Manchester International Festival every other year.

A space for invention and discovery, the design of Factory International's new home is led by Ellen van Loon of the world-leading practice Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) - their first major public building in the UK. Built with flexibility in mind, the building is based around large, open, adaptable spaces that can be constantly reconfigured, enabling artists to develop and create large-scale work of invention and ambition, of a kind not seen anywhere else in the world. Matching Manchester's ethos as an ever-evolving city, this dynamic space invites artists to create bold new work by providing a canvas to make, explore and experiment. Audiences can enjoy the broadest range of art forms from major exhibitions and concerts to intimate performances and immersive experiences, while the venue's outside areas come alive with pop-up performances, events and markets, creating a thriving new riverside destination for all.

International in spirit and practice, Factory International collaborates with venues, festivals and companies across the world to commission artists together. Working with local, national and international partners and co-producers, it produces and premieres major new work, before it travels globally, and share ideas, projects and training with peers worldwide.

At home in Manchester, Factory International plays an important role in the lives of Greater Manchester residents, bringing jobs, skills, training and creative opportunities for local people and artists. Its pioneering creative engagement and artist development programmes creates year-round opportunities for local people to get involved, from participating in flagship commissions, co-designing programmes of activity, to shaping the organisation through involvement in its public forums. Through Factory Academy, Factory International is training the creative workforce of the future, providing opportunities for careers in Manchester's ever-growing creative industries, while talent development programmes such as Factory Fellowships see emerging artists placed alongside international creatives.

About Midlands Arts Centre (MAC)

Midlands Arts Centre is a contemporary arts centre set in the magnificent surroundings of Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham. Voted No.1 Free Visitor Attraction in the West Midlands 2019 in a survey carried out by VisitEngland, MAC welcomes over one million visits a year. The arts centre offers creative opportunities for all ages across theatre, film, visual arts, practical courses, accessible programmes, and is a national leader in developing work for children and young people. MAC is a registered charity supported by Players of People's Postcode Lottery through the Postcode Culture Trust, Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council.
www.macbirmingham.co.uk

About STEAMhouse

STEAMhouse is an innovation centre, part of Birmingham City University (BCU), supporting start up, experimentation, and growth, enabling its participants to grow their innovation capacity. Its mission is to drive innovation and research to create business solutions that fuel long-term economic growth.

STEAMhouse supports entrepreneurs, sole traders, and companies to build their businesses, develop new products and services and collaborate. It provided access to free business support, maker space workshops and co-working space, a business Incubator, Artists' Studio, teaching and learning spaces as well as a programme of STEAMlabs and events.

STEAMhouse is located on the main BCU city centre campus to support teaching, research, innovation, and enterprise. The £70m plan has seen the renovation of Birmingham's derelict Belmont Works, originally built in 1899, restored to its former glory as part of a major overhaul.

£14m of funding has been provided by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, with £1m Local Growth Funding from GBSLEP. It is anticipated STEAMhouse will help create up to 10,000 jobs across the West Midlands region and help support the growth of the Midlands Engine.

About BCU

Birmingham City University [BCU] is a large and diverse institution, with over 29,000 students from more than 100 countries, offering a wide range of contemporary, flexible courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level, with practice-based learning and international opportunities built into every stage.

Ranked 4th in the UK for social mobility, recognising how the University helps students from less advantaged backgrounds to succeed, BCU's superb courses, state-of-the-art facilities, first-rate staff, and focus on practical skills and professional relevance is producing some of the country's most employable graduates.

The University generates over £270 million for the regional economy each year and supports thousands of jobs in the area, investing £340 million in its estate, including a major expansion of our city centre campus at Eastside, providing students with an enviable range of facilities.



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