



# ART BLOCK

**15 September- 17 October 2021**

11 am-6pm Mon - Sun

Private view: 15 September 6:30pm-10:00pm

A 4-floor takeover of **D4** at the Design District.

NOW Gallery and Design District collaborate to present a series of pop up exhibitions spaces featuring the practices of three diverse visual artists over four floors. The takeover celebrates the launch of Greenwich Peninsula's exciting cultural quarter, Design District, a new permanent home for the creative industries.

The exhibition will take place inside one of two buildings by Barrozzi Veiga. Both buildings have been designed with photographers, artists and sculptors in mind, with large windows, and high ceilings. Building D4 is clad in black aluminium, with gridded windows reminiscent of large warehouse style spaces providing brilliant volumes for the artists inside.

**(LVLO,1) HUMAN STORIES: THE AFRO SURREALIST**  
**VINCE FRASER**



*As part of 'Art Block', NOW Gallery presents the 5th iteration of the annual Human Stories series, celebrating the work of British designer and 'Artist' Vince Fraser. Human Stories: The Afro Surrealist will present three large scaled digital artworks exploring the intersection between African diasporic futurism, techno cultures and spatial constructs. In his first solo UK show, Fraser orchestrates a surrealist dream, transcending space and time, obscuring audiences behind three hypnotic Afrocentric masks. The works marry photographic collage techniques with motion graphics. The immersive experience is framed by the stark interiors of the Barrozi Veiga's D4 building of the Design District.*

*Curated by Kaia Charles, NOW Gallery, Human Stories is a series of annual photographic displays that encourages a contemporary discourse on modern life and the human scale. By engaging with modern and progressive communities, artists, photographers, historians, filmmakers, writers and thinkers, Human Stories translates these messages into compelling visual displays.*

**"The Black experience is often examined through a non-Black lens. I feel it's important to tell the story from my perspective as a Black creative producing doorways into concepts beyond the realm of the everyday. I hope my work will inspire and empower a whole generation of artists to express themselves through their own unique art form." - Vince Fraser**

**About Vince Fraser:**

Having worked in the creative industry as a professional digital illustrator for over twenty years, the progression to visual arts was a natural one. Fraser's work has continued to evolve and he sees himself as a new breed of artist in the digital age, combining a variety of skills including film and motion. With a keen eye for detail, he is always experimenting in a playful way whilst pushing the boundaries from a visual aspect. Bridging the gap between fantasy and reality, Fraser's mission is to inspire, educate, and empower positive images of the African diaspora. Previous client work includes Nike, MTV and Adobe, just to name a few, while Vince also gained the attention of various musicians like Erykah Badu, Outkast and Usher.

## **(LVL2) IMAGES OF BROKEN LIGHT**

### **CHARLES EMERSON : A Retrospective and New Works**



Are you sure you know what you are looking at? What you see does it appear and disappear before your eyes? With Emerson's work, there is a hallucinatory mystery about his subjects, they may be flowers, or mountains or protesters - they all have been layered and sublimated to produce an image which is almost a breath of a thing. Poised in the frame, a hint or cloud of an object, rephrasing it, so you have to think about it in a different way. They are not fully formed images but reminiscences. A state of being that holds on to the essence of the subject whilst fusing it with smoke or water or other images which bleed and hold on to the form captured, but does not completely reveal.

"I don't aspire to create straight physical representations of my subjects or to render them perfectly as the eye might see. Visually abstraction is key, whilst the theme of Nature, in particular its fragility, often sits at the core of my work. As well as celebrating the beautiful or sublime, I also seek to reference the darker, more macabre realities of our human relationship with the natural world. We humans act as though we are the masters of our planet, yet do we really have the power to sustain life on Earth?" - Charles Emerson

This exquisite collection of C-type prints which will be for sale and is a perfect analogy addition to the 2nd floor of this building. Tying into themes of urban daydreams, creative political musings and how the slight appears strong and the strong slight, this show is the perfect thoughtful description of a world awry. *Images of Broken Light* is curated by Jemima Burrill.

#### **About Charles Emerson**

Charles Emerson studied BA Hons Fine Art Photography at Falmouth College of Arts. His artworks have been exhibited both in the UK and Internationally. His commercial work increasingly sits comfortably alongside his fine art, as clients are keen to draw on the techniques and styles that he has created within his personal practice.

Emerson's work aims to transport the viewer into another realm. To nurture this otherworldly quality Emerson builds layers within his photographic practice. Whether using physical layers constructed in the studio, creating multiple exposures within camera or using objects and effects in front of the lens.

## **(LVL3) MEMORIES OF GIGABYTES**

**LISA WOLF for Kvadrat and Design District**



Memories of Gigabytes is a site-specific work that transfers memories of digital spaces and personal experiences related to distinct places into physical space.

It is a materialized representation of memories, some of which are personal experiences, and some of which are data stored in an abstract network through computer technology. Despite the differences, they locate in virtual space and are made perceptible in the installation.

Lisa Wolf focuses on exploring textures, materials, weight, temperature and softness - things we need to experience in a physical environment. Touch, move, feel!

"The process in which the work is created is just as relevant to me as the actual experience of the installation in the space. I try to make this process visible and legible in the final objects. So every visitor finds his personal perspective on the work." - Lisa Wolf

### **About Lisa Wolf**

Lisa Wolf is a researcher, designer, and visual artist that works on interdisciplinary and collaborative projects. Lisa combines digital fabrication methods with traditional materials such as clay, wood, fabric, and metal. These physical installations and objects are linked to Lisa's ongoing research and interest in performance and sound.

Exhibition dates - 15 September - 17 October 2021

Press morning - 14 September

Private view - 15 September

NOW Gallery at Greenwich Peninsula  
www.nowgallery.co.uk  
Free Entry

## **PRESS CONTACTS**

Design District: Rupert Evans-Harding / [designdistrict@zetteler.co.uk](mailto:designdistrict@zetteler.co.uk) / 07824 661 019

Kasimiira Kontio / [kasimiira@kasimiirako.com](mailto:kasimiira@kasimiirako.com) / 07470 062 111

NOW Gallery: Kitty Lester / [kitty@childhoodpr.co.uk](mailto:kitty@childhoodpr.co.uk) / 07727 179 464

## **ABOUT NOW GALLERY**

Conceived as part of the on-going regeneration of Greenwich Peninsula, NOW Gallery sits within a pavilion designed by architects Marks Barfield, moments from The O2 and North Greenwich station. One of the original buildings created by Knight Dragon, it is a public exhibition space for contemporary art, fashion, photography and design, with an ever-revolving programme of free to attend work from established and emerging artists, designers and other creative practitioners. Providing a place for investigation, NOW Gallery is a space for creatives to develop ideas and unprecedented artwork. It plays an important role of connecting to the locality via introducing interactive pieces of work that invite the public in to engage, contemplate and return, forming a relationship with the surrounding area and helping to shape the Greenwich Peninsula community. Currently showing at NOW Gallery: [‘My Head Is A Jungle’ by Birmingham-based illustrator Manjit Thapp.](#)

## **ABOUT DESIGN DISTRICT**

At the heart of Greenwich Peninsula, Design District is London's first permanent, purpose-built hub for the creative industries. Conceived and developed by Knight Dragon, and designed by eight leading architects, Design District's collection of 16 unique buildings supports an ecosystem of 1,800 creatives, encompassing individual makers and artists, ambitious start-ups, ground-breaking enterprises and industry leaders. The closest Tube station is North Greenwich (30 metres). The Jubilee line (24-hour on Friday and Saturday), gets you to London Bridge in eight minutes and Waterloo in 11.

[designdistrict.co.uk](http://designdistrict.co.uk)

## **ABOUT GREENWICH PENINSULA**

Greenwich Peninsula is fast becoming the capital's most boldly modern landscape. With 15,000 new homes, 13,000 new jobs and 48 acres of open public space emerging over the coming years. Here a community of thousands of pioneers live in new riverside homes, work in a cutting-edge Design District and enjoy the Tide, the Peninsula's cultural linear park - all wrapped by the river Thames. This is new London: a new destination for modern urban living.