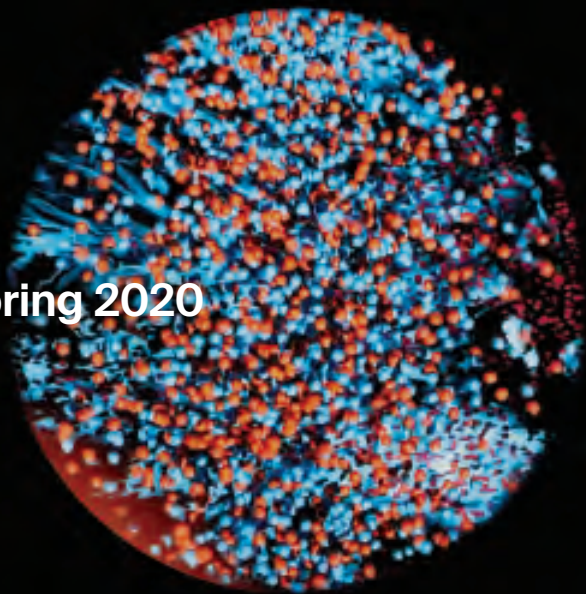


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Spring 2020



John
Hansard
Gallery

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

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Cover: Lindsay Seers,
*Every Thought There Ever
Was*, 2018, installation
image, the MAC, Belfast.
Courtesy the artist and
Matt's Gallery, London

Opposite: Larry
Achiamong, *PAN AFRICAN
FLAG FOR THE RELIC
TRAVELLERS' ALLIANCE
(MOTION)*, 2018, banner
flag. Courtesy the artist
and Copperfield London

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**Welcome
to our Spring
programme of
free exhibitions,
events and
workshops**

Larry Achiampong *When the Sky Falls*

25 January–21 March



Larry Achiampong, *The Expulsion*, 2019, single channel 4K video with stereo sound. Commissioned by The Gallow Gate, Glasgow. Supported by the National Lottery through Creative Scotland and The African Arts Trust. Courtesy the artist and Copperfield London

When the Sky Falls is Larry Achiampong's most ambitious and personal show to date. Featuring new moving image, sound and sculptural installations, this exhibition transforms John Hansard Gallery into a purgatorial space based on childhood ruminations, Akan deities and unearthed histories.

Unnamed narrators from Achiampong's newest film, *The Expulsion*, guide visitors through a London underworld of 'invisible' workers who speak of a city bruised from the effects of the national recession of the early 1990s. The space is further punctuated with objects of the West African diaspora for *Medase Me Adamfo*, which translates from Twi as 'Thank you, my friend', accompanied by the gentle undulations of new sound work *Breath of Asase Yaa*, the Ashanti divine mother. Additionally, anthropomorphised vacuum cleaners form a nightmarish troop of guards with rictus smiles for *Attack of the Henrys* command the space.

Complementing the main exhibition on the Digital Array is *Sunday's Best*, a short film that considers how belief systems within the African diaspora are influenced by colonial histories. Additionally, the gallery's exterior windows facing Guildhall Square have been covered by Achiampong's *PAN AFRICAN FLAG FOR THE RELIC TRAVELLERS' ALLIANCE (MOTION)*, comprised of the symbolic Pan African colours including 54 black stars relating the nations of the African continent.

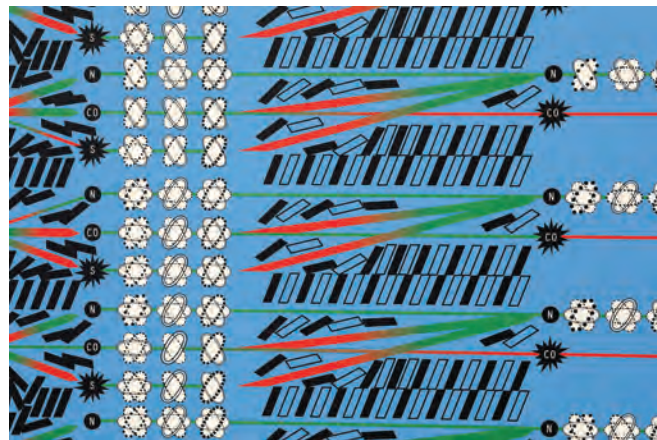
When the Sky Falls is a title that speaks of creation myths, folklore and the singsong refrains embedded in children's stories. All of which are ways that we (across generations) have tried to make sense of the world and what has in recent moments felt like 'the end of days'.

Many voices, all of them loved

1 February–11 April

Featuring: Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Kader Attia, Laure Prouvost, Willem de Rooij, Liza Sylvestre and Emma Wolukau-Wanambwa

Lawrence Abu Hamdan, *Conflicted Phonemes* (detail), 2012, installation image, Kunsthau Hamburg. Courtesy the artist



Many voices, all of them loved explores how contemporary artists are mobilising the voice as sound, as metaphor, and as political material. The exhibition asks: what constitutes a voice, and what determines how particular voices are ‘heard’?

The voice is often thought of as a channel linking speakers and listeners. *Many voices, all of them loved* considers how voices bring us together, as well as how they can be made to drive us apart – enforcing borders and entrenching division. Stretching the notion of voice to include much more than just humans talking, this exhibition also amplifies the sounds of inanimate substances, and other species, as voice. In the works brought into conversation here, the voice is made present as rhythm, as visible pattern, and as carrier of meaning that extends from, and exceeds speech.

Many voices, all of them loved is curated by Dr Sarah Hayden, as part of the ‘Voices in the Gallery’ Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Leadership project (2019–21) and supported by the AHRC and Mondriaan Fund.

Lindsay Seers *Every Thought There Ever Was*

8 February–11 April

Lindsay Seers, *Every Thought There Ever Was*, installation image, the MAC, Belfast.
Image by Simon Mills and Lindsay Seers. Courtesy the artist and Matt's Gallery, London



Through the use of digital animation, robotics, film, drawing and sound design Lindsay Seers has created a complex and layered environment that explores a world experienced differently. Inspired by Avatar Therapy, Seers draws on philosophical ideas and scientific research to consider historical representations of schizophrenia, alongside contemporary insights into the condition and how this relates to the hallucinatory and potentially psychosis-inducing technology we live with.

The Mezzanine Gallery contains works from the series entitled *The Letter Pictures*. These have evolved from exchanges between Seers and a small number of individuals, resulting in ongoing conversations based purely on the posting of letters and drawings to one another.

In Barker-Mill Gallery, *Every Thought There Ever Was* reflects on the otherworldly brain functioning that occurs in schizophrenia as an organic difference. The artwork is layered with intense subjective experiences relating to the historic and contemporary understanding of hallucination and psychosis. When you enter the exhibition, two screens, supported by robot arms, move with the images bringing agency to them as active elements in the work. The screens themselves become robotic protagonists, moving with coloured lights which animate paper sculptures, alongside a dense audio-track from seven channels seeming to be both inside and outside of the viewer's mind.

Has the virtual overwhelmed the actual?

Every Thought There Ever Was is supported by Wellcome and is co-commissioned by John Hansard Gallery, the MAC, Focal Point Gallery, Hospitalfield and Matt's Gallery.

Activities



Workshops

Space to Create!
Every Saturday
12–4pm

Free family-friendly drop-in activities for visitors to make, draw and create together. Sessions are self-guided or led by professional artists. All under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Talks

Lindsay Seers in Conversation
Wednesday 11 March
6–7.30pm
Free

Join artist Lindsay Seers and Professor Anil Seth as they discuss the science behind *Every Thought There Ever Was*. Seth is Professor of Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience and co-director of the Sackler Centre for Consciousness Science at the University of Sussex.

***When the Sky Falls:
Cook up and Chat with Larry
Achiamong and Don John***
Wednesday 18 March
12.30–2.30pm
Free, booking required:
jhgcookup.eventbrite.co.uk

Join artist Larry Achiamong and community leader Don John for an informal lunch. Focussing on some of the themes in Achiamong's work, including equality, making amends and the notion of a fair world, participants are invited to take part in friendly conversation.

Special Events and Displays

Lantern Display 18 January–1 February

Winning entries for the Southampton-wide schools' Lantern project in celebration of Chinese New Year will be displayed in our Foyer.

Chinese New Year Saturday 25 January 11am–2pm Free

Immerse yourself in Chinese traditions and culture. Try out paper cutting, red envelope making, Kung Fu Fan and lantern decoration, Chinese Calligraphy and traditional Chinese Costumes, led by the University of Southampton Confucius Institute. Chinese New Year celebrations will also be taking place in Guildhall Square in partnership with Shaolin Temple, University of Southampton Confucius Institute and Go! Southampton.

Centre for Imperial and Post Colonial Studies and The Parkes Institute presents: **Jews and Muslims in the History of Europe: Writing the Continent Against the Grain** Wednesday 19 February 6–8.30pm Free, booking required: ***jghistoryofeurope.eventbrite.co.uk***

European history continues to be defined as a field by a notion of Europe – its borders, values and civilization – that is structured by Christianity and its legacies, both religious and secular. In this wide-ranging lecture, Professor Abigail Green asks how we can integrate the marginalised pasts of Europe's Jews and Muslims into the stories we tell about the history of our continent and what it means to be European.

Digital Identities and Wellbeing: Teach Meet Thursday 12 March 4–6pm Free, booking required: ***jhgteachmeet.eventbrite.co.uk***

Teachers are invited to explore cross-curricular thinking, network with other teachers and share best practice on the themes of digital identities, mental health and wellbeing using our Lindsay Seers exhibition as a starting point.

Interruptions/Disruptions

Many voices, all of them loved is accompanied by Interruptions/Disruptions, a public programme devised by Dr Eleanor K. Jones and Dr Priti Mishra in conjunction with Dr Sarah Hayden.

***Auditory Surveillance
Listening Session and
Workshop***
Friday 14 February
6–8.30pm
Free

Experience Lawrence Abu Hamdan's audio documentary, *The Freedom of Speech Itself* (2012) and participate in a workshop on auditory surveillance led by Dr Tom Rice. Through the workshop participants will explore the pervasiveness of auditory surveillance in our daily lives, considering ways in which we are all actively conducting auditory surveillance and the implications of listening in this way.

***Voice Maps – Space to Create!
Drop-in Interactive Talk and
Family Workshop***
Saturday 15 February
12–4pm
Free

Explore the uniqueness and value of you and your family's voices with Dr Sophie Holmes-Elliott, a lecturer in Linguistics at the University of Southampton. Learn about the science behind your own voice and accent, before using cutting-edge software to create a 'map' of your voice and make it into a badge to take away.

***Disruptions Creative Writing
Workshops***
Saturdays 15, 29 February
and 14, 28 March, 1–3.30pm
Free, booking required:
[jhgcreativewriting.
eventbrite.co.uk](http://jhgcreativewriting.eventbrite.co.uk)

Join us for a series of creative writing workshops for participants to explore the sounds we make when we speak and when we are silent, led by our poet in residence Nisha Ramayya. Activating our voices in conversation and in individual and collective activities, we will realise the multivocality of our own voices on the page and in performance. No experience necessary, open to all.

***The Social Currency of Voice:
Radical Disabled and D/deaf
Inclusivity***
Friday 13 March
6–8.30pm
Free, booking required:
[jhgdeafinclusivity.
eventbrite.co.uk](http://jhgdeafinclusivity.eventbrite.co.uk)

Join writer and artist Sandra Alland for a presentation on radical inclusivity. In a video made for this workshop, deaf writer and performer Bea Webster discusses the creation of welcoming arts spaces and practices. Alland highlights the rich artistic frameworks of disabled and neurodivergent creators, asking: what happens when we consider 'access' integral to creative expression?

Interruptions/Disruptions

Global Environmentalisms
Thursday 19 March
6–8.30pm
Free

Christine Okoth and Esthie Hugo invite you to engage with histories of feminist, anti-colonial, and anti-racist environmentalisms. In this workshop, participants will be asked to respond creatively to visual and textual material relating to environmentalist struggles from Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa in order to consider how environmentalist activism speaks to broader political struggles.

Art and Politics – A Thread
Workshop for Ages 14+
Friday 27 March
6–8.30pm
Free

Is art political? If so, how? Join Lisa Kennedy, Donata Miller and Emma MacNicol from the Museum of Dissent collective, for a practical workshop that aims to interpret the connections between art, cultural practice and subversion.

Entropics
Experimental Poetry Event
Thursday 2 April
6–8.30pm
Free

Join Nisha Ramayya and participants in the Disruptions Writing Workshops as they perform a special collaborative Entropics #15 in response to *Many voices, all of them loved* and the Interruptions workshops.

Entropics Experimental Poetry Events are organised by Sarah Hayden and hosted by the Department of English, with support from the Public Engagement with Research Unit at the University of Southampton.

Interruptions/Disruptions is funded by the Public Engagement with Research Unit at the University of Southampton.

Entropics #14, John Hansard Gallery, 2019



Support us

John Hansard Gallery is a place to experience great art that inspires people and communities to change the world for the better. We need your support to keep it that way.

Your support helps to keep John Hansard Gallery free for visitors and ensures that we can continue our engagement and outreach work, making the very best in contemporary art accessible to all.

To make a donation online, please visit www.donate.jhg.art

To discuss making a gift in more detail, please contact Amy O'Sullivan, Development Manager on 023 8059 7271, or email amy@jhg.art

Corporate hire

In the heart of Southampton's Cultural Quarter, John Hansard Gallery is the perfect venue to host your event. Our versatile space is suitable for a range of events including a canapé reception, conference, product launch, awards ceremony, workshop, or filming.

For more information, to check availability, or to arrange a site visit, please email hire@jhg.art



What's next

***Mariner: A Painted Ship
Upon a Painted Ocean***
2 May–11 July

Featuring works by Mary Evans, Serena Korda, Grace Schwindt, Vija Celmins, Tacita Dean, Nadav Kander and Lucy + Jorge Orta.

This exhibition responds to the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's journey from the UK to what is now the USA. It is also inspired by the famous Coleridge poem, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, which itself is the focus of a Big Read project led by writer and University of Southampton creative-writing professor, Philip Hoare.

Adam Barker-Mill
Horizon
2 May–11 July

A unique site-specific light installation which reflects on both the Mayflower voyage and the *Mariner: A Painted Ship Upon a Painted Ocean* exhibition.

***Community Takeover
Part One: City of Sanctuary***
28 March–18 April

Gallery 1 will be transformed once again by a series of vibrant activities, events, displays and workshops in partnership with local community groups, schools and artists exploring and responding to Southampton's status as a City of Sanctuary and the gallery as an inclusive and welcoming place for all.



Lucy + Jorge Orta, *Raft of the Medusa*. Courtesy the artist. Photo: Jonty Wilde and Studio Orta

Spring 2020 quick guide

Larry Achiampong
When the Sky Falls
25 January – 21 March

***Many voices,
all of them loved***
1 February – 11 April

Lindsay Seers
***Every Thought
There Ever Was***
8 February – 11 April

Visitor information

John Hansard Gallery
142 - 144 Above Bar Street
Southampton SO14 7DU

Opening Times

Tuesday to Saturday

11am - 5pm

Free Entry 

T +44 (0)23 8059 2158

E info@jhg.art

www.jhg.art

 @johnhansardgallery

 @JHansardGallery

 johnhansardgallery

Large print version available
on request

Train Southampton Central

(10 min walk)

Buses Unilink, Bluestar,

First and City Red bus routes

Nearest bus stops

Above Bar Street,

Commercial Road, New Road

