Exhibitions 2024-25

Portia Zvavahera: Zvakazarurwa 22 October 2024 – 16 February 2025

Kettle's Yard is delighted to present 'Zvakazarurwa' ('Revelations'), Portia Zvavahera's first solo exhibition at a public gallery in Europe. Featuring new and recent works, the exhibition will draw from the cosmologies of Shona culture and the artist's Christian faith, as well as personal experience and esoteric dream-worlds. Zvavahera's work is always autobiographical, filled with images of her own surrogate self, alongside figures representing family members, apparitions and hybrid animal creatures. Working from her studio in Harare, Zimbabwe, the artist combines lino and cardboard printing, wax resist techniques and washes of printer's ink to create works that are not illustrative, but rather 'repositories' for feelings associated with life, death, pain, pleasure and connection. Zvavahera's paintings were included in 'The Milk of Dreams' at the 59th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia.

'Zvakazarurwa' is organised by Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge, in collaboration with Fruitmarket, Edinburgh, where it will travel from 1 March – 25 May 2025. Accompanied by an illustrated publication, the exhibition is curated by Tamar Garb, Durning Lawrence Professor in History of Art at University College London.

Paint What Matters! Art by Children & Young People in Cambridge 26 February – 9 March 2025

This open exhibition will celebrate the talent and creativity of young people living in Cambridge, inviting them to paint what matters to them today. Submissions to 'Paint What Matters!' will be free and open to all children and young people aged 4–21 who are living or attending school within Cambridge City Council wards. Over the summer and autumn terms Kettle's Yard will also be collaborating with six long-term partner schools and community groups to create artworks for the



Portia Zvavahera, *His Presence*, 2013. Courtesy the artist, Stevenson and David



Photo: Kettle's Yard

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exhibition. They will be invited to participate in a series of artist-led workshops which will draw inspiration from the gallery's latest season of painting exhibitions: 'Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours' (22 June – 6 October 2024) and 'Portia Zvavahera: Zvakazarurwa' (22 October 2024 – 16 February 2025).

Here is a Gale Warning: Art, Crisis & Survival 22 March – 29 June 2025

This exhibition will present eight contemporary artists whose work offers vantage points on a world in perpetual crisis. Rather than representing specific political events or taking singular positions, each artist explores broader conditions of domination and conflict, as well as horizons for survival. The show borrows its title from a 1971 flag work by British artist Rose Finn-Kelcey, embroidered with the words 'Here is a gale warning'. The work was originally flown above Alexandra Palace in London, transmitting its ambiguous message to passers-by, and suggesting ways in which art might warn us of invisible forces or unprecedented events. Finn-Kelcey's work will be joined by paintings, sculptures, installations and weavings by Pia Arke, Justin Caguiat, Candace Hill-Montgomery, Tomashi Jackson, Tarek Lakhrissi, Anne Tallentire and Cecilia Vicuña, prompting reflection, gathering and suggestions for survival, resilience and resistance.

This exhibition is curated by Amy Tobin, Curator, Contemporary Programmes at Kettle's Yard and Associate Professor of History of Art, University of Cambridge.

Lubaina Himid with Magda Stawarska 12 July – 2 November 2025

This new exhibition by one of the UK's most renowned and celebrated contemporary artists will present new paintings for the galleries, a special installation made in collaboration with Magda Stawarska and 'interventions' in the Kettle's Yard house. Initially trained in theatre design, Himid is best known for her innovative approaches to painting and social engagement, playing a pivotal role in the British Black Arts movement in the 1980s. Over the past decade, she has earned international recognition for her figurative canvases, which explore overlooked histories and the tensions of contemporary life. At Kettle's Yard,



Rose Finn-Kelcey, *Here is a Gale Warning*, 1971/2011, silver gelatin print mounted on foam board, 46 x 70 cm © Estate of Rose Finn-Kelcey. Courtesy the Estate and Kate MacGarry, London



Lubaina Himid, Chair Seller, 2023. Acrylic on canvas. Courtesy the artist, Hollybush Gardens, London and Greene Naftali, New York. Photo: Elisabeth Bernstein.

her new work will centre on what is missing from the telling of life stories, who is left out of narratives, what strategies are used to fill in the gaps and the objects we choose to leave behind as clues. The neighbouring gallery space will feature a new installation that builds on Himid and Stawarska's Blue Grid Test (2020), drawing on correspondence between writer and artist Sophie Brzeska and artist Nina Hamnett. Alongside smaller interventions, Himid will also show a new largescale painting in the Kettle's Yard house.

Harold Offeh 15 November 2025 – 1 March 2026

For more than two decades, Harold Offeh (b. 1977, Ghana) has been making playful, provocative performance and video works that explore subjects ranging from pop culture to identity, conformity and denial. He draws from popular music, film and mainstream cultural trends to interrogate our acceptance of political, class, gender and racial models in society. Recently, his practice has approached themes of happiness, play and Afrofuturism through performance and collective live engagements. The first major solo exhibition of Offeh's work in a UK institution, this exhibition will bring together a selection of works from the artist's career, revealing ambitious projects that have taken place across the world. New participatory elements will activate Kettle's Yard's galleries, drawing on the input of collaborators and communities through an energetic programme of performances, discussions and events.



Harold Offeh, Selfie Choreography Workshop presented for East Side Projects, Birmingham, UK 2020. Photo, Ashley Carr.

Notes to Editors

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About Kettle's Yard

Kettle's Yard, part of the University of Cambridge, is a leading gallery and unique house with a remarkable collection of 20th-century art. Its founders Jim and Helen Ede believed in art's ability to transform lives, a vision upheld today through critically acclaimed exhibitions, pioneering community and learning programmes, and research of the highest quality. Our aim is to offer an inspiring and enriching experience for everyone who visits. Find out more and get involved at: www.kettlesyard.cam.ac.uk