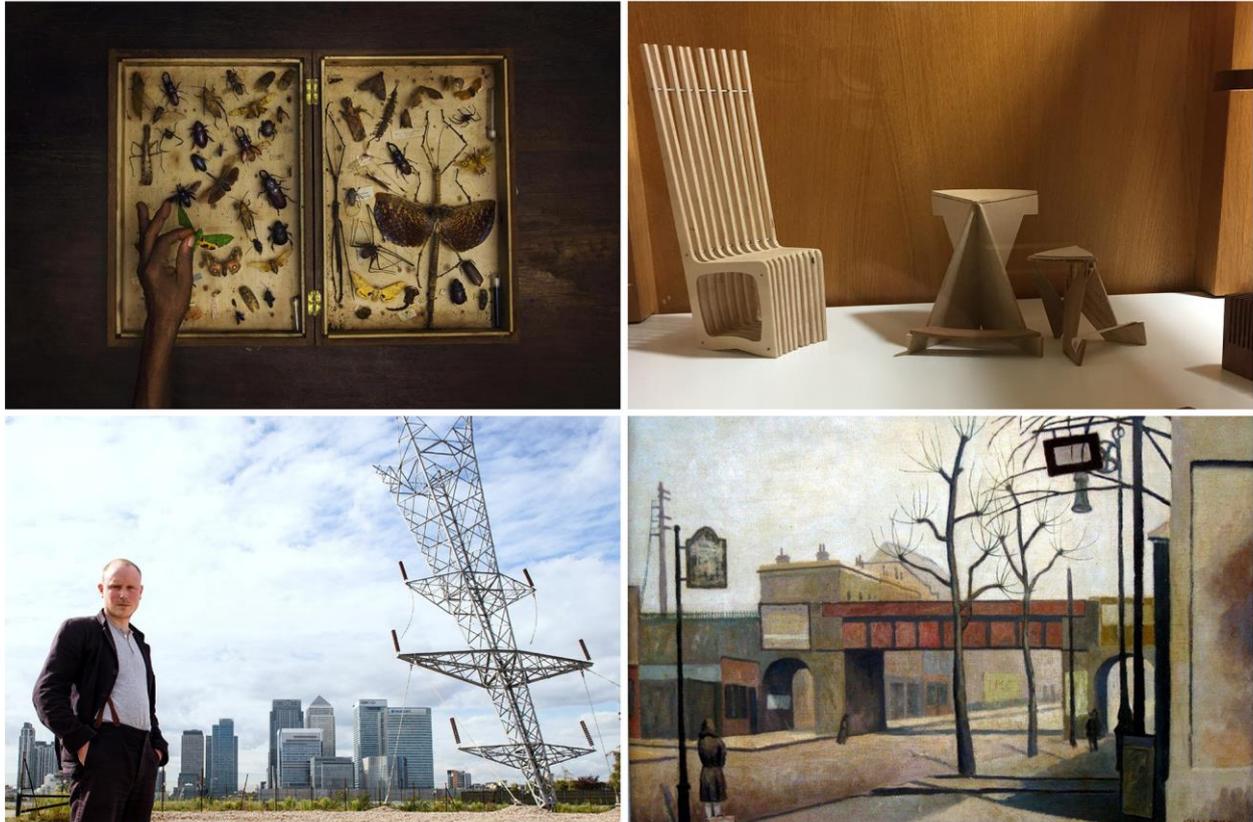


Press Release  
For Immediate Release

Nunnery Gallery announces its 2017 Exhibition Programme, including exploring the cross-overs between art and anthropology with **Mariele Neudecker**, delving into the industrial heritage of the **River Lea**, the annual Bow Open, curated this year by British sculptor **Alex Chinneck**, closing with the historic **East London Group**



Images from top left, clockwise: Evgenia Arbugaeva *Amani* 2015 © Evgenia Arbugaeva; Buildings Craft College, Raw Materials steering group © Nunnery Gallery; Elwin Hawthorne *Bow Road* 1931; Alex Chinneck with *A Bullet from a Shooting Star* © Alex Chinneck.

**Traces of the Future: archaeology of modern science in Africa**  
**27 January – 26 March 2017**

*Traces of the Future* will take audiences deep into the Tanzanian rainforest through an innovative exhibition of new artwork and original archival objects from Amani – meaning peace in *Kiswahili* – Hill Research Station. This will be the first UK exhibition of Russian photographer **Evgenia Arbugaeva**'s 11 celebrated photographs – as featured in December 2016's National Geographic – together with 11 new photo works and three new films from renowned multi-media artist **Mariele Neudecker**, all made on the Amani residency. Objects on display will include original specimens collected in the surrounding jungle, as well as a plethora of experimental and exploring equipment, staged to create a "wunderkammer" experience for visitors.

**Raw Materials: exploring the heritage of the River Lea Valley through Wood**  
**7 April – 4 June 2017**

Press Release  
For Immediate Release

The first in a series of *Raw Materials* exhibitions at the Nunnery Gallery, which will delve into the history of the local River Lea valley through the 'raw materials' that paved the way for the area's extensive and important industrial development. Beginning with the material wood, the exhibition will bring together archival objects – many of which are not usually on public display – furniture, tools and stories, painting a vivid picture of this important, and increasingly less-visible, part of east London's history. A new commission from artist **Silke Dettmers** will also feature, exploring a contemporary response to the newly gathering research, which has been led by a steering group made up of members of the community. This exhibition has been made possible through the generous support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and Foundation for Future London.

**2017 Bow Open Show, curated by Alex Chinneck  
17 June – 27 August 2017**

The *Bow Open Show* is the only exhibition in the Nunnery Gallery's programme to showcase exclusively Bow Arts' artists, celebrating the innovation and creativity of the over 500 artists and makers who work in the charity's creative workspaces. Every year a special guest curator is invited to make the selection, building a unique and different view point for each show. We are delighted to announce that this year's curator will be the British sculptor **Alex Chinneck**, who is well known for his public sculptures – notably the playful upside-down pylon *A Bullet from a Shooting Star* permanently outside the O2 and, most recently, *Fighting Fire with Ice Cream*, the seemingly frozen Christmas tree installed in Kings Cross. Anj Smith's 2016 selection was celebrated for its powerful work that explored the pertinent themes of cross-cultural identity, gender and sexuality. The Open Show is accompanied by a diverse programme of events making the most of the unique Bow Road courtyard and spaces surrounding the Nunnery Gallery.

**The East London Group  
29 September – 17 December 2017**

Following the success of the critically acclaimed *From Bow to Biennale*, work from the inter-war East London Group of Artists will return to the Nunnery Gallery in the winter of 2017. Newly discovered work from the Group will be showcased for the first time, accompanied by a series of contemporary installations around Bow, highlighting the forgotten areas the paintings so perfectly capture. The East London Group flourished in the 1920s and 30s, recording passing scenes of east London life in painting and drawing; prominent members of the group included **John Cooper, Phyllis Bray, William Coldstream** and **Walter Sickert**, who taught the group as well as being a member.

-- ENDS --

**For press information and further images please contact:**

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Press Release  
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### **Notes to editors**

Address: Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts, 181 Bow Road, London E3 2SJ

Telephone: +44 (0)20 8980 7774

Opening Hours: Tues – Sun, 10am – 5pm

Admission: Free

Travel: Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR

### About Bow Arts

Bow Arts Trust was established as an educational arts charity in 1995 and supports a community of over 400 artists with affordable, secure and creative workspaces. Bow Arts also runs the Nunnery Gallery, a contemporary art gallery which supports a diverse range of local, national and international exhibitions and events.

[www.bowarts.org](http://www.bowarts.org)