

CCA Centre for Contemporary Arts

Annual Review 2019-20



2019-20 saw a packed programme of exhibitions, festivals and events return to CCA with our busiest year to date. A major summer exhibition programme - Some things want to run - brought V/DA, Carrie Skinner, Chto Delat and Jasmina Cibic into our gallery space and we also introduced two new libraries to CCA.

Launched as part of Emilia Beatriz' declarations on soil and honey, Glasgow Seed Library was devised with Glasgow Community Food Network and a steering group of individuals and community organisations from across the city. Glasgow Seed Library is produced and activated by the public, who may contribute seeds and take seeds for their own growing. The Reading Library is an eclectic collection of books in the CCA foyer space. The library is not a funded project and we welcome donations to help build a wider collection.

Human Relay, in partnership with Govan Community Project, was intended to be a new two-year project. Part of our public engagement programme, Human Relay was led by asylum claimants and refugees and explored the themes of herbs, healing and plants. It ended in March 2020 with the beginning of lockdown.

In April, we launched a new podcast series where Gareth K Vile chats to some of the amazing people who make, produce and contribute to our programme including artists, curators, musicians, performers, event organisers, CCA staff and community project leaders. The podcast is available online and is broadcast on Sunny Govan Community Radio each month.

Our Curator Ainslie Roddick left in November to take up the role of Artistic Director at ATLAS, Skye. Our Artistic Director, Francis McKee, took over programming exhibitions for our gallery space, with the support of our Assistant Curator, Sabrina Henry.

As the Coronavirus pandemic spread, March brought the beginning of a lengthy closure. Our team were paid in full, and artists who we had commissioned received their fees. We entered another period of uncertainty for the arts, and began to consider new ways we can support artists and communities.

CCA presented ten exhibitions in 2019-20 in our ground floor gallery space. These exhibitions were:

SHADI HABIB ALLAH FREE REIN

EMILIA BEATRIZ
DECLARATIONS ON SOIL AND HONEY

URIEL ORLOW
THEATRUM BOTANICUM

V/DA

SONIC SÉ ANCE: THE GATHERING

CARRIE SKINNER
LET THE MUSIC PLAY ON AND ON AND
ON AND ON AND ON AND ON

CHTO DELAT TIMES, LINES, 1989S

JASMINA CIBIC AN ATMOSPHERE OF JOYFUL CONTEMPLATION

GRACE SCHWINDT FIVE SURFACES ALL WHITE

BASMA ALSHARIF A PHILISTINE

SHUVINAI ASHOONA HOLDING ON TO UNIVERSES

Intermedia Gallery is an independent gallery space on the second floor of CCA, funded by Glasgow City Council and managed by CCA in partnership with Glasgow Life. Funding for an exhibition is awarded to emerging artists through an annual open call for submissions. Intermedia artists in 2019-20 were Jennifer Clews, Rhona Mühlebach, Andrew Black, Lizzie Watts and Yvonne Zhang, Aman Sandhu, Adam Lewis Jacob, Jeanne Tullen, Isabella Widger, and Ross Fleming.

CCA's Creative Lab is a space for artists to explore new ideas and methods during a residency. In 2019-20, we welcomed Buenos Tiempos, Tom Varley, Sarah Forrest and Becky Šik, Anna McLauchlan, Feronia Wennborg, Kirsty Hendry, Mathew Parkin, Natasha Lall (as part of the AC Projects residency), Alan Butler, Bambitchell, Eothen Stern, and Morwenna Kersley. Creative Lab residencies were also awarded to Helen McRorie and Tomoko Freeman; these did not go ahead due to the Coronavirus closures and we are now looking at new ways to work with them.

Gordon Douglas' year-long residency with CCA came to an end in June, with a live performance event. Mamoru Iriguchi took up a residency as part of the 2019 Buzzcut Double Thrills Associateship. Our participation in the Tilting Axis Fellowship brought Lisandro Suriel to CCA on a month-long residency in October.

Our public engagement programme extends access to CCA's programming and has – at its heart – the prospect of social and cultural change explored through art. There were four major public engagement projects in 2019-20: Political Animal, Cooking Pot, Human Relay and The School for Civic Imagination.

Our open source approach to programming saw us host 239 partners over the course of the year, and our own core programme of exhibitions, public engagement, residencies and events brought artists and audiences from Glasgow, across the UK and around the world into CCA.





Jasmina Cibic





In 2019-20, CCA had:

306,482 ADMISSIONS TO THE BUILDING.

23,204 VISITORS TO OUR TEN MAIN GALLERY EXHIBITIONS.

1628 PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN 67 ACTIVITIES IN OUR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME.

51,316 ADMISSIONS ACROSS 1304 EVENTS AND 28 FESTIVALS WITH 239 PROGRAMME PARTNERS.

CCA is home to a range of Cultural Tenants – cultural and artistic organisations who are based in our office space and contribute to CCA's programme. In 2019–20 these were: Ando Glaso; BHP Comics; Camcorder Guerrillas; Cryptic; Document; Electron Club; LUX Scotland; MAP Magazine; Paragon; Playwrights' Studio Scotland; Scottish Ensemble; Scottish Writers' Centre; The List; Tom McGrath Writers' Room and University of the West of Scotland. CCA also hosts two shops, Aye-Aye Books and Welcome Home, as well as Saramago Café Bar.

Cover image: Shuvinai Ashoona Photography by Alan Dimmick.

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