

Lindsey Mendick's Bow Open selection announced: a museum-style plethora of treasures from 33 artists



Images, left to right: You liang *Growing Up is an Animal Trap* (detail) 2024; Cameron Ugbodu *Das Kind mit den goldenen Knochen steht wieder auf ungebrochen* (detail) 2023; Haydn Albrow *Serious Quarrels* (detail) 2024

Private view Thursday 6 June, 6-9pm

Exhibition dates 7 June – 25 August 2024

Exhibiting artists: Haydn Albrow, Sadegh Aleahmad, Nicky Amin, Isobel Atacus, Joy Baek, Rachel Bailey, Hannah Billett, Rhys Brown, Christina Brown Eleanor Burkett, Tommy Camerno, Catherine Chambers, Yuyang Chen, Micheal Coppelov Nathalie Coste, Piero D'Angelo, Laurie Fitzgerald, Emma Franks, Ben Goldnagl, Cecily Loveys Jervoise, Gaby Jonna, Woo Jin Joo, Katka Krajči, You Liang, Lindsey Jean McLean, Tabitha Powles, Harriet Richardson, Moussa David Saleh, Sila Sen, Cameron Ugbodu, Fredrix Vermin, Paul Westcombe, Maddie Yuille.

Bow Arts' annual Bow Open Show showcases the talent and diversity of art being made across the charity's studios, as well as by their artist educators. This year's curator, visual artist Lindsey Mendick, invited submissions with her provocation "A Personal Treasure", and has gathered work from 33 artists, various in media and all distinctly precious for sharing a treasured notion.

Laid out in a museum style under the gothic arches of the Nunnery Gallery, the show spans painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, video, and millinery, with small objects collected in intimate groups in vitrines. The artists selected include some of Bow Arts' brightest stars and growing talent, with Catherine Chambers just shortlisted for the Herbert Smith Freehills Portrait Award 2024, Sadegh Aleahmad currently working on a commission for the National Gallery, and Tommy Camerno shortlisted for the Waverton Art Prize 2024.

Suitably eccentric and theatrical, Mendick's selection of treasures ranges from a wearable Sicilian cassata cake (*La Sicilianedde*, Micheal Coppelov), a series of tufted swords embellished with ceramic teeth and trinkets (*Serious Quarrels*, Haydn Albrow), and fantastical sensory worlds drawn on coffee cups (Paul Westcombe). What artists have chosen to share is beautiful, both visually and personally: Cameron Ugbodu's *Das Kind mit den goldenen*

Knochen steht wieder auf ungebrochen (the child with the golden bones stands up again) gleams with gold and contrasting deep blue, reflecting on transformational reflection; You Liang's *Growing Up is an Animal Trap* is a triptych of silvery soldered and printed shapes, delving into the artist's younger years of growing up as a "Chinese queer individual navigating the complexities of growing up in a conservative town".



Images, left to right: Tabitha Powles *Frog* 2023; Maddie Yuille *A kiss* 2024; Moussa David Saleh *Nose To Cheek* 2024.

There are also quieter, intimate treasured moments to be found through exquisite painting: Moussa David Saleh's *Nose To Cheek*, Maddie Yuille's *A kiss*, and Tabitha Powles's *Frog* – referencing the treasured possession of a patient Powles cares for as a nurse.

Not to be missed, Mendick's Bow Open invites viewers to explore some of the most exciting work being made in London today through her unique curatorial lens. Speaking of her curation, Mendick cites the importance of these exhibitions for artists' careers, and of organisations such as Bow Arts who provide these opportunities for artists:

"After I left the Royal College of Art, Bow Arts gave me my first commission and I will always be eternally grateful to organisations such as these that champion and promote emerging artists at the time they need it most."

The exhibition is accompanied by a carefully curated event programme, building on themes from the show, and including chances for visitors to take part in hands-on workshops run by Bow Arts artists.

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For interviews, more info and images contact

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Notes to editors



Exhibition: 2024 Bow Open x Lindsey Mendick present A Personal Treasure

Exhibition dates: 7 June – 25 August 2024 (PV Thursday 6 June, 6-9pm)

Admission: Free | Opening Hours: Tues to Sun, 10am – 4pm

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

Travel: Bow Road Tube Station, Bow Church DLR

Contact: 020 8980 7774 / nunnery@bowarts.com

About Lindsey Mendick

Lindsey Mendick (b.1987) works primarily with ceramics, embedding her sculptures within installations that include stained glass, film, furniture, large stage sets and performance. She received a BA from Sheffield Hallam University and an MA in Sculpture from the Royal College of Art, London. Her autobiographical work offers a form of catharsis, encouraging the viewer to explore their own personal history through the revisionist lens of the artist. She was the recipient of the Henry Moore Foundation Artist Award in 2020, the Alexandra Reinhardt memorial award in 2018 and was also selected for Jerwood Survey in 2019 and the Future Generations Art Prize in 2020. Mendick has participated in solo and group exhibitions at Jupiter Artland, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Hayward Gallery, Carl Freedman Gallery, Somerset House, Jeffrey Deitch, Cooke Latham, Hannah Barry Gallery, among others. With her partner, the artist Guy Oliver, Mendick initiated Quench Gallery in Margate to provide vital support for early career artists through exhibitions and mentoring.

About Bow Arts

We create inspirational, supportive environments where artists and communities interact, learn and flourish. Since 1994, Bow Arts has nurtured London's diverse creativity and talent. We've provided artists and creative practitioners with affordable workspace, connecting them with local communities and supporting their professional development. We give communities throughout London greater access to and interaction with the arts, through our schools programme, workshops, exhibitions and events.

Housed in a former 19th-century convent building, surrounded by our artist studios, the Nunnery Gallery is our not-for-profit art space. Our programme pushes boundaries with an original and creative approach that explores the stories of east London and celebrates today's artistic talent.