

PLATFORM 22 EXHIBITION OPENS AT SITE GALLERY, BLOC PROJECTS AND YORKSHIRE ARTSPACE PERSISTENCE WORKS ON FRIDAY 27 JANUARY



Image: Extract from *Seance Sketch 1 (Can you hear me?)*. Tyler Mellins, 2022.

- *Platform 22* exhibition dates: Friday 27 January 2023 - Sunday 26 February 2023.
- Artists: Adebola Oyekanmi, Kedisha Coakley, Rian Treanor, Theresa Bruno, Tyler Mellins.
- *Platform 22* is the final interim exhibition of the five-year Platform programme in Sheffield. Platform is delivered as part of the Freelands Artist Programme, which has invested in and supported 20 local artists.

OPENING EVENT

- Thursday 26 January, 4-8pm

To register your interest for the opening, please email hello@sitegallery.org.

ABOUT

Platform 22 features the work of five Sheffield-based artists: Adebola Oyekanmi, Kedisha Coakley, Rian Treanor, Theresa Bruno and Tyler Mellins. The exhibition will take place at Site Gallery, Yorkshire Artspace Persistence Works and Bloc Projects, bringing a diverse programme of outstanding contemporary art to Sheffield's Cultural Industries Quarter.

Each of the exhibiting artists are taking part in Platform, an artistic development programme at Site Gallery which encourages artists to explore new ideas, test new thinking and research. *Platform 22* is the fourth and final Platform show happening in Sheffield, and will present an insight into the artists' work developed during the first year of their two-year residency.

Over the past five years, the Platform programme has supported 20 local artists by providing funding investment, access to networks, physical space to exhibit and programme activity - alternating between studio visits, group crits and planned activity and discussion group sessions.

After completing the programme, many artists have secured funding from Arts Council England for large-scale projects and to further their development, as well as having gone on to exhibit across the UK. Artists Joanna Whittle, Victoria Lucas and Maud Haya-Baviera formed the Heavy Water Collective, which builds new networks and partnerships with archives, collections, museums and galleries in order to unearth new ways of being-in-the-world. Yuen Fong Ling joined the Sheffield Race Equality Commission and exhibited at Bury Art Museum, and Conor Rogers exhibited work as part of the Creative Connections exhibition at Sheffield's Millenium Gallery in partnership with the National Portrait Gallery.

Platform forms part of the wider Freelands Artist Programme, a five-year artist development initiative in partnership with g39, Cardiff, PS2, Belfast and Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh.

Angelica Sule, Site Gallery Programme Director says:

"The Platform programme has offered vital support to local artists over the past four years and we are excited to present Sheffield's final exhibition. *Platform 22* celebrates the hard work and creative talent of the brilliant artists and partner venues."

ABOUT FREELANDS ARTIST PROGRAMME

The Freelands Artist Programme is a landmark initiative to support emerging artists across the UK launched in 2018 by Freelands Foundation. The programme nurtures emerging artists' practices by fostering long-term relationships and collaborations with arts organisations and bolstering regional arts ecosystems. In its first five-year phase, 80 artists have undertaken the programme across four partner organisations - g39 in Cardiff, PS2 in Belfast, Site Gallery in Sheffield, and Talbot Rice Gallery in Edinburgh.

The programme offers studio space, career development workshops, talks, mentoring, an annual symposium, exhibition opportunities and an end-of-programme publication.

<https://freelandsfoundation.co.uk/freelands-artist-programme>

ENDS

For more information, images or interviews please contact Rosie Thompson at Site Gallery on rosie.thompson@sitegallery.org.

Follow online:

www.sitegallery.org

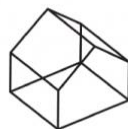
Facebook: facebook.com/sitegallerysheffield

Twitter: @site_gallery

Instagram: @sitegallery

**SITE
GALLERY**


**Yorkshire
Artspace**



Bloc
Projects

 **Freelands
Artist Programme**