

DAA ART

presents

## Towards A New Intellectual Cosmos: A Reflection on Contemporary Forms of Expressions

16 October 2022 – 16 January 2023

Aoibhin Maguire | Daisy Clarke | Lauren Brown | Mahziar Arjamandnia | Nora Neagoe | Sarah-Athina Nahas | Suzanna James | Yves Leather

Aoibhin Maguire



Daisy Clarke



Lauren Brown



Daa Art is proud to present, “Towards a new intellectual cosmos: A reflection on contemporary forms of expressions”, an exhibition of captivating artworks that allure the viewer with rich textures and colours, unique practices and innovative techniques. The curated pieces demonstrate a variety of artistic mediums by which new norms, ideas, standards and values are articulated.

Medium can refer to either the materials out of which an artwork is made or take the form of abstract entities. In the latter, it has a closer relationship with art form than to the materials used. Art forms and the history of their possibilities are always questioned, reassessed and reinvented by artists and critics in order to find the essential conditions for instances of those forms. Contemporary interest in medium seeks to excoriate unnecessary traditional artistic conventions to discover that which is necessary to the form and to accentuate the tangibility of their medium. Artistic medium involves the creative process in which artists make use of different materials or manipulate and combine various forms, techniques and methods to structure their artistic experience. Technological advancement has also opened up many opportunities for artists and has expanded the number of techniques artists are able to access.

This exhibition explores various artistic mediums by gathering a new generation of artists who practice both destructive and constructive approaches as well as technology-based techniques, i.e. sticking elements together, embedding objects within surfaces and algorithmic design. Thread pulling, constructed textiles along with photography, acrylic and crochet on cotton canvas, stitching, deformation of recycled steel, machine-learning algorithms and traditional oil on canvas are among mediums, techniques and materials that are used by featured artists to create an intellectual

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Mahziar Arjmandnia



cosmos of concepts, expressions and emotions. This exhibition aims to showcase how artists continue to combine various methods, turning their hands to new techniques, reinventing mediums and eventually, pushing the boundaries of contemporary art.

Nora Neagoe



Aoibhin Maguire's paintings are worlds of juxtapositions. Stories of disorder, or maybe just a different type of order. They are a dance between love and anger, fear and ecstasy, anxiety and bliss. A push and pull between hope and desperation, a constant conflict on canvas.

Nora Neagoe's practice revolves around the idea of beauty in social media. She focuses on beauty standards in women, as they are the most affected by surveillance, control and invasion of privacy. She started this representation by thinking of fish eye views and peepholes. In the paintings, the heads are shown as bigger in the foreground and the bodies smaller in the background.

The surfaces of Sarah-Athina Nahas' works, with their tiny little weaving holes, like tiny little pores, act like skins. Unprimed and porous, they absorb what she allows to escape. They absorb the literal fluids, but also the angst that comes with living. She sees her fabrics as healing skins, on which she paints stories.

Sarah-Athina Nahas



Suzanna James work considers the inherent link between women and the handmade. From a background in sustainable textiles, her practice led research was developed during her MA at RCA (QUEST, Coats Foundation, WCFK), and explores the concept of Caring Cloth praxis, a care-led, socially engaged, intercultural meeting place of research and practice.

The work acts as a homage and a bow, in reverence to the words and works of a global community of women makers. Within her practice, she kneels at the altar of women's most infamous medium of cloth, which has silently, or not so silently, kept women's account through history, finding herself in a role of intimate listening to the voice of women through cloth.

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Yves Leather is the offspring of the anti-aesthetic and the cynic. The by-products being self-deprecatory, observational and ready-made. Yves uses performance, print and photography to communicate these attributes to the voluntary spectator or the involuntary public. Such actions challenge the societal ideals surrounding human behavior, relationships and intimacy, by bringing it into a world of critical-fiction, fantasy and sometimes rebellion. The resulting discomfort is seen as an opportunity to engage with those who are outside of the art scene and be inclusive to modes of thought that are not universally accepted or mutually subscribed. Visually, this oftentimes represents itself through disjointed and unrelated spectrums of color that closely mirror the artist's own cognitive nature.



Suzanna James



Yves Leather

## Exhibition information Towards A New Intellectual Cosmos: A Reflection on Contemporary Forms of Expressions

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**DAA ART**

[@daa.art.platform](https://www.daa-art.com/)

<https://www.daa-art.com/>

Email: [info@daa-art.com](mailto:info@daa-art.com)

## ABOUT DAA ART

Daa Art, launched in 2022, emerged out of our shared vision to create a global platform for contemporary artists, and aspires to promote critical conversations and creative exchanges between them.

The platform was founded by a couple Sareh Javid (Ph.D. in history of art from The School of Oriental and African Studies) and Alireza Rahnema (Ph.D. from Imperial College London) out of their shared goal to make inaccessible art, accessible to everyone worldwide. Daa Art endeavours to represent a wide range of artists, while being committed to provide more space for Iranian artists, UK based artists, female-identifying artists, recent graduates and emerging artists.

It is our ambition to create a platform that will become a major resource upon which artists, collectors, researchers, as well as the broader artistic community might draw in the future.