

PRESS NOTICE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
24 JULY 2020

King's Cross launches London's largest permanent outdoor gallery

Gallery opens with playful summer exhibition from The Photographers' Gallery



Julie Cockburn, Middy; Luke Stephenson, Wells next to Sea; Weronika Gęsicka, Untitled #1

On 27 July, King's Cross launches one of the largest free and permanent outdoor gallery spaces in London; **The Outside Art Project**. This new project will see King's Cross partner with renowned cultural organisations to curate a year-round programme of always-on, always-free, and always open art on the streets of N1C. The Outside Art Project will offer unhindered access to photographic and 2d art exhibitions from the highest calibre artists reflecting a wide range of styles and mediums.

The Outside Art Project is a permanent outdoor gallery, comprising 15 seating benches, each two-metres-wide and able to display two artworks, which will be located in the open spaces of the King's Cross Estate. It will present a continuous programme of changing exhibitions from local, national and international artists.

The project launches with 'Games We Play', an exhibition from **The Photographers' Gallery**, which celebrates the colour and quirks of summertime. Featuring the vibrant, visually arresting work of photographers Julie Cockburn, Luke Stephenson and Weronika Gęsicka, all represented by TPG's Print Sales Gallery, 'Games We Play' offers witty and subversive takes on traditional leisure time and summer activities. The inaugural exhibition from The Photographers' Gallery runs from 27 July to 1 November.

Brett Rogers, Director of The Photographers' Gallery, said: "‘Games We Play’ goes to the heart of our mission, stimulating deeper engagement with contemporary photography - the most accessible art medium of our time. In advance of the Gallery's own plans to transform the public realm outside its Soho venue during the course of 2021, this partnership represents an exciting opportunity for the public to enjoy photography outdoors within the safe and attractive spaces afforded by N1C."

Confirmed future partnerships include a collaborative photography exhibition with **Mentivity**, an award-winning mentoring organisation specifically addressing issues that young people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds face within society and education. Mentivity's exhibition will launch in January 2021.

As the programme evolves and the partnerships change, The Outside Art Project will move around the King's Cross site, which has become known for significant artworks from world-renowned artists across its 26 acres of outdoor space. This will ensure that anyone who lives and works in, or visits the area, can encounter the colourful photographs and take a moment - at a socially-responsible distance - to enjoy them.

Robert Evans, CEO of King's Cross, said: "With the Outside Art Project we are bringing something new to London; an always-on, but ever-changing gallery space which can be enjoyed by anyone at any time. This is part of the ethos of King's Cross, to be open and welcoming to everyone. It is also part of our commitment to making art accessible every day - and that doesn't mean compromising on quality. Our partnerships will bring some of the world's best art on to the streets of N1C for everyone to enjoy. We hope the Outside Art Project brings a little joy to people, whether they are living or working here, or just passing through King's Cross, giving them the chance to pause and reflect."

The Outside Arts Project launches as part of *The Great Outdoors*, the summer-long programme of events and activities taking place across the 26 acres of green and open spaces at King's Cross. Running throughout July and August, the alfresco programme offers a wealth of free activities to explore all summer long including one of the largest offerings of outdoor public art in London. The full programme can be found [here](#).

ENDS

Images available to download [here](#).

Press enquiries:

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Listings

THE OUTSIDE ART PROJECT

Various locations

27 July 2020

Free

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the streets of N1C. The Outside Art Project will offer unhindered access to photographic and 2d art exhibitions from the highest calibre artists reflecting a wide range of styles and mediums. The project kicks off on 27 July in a significant partnership with The Photographers' Gallery: 'Games We Play' features the vibrant, visually arresting works of Julie Cockburn, Luke Stephenson and Weronika Gęsicka, offering witty and subversive takes on traditional leisure time and Summer activities.

Notes to Editors

About King's Cross:

King's Cross is home to 67 acres of outstanding architecture, destination restaurants and a vibrant cultural scene. At its heart is the Heatherwick Studio-designed Coal Drops Yard; London's newest shopping district housed in a pair of artfully reimagined industrial Victorian buildings. The area's industrial past has inspired the 50 new and repurposed buildings, which are surrounded by beautifully-designed green spaces and public areas, including Granary Square and its iconic fountains. This bustling creative neighbourhood is a lively place in central London to visit day and night, and has a deserved reputation as a culinary hot spot.

King's Cross is somewhere you can live, work and play - over 12,000 people now work in the area, and it has close to 2,000 homes. This includes landmark development Gasholders London, comprising 145 new canal-side apartments within a triplet of Grade II-listed cast-iron gasholder frames.

www.kingscross.co.uk

About Coal Drops Yard

Coal Drops Yard is a new shopping and restaurant district in London's King's Cross. Coal Drops Yard was originally established in 1850 to handle the eight million tonnes of coal delivered to the capital each year, and was latterly the location of nightclubs Bagley's and The Cross. The area reopened in October 2018, reinvented by the acclaimed Heatherwick Studio, which has interwoven a contemporary design with the surviving structures and rich ironwork of the original Victorian coal drops.

Located within a reimagined set of historic buildings and arches directly adjacent to Granary Square and Regent's Canal, Coal Drops Yard houses over fifty stores from a unique mix of established and emerging brands, along with cafés, bars, top independent restaurants and new public spaces.

<https://www.coaldropsyard.com/>

About The Photographers' Gallery:

The Photographers' Gallery (TPG) was founded in 1971 by Sue Davies, OBE (14 April 1933 - 18 April 2020), as the first public gallery in the UK dedicated to the photography. Originally based in a converted Lyons Tea room in London's Covent Garden, it's mission was to provide a home for photographers as well as a serious space to showcase the breadth of the medium and champion its value and position as one of our most significant and accessible art-forms.

Over the years, TPG has introduced many of the world's greatest photographers to UK audiences including Juergen Teller, Robert Capa, Sebastiano Salgado and Andreas Gursky as well as exhibiting British talent, including Martin Parr, Corinne Day, Tish Murtha and Shirley Baker. Its annual photography prize, in partnership with the Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation, consistently

identifies and rewards photographers and work that re-defines the boundaries of the medium and shines a light on the most exciting work being produced today. It is equally committed to support for emergent talent, through exhibition, skills development and careers advice, sales and bursaries.

It opened the doors to its current home in Ramillies St, Oxford Circus, in 2012, with increased Gallery space and state of the art technology to continue to present the very best of photography - in all its forms. The seven-floor venue also offers enhanced events, talks and educational facilities, a new home for its beloved bookshop, a lovely café/bar and a dedicated space for the discovery, sale and presentation of photographic prints from a range of represented artists.

www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk