

ACall ARTS FESTIVAL

TOUCH: THE POLITICS OF PHYSICALITY

CURATED BY LOUIS CHAPPLE

NOVEMBER 17-21

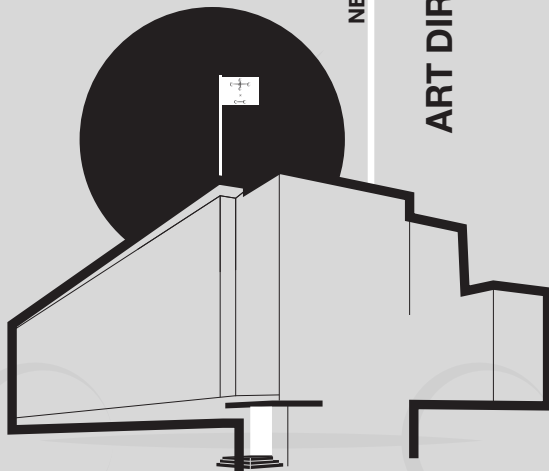
LONDON

NETIL HOUSE AND HACKNEY DOWNS STUDIOS

TAYO ADEKUNLE
DIZZY BAGLEY
MIYA BROWNE
YINGMING CHEN
HOA DUNG CLERGET
CALLUM EATON
ENORÉ
ENAM GBEWONYO
GISOU GOLSHANI
ATARI KUGGAH
GAL LESHEM
JIHYUN MIN
LEILY MOGHTADER MOJDEHI
MOHAMMED ROWE
KATRINE SKOVSGAARD
EMILY THOMAS

SONS OF CRAFT

ART DIRECTION BY



OPENING: WED 17, HACKNEY DOWNS STUDIOS, 6-10PM
CLOSING: SUN 21, NETIL 360, 2-6PM

OVERVIEW

Touch: The Politics of Physicality

Hackney Downs Studios & Netil 360
17th – 21st November 2021

Touch: The Politics of Physicality is a double-venue exhibition I curated for Sons of Craft's debut ACall festival, that focused on what we have come to understand as physicality - whether that be through haptic materials, or more abstract concepts. The theme was explored by artists approaching physicality through a nuanced yet diverse range of channels and mediums.

In addition to the exhibition, I curated and organised a public programme that included an artist talk, a textile workshop for kids in the local community, a radio show, a curatorial tour across both venues led by myself and an opening event.

The exhibition took over two contrasting venues in Hackney - one that adopted a white cube setting, the other, a rooftop bar that acted as an outdoor sculpture venue, and its five storey stairwell that housed a sonic installation by Gisou Golshani.

RADIO SHOW:

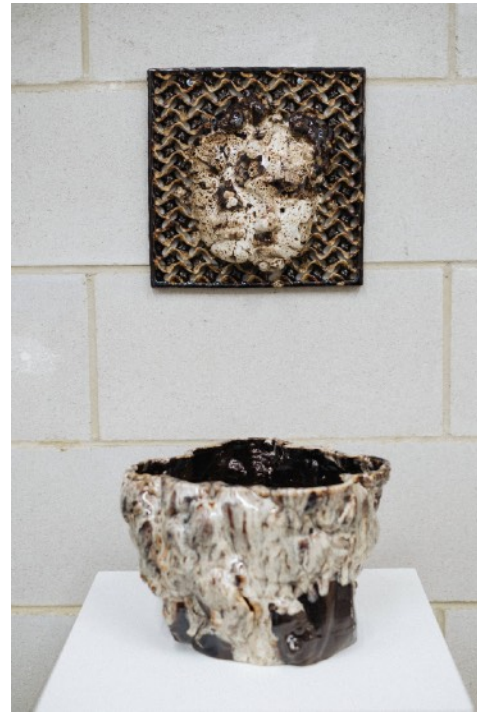
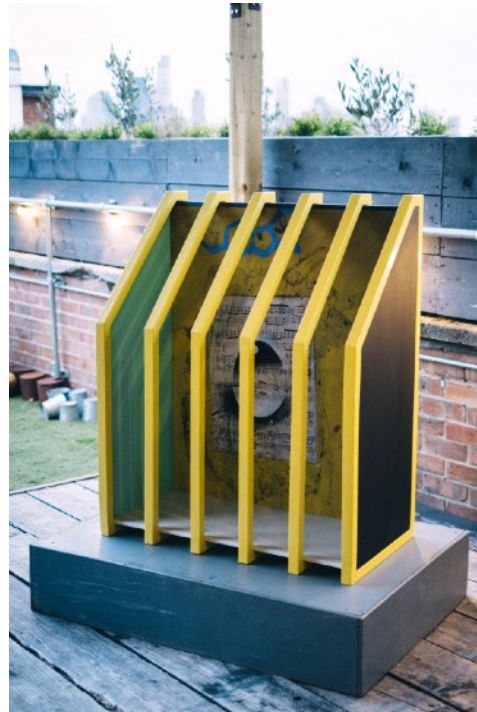
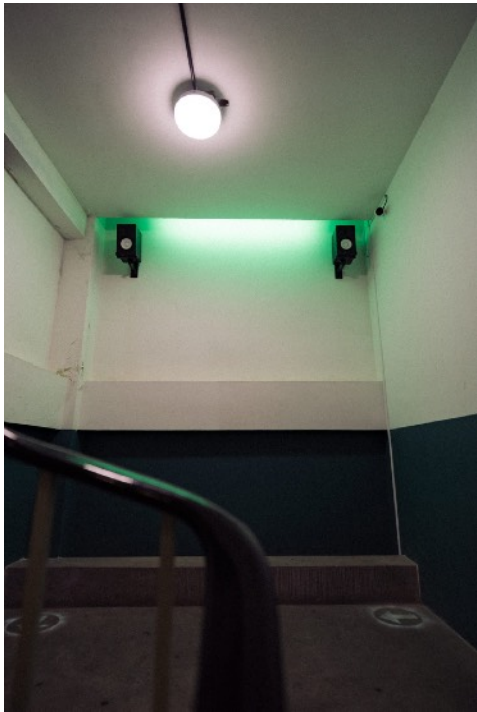
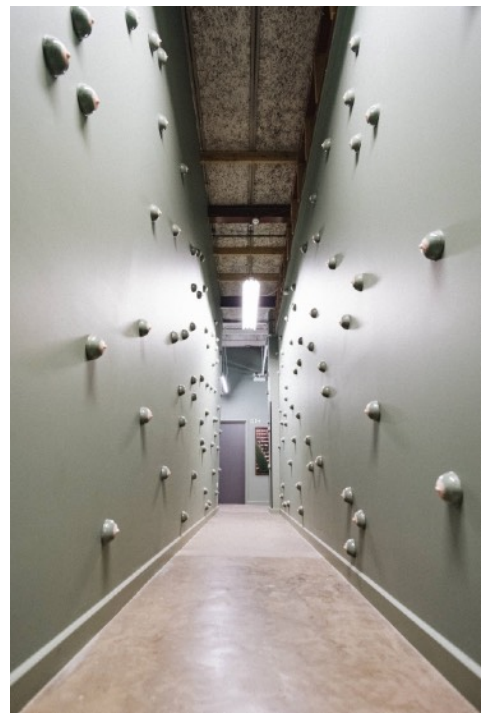
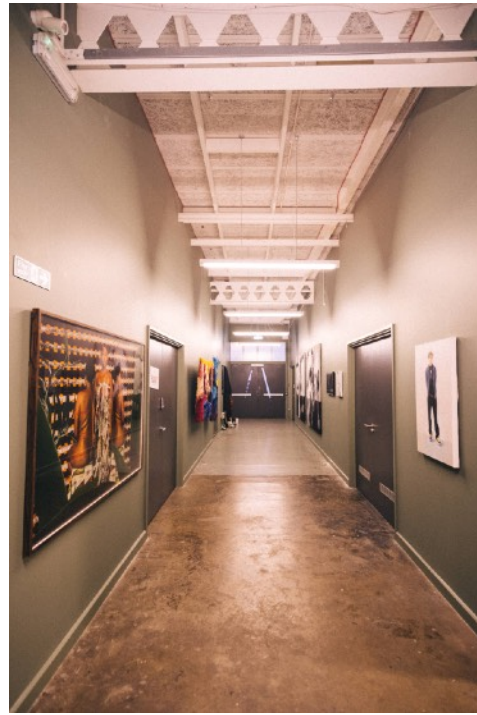
<https://www.mixcloud.com/NetilRadio/sons-of-craft-8th-november-2021/>

EXHIBITION WEBSITE:

<https://www.acallfestival.com>

INSTALLATION SHOTS





WALL TEXT

This November, Sons of Craft and Eat Work Art have partnered to present ACall. An immersive art trail across two locations in E8, the event includes workshops, talks, installations and radio sessions. At the heart of ACall is the multidisciplinary exhibition, *Touch: The Politics of Physicality*. This exhibition showcases the work of a diverse line-up of emerging artists, offering a grassroots alternative to the elite hyper-commercialised art world that descends upon central London during Frieze week.

Curated by Louis Chapple, founder of the London-based curatorial studio and nomadic art platform Studio Chapple, the artworks featured in *Touch: The Politics of Physicality* are united through the way in which they investigate and re-engage the viewer with the breadth of what we have come to understand as physicality.

The materiality of textiles is utilised here to explore global histories, where the cultural, historical and socio-political implications of certain materials and objects bring the viewer face to face with the dark consequences and legacies of colonial history, and the nuanced complexities of migration and transcultural identities.

Through 3D printed sculptures, the viewer is forced to question the certainty of an object's physicality as it blurs the lines between physical and digital creation. This transient reality is continued in hyperrealist paintings of everyday objects and materials and seemingly empty plinths.

Other works explore the notion of physicality through the relationship between materials and skin, how touch is often linked to memory and familiarity, and the very act of both creating and interacting with the hapticity of artworks. Furthermore, sonic installations serve to ground the viewer in the various spaces the exhibition manifests itself in, exploring the textural tangibility of sound.

The experience of *Touch: The Politics of Physicality* is immersive and holistic, with the exhibited works inviting the viewer to engage all their senses whilst considering the concept of physicality in a manner which is both concrete and abstract.



