

ROADS TO FREEDOM: POWER, PIMPING AND PRIDE

Friday, 7 February 2020

18.00 – 21.45

Sackler Reception

Join artists, broadcasters, and historians to explore African and Asian car and road stories, and alternative accounts of conflict, provocation, safety, independence, self-esteem and designed identities.



*Handsworth Riots, the Lozells Road, Birmingham, photograph by Pogus Caesar, 1985, England.
Museum no. E.1203-2012. © Pogus Caesar/ Victoria and Albert Museum, London.
Supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund.*



PIN UP AND CHAT, FILMS, AND DIGITAL WORKSHOP

A CAR LIKE MINE PIN UP AND CHAT

Facilitated by Avril Horsford

18.00 – 18.45 and 20.45 – 21.30

- Join the conversation and take a peek at our alternative pin up display and the stories behind these images of cars. It's also a chance for you to travel down memory lane and share your car or road stories and / or photographs, like your first toy car; memories of stripping out engines, applying go faster stripes and spoilers; altercations with parking attendants; collecting relatives with too much luggage; singing songs on long journeys; riots and uprisings, being stopped and searched; moments with your disillusioned driving instructor; or boring conversations with taxi drivers – whatever your car story why not share it here?

Workshop time 45 min.

BACK IN THE DAY: HANDSWORTH 1985

Facilitated by Jasprit Singh

18.00 – 18.45 and 20.45 – 21.30

- Digitally transport yourself back into the 1985 iconic photograph taken on the Lozells Road in Birmingham by Pogus Caesar, depicting the aftermath of the Handsworth Riots, and share your thoughts or pose a question to him.

Spaces on this workshop are on a first come first served basis up to 20 places maximum.

Workshop time 45 min.

FREE FILMS - THE HANDSWORTH RIOTS 1985 AND GHANAIAN BURIAL ROAD CUSTOMS

18.00 & 20.45

- **BBC Inside Out, 9 min**
Handsworth Riots 1985
- **Coffins with Character, 11min**
Documentary by Marion Mayor-Hohdahl, Ghana, June 1998
- **The Master of Coffins - 26 minutes**
Documentary by Luis Nachbin / Matrioska
Films for GloboTV (Brasil, 2013)

Running time approx. 46 min.

Films are free and open to all.



TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Janet Browne, Senior Producer Audience Development – The Academy
19.00 – 19.10

ASIAN WOMEN & CARS: ROADS TO INDEPENDANCE

Dawinder Bansal, Artist & Producer
19.10 – 19.40

- Dawinder Bansal will introduce her award winning film and art installation Asian Women & Cars: Road to Independence that launched in May 2019. She will share the journey of creating this work, the stories of women she met, and how the first generation of South Asian women defied the driving taboo to gain independence not only for themselves but also for the benefit of others.

REACHING NEW HIGHS WITH THE LOW RIDERS

Kevin Le Genre, Journalist & Broadcaster
19.45 – 20.10

- Kevin Le Genre looks at the longstanding and complex relationship between the car and black music. There is a focus on why 4 wheels stand as a greatly empowering object of desire as well as a rich source of metaphor and image for dozens of artists in jazz, soul, funk and hip-hop. Buckle up for a ride with rhythm in the ignition.

ESTHER MAHLANGU'S 'ART CAR': RESISTANCE AND CELEBRATION IN NDEBELE ART

Chris Spring, Artist, Curator & Writer
20.15 – 20.40

- In 1991, following the release of Nelson Mandela from Robben Island the previous year, Dr Esther Mahlangu was commissioned to design the next in a series of BMW 'Art Cars' using the techniques, designs and colours of Ndebele house painting. We shall briefly examine the social, political and cultural significance in the development of Ndebele beadwork and house painting.

REFRESHMENTS, PIN UP & CHAT, FILMS, AND DIGITAL WORKSHOP CONTINUE

20.45 – 21.30

EVENT NETWORK AND EVALUATION FEEDBACK

20.30 – 21.45

- We always like to know what you think about our events, so please do complete an evaluation form and return it to a member of the event staff.

BIOGRAPHIES



Kevin Le Gendre is a journalist and broadcaster with an interest in black music and literature. Since the late 90s he has written about soul, jazz, African and Caribbean musicians and author for a wide variety of publications that include Echoes, Jazzwise, The Independent, TLS on-line and Qwest TV [France]. He is one of the presenters of Radio 3's J to Z. His latest book is *Don't Stop The Carnival: Black Music In Britain*.



Dr Chris Spring is an artist, curator and writer www.chrisspring.co.uk based at the West London Art Factory. He has curated many exhibitions at the British Museum and other venues, most of which featured work by contemporary artists, including ***Social Fabric: Textiles of Eastern and Southern Africa*** (2013-16) and ***South Africa, Art of a Nation*** (2016-17) with John Gibling. His award winning books include ***Angaza Afrika: African Art Now*** (2008), ***African Textiles Today*** (2012) and ***African Art Close Up*** (2013). Chris is an Ambassador of The Africa Centre and a trustee of the October Gallery.



Dawinder Bansal is a British Indian artist and producer whose performances and visual art installations are informed by cultural heritage and contemporary stories. Her installation and short film, *Asian Women & Cars: Road to Independence* won the prestigious Asian Media Awards for Best Creative Media Award 2019. She has recently launched her new installation, *Jambo Cinema* at New Art Exchange in Nottingham. *Jambo Cinema* is based on her life growing up inside her parents 1980s VHS Bollywood film rental shop, alongside recreating her actual Indian-Kenyan living room in 1980s Wolverhampton. In 2018, Dawinder was invited to meet with the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street and talk about her creative work with marginalised communities. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, serves on the diversity panel at ITV Central, and is also an ambassador for Women of The Future with Lloyds Bank.

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