Annual Report KETTLE'S YARD





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'Making New Worlds is a perfect Kettle's Yard show, both in terms of the aesthetic (appreciation for natural forms, found objects and discreet interventions) and sensibility - all about openness, friendship and collaboration.'

- Visitor, January 2024

'The @kettlesyard #StudioSunday offer is one of the best things to do with kids in #Cambridge My girls really engaged with the #MeganRooney exhibition after spending some time thinking about colour, contrast & shapes. The teachers in the studio are brilliant, kind and supportive!' - Studio Sunday attendee, July 2024 'Kettle's Yard/Jim Ede has influenced my whole life design, aesthetic, taste - we even built our lives/ workspace with this in mind. A lasting vision which is adaptable and fresh all the time.'

- Visitor, July 2024

'If you can get to Cambridge, visit this show. It's harrowing, beautiful, timely and deeply moving. Unmissable.' - Visitor to Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive, March 2024

'Single use plastic definitely was minimised and there was a lot of discussion on the site about minimalizing environmental impact.'

- Visitor comment, May 2024

'The students who had never visited Cambridge before, very much enjoyed Kettle's Yard. The House and Gallery staff were very informative and knowledgeable which made the visit a rich experience for the students.' - School Visit, February 2024

Introduction from the Director

It is striking, looking back on last year how much can change in a year. The *Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive* exhibition feels very different from the perspective of winter 2024 and may feel different again in the months and years to come. This personal and powerful major exhibition of work by Cambridge based Syrian born artist Issam Kourbaj explored the conflict in Syria and questioned how we can record and remember.

Friendship was the theme of *Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends*, a major exhibition exploring the world of Li Yuan-chia and the LYC museum through reveleaing new research, which has many resonances with Kettle's Yard.

In the Spring and Summer of 2024, the galleries were filled with the beautiful abstract works of Megan Rooney, capturing the attention of many visitors. One of the hardest moments of the year came when we had to paint over her incredible mural filling gallery two.

Music is an important strand of the programme and last year the Friends of Kettle's Yard funded our first ever Twilight at the Museums Family Concert with Britten Sinfonia.

The shop does not often get a mention in my introduction, but it would be remiss not to note that our beautiful small shop was listed as one of the best museum shops in the world by the FT in October!

The last few years have been difficult for so many, and particularly hard hit have been schools that struggle to find the time and space for the arts when faced with budget cuts. An example of how funding can be transformational is our Look Make Talk programme funded by the Clore Duffield Foundation. This enabled us to provide free return transport and free participation in the school visit programme for eligible primary schools within Cambridgeshire. This quote from a teacher says it all:

"PLEASE keep programmes like this running, it is VITAL to schools, providing children with experiences they wouldn't otherwise have. They need these moments of wonder to build on their cultural capital and close the gap. Schools and parents no longer have the ability to fund this themselves."

We are lucky at Kettle's Yard to have so many Friends and supporters alongside regular funders Arts Council England and the University of Cambridge. When we compile the annual report every year the vital support provided by so many is apparent on every page. Thank you. Every year we fundraise so that we can continue the work you see in these pages; without your support it would not be possible.

Andrew Nairne, Director



Kettle's Yard house. Photo: Jasper Fry

Mission, Purpose & Values

Mission

To contribute to society by inspiring and engaging audiences through art, learning and research of the highest quality. We believe that great art should not be the privilege of the few, but for everyone. Our values reflect Kettle's Yard's creator Jim Ede's support for artists and belief in art's power to make us look again and change how we act in the world.

Purpose

- Conserving the house, collections and archive for present and future generations and as a resource for research.
- Presenting exhibitions of modern and contemporary art and concerts of classical and contemporary music.
- Welcoming and engaging diverse audiences through innovative learning programmes and public engagement
- Ensuring financial sustainability through governance and management, core funding, partnerships, earned income and the support of donors, trusts and foundations

Values

Openness

Encompassing our commitment to access, equality, anti-racism and enriching communities. Seeking to be generous and caring, making a programme of events and activities inspired by Jim and Helen Ede's vision of a place in which everyone is welcome and can be enriched.

Creativity

Fundamental to the ethos of Kettle's Yard, from inspiring visitors to be creative in their own lives and communities, to the diverse creativity of the artists we support and whose work we present, to how we think about the future of Kettle's Yard.

Collaboration

Working with others - to learn from them and achieve stronger and richer outcomes. Contributes to sustainability through adding value and efficiency when exhibitions and projects are organised collaboratively and shared widely.

Insight

As part of the university, we undertake, enable, and disseminate research to generate new insights about art and artists, so deepening knowledge and enriching public engagement. We can elicit valuable insights and learn and grow as an organisation through conversations - whether with children and young people, members of the community, visitors or among our colleagues.

Sustainability

There is a cost to our existence and our work. Addressing how we run Kettle's Yard to reduce our carbon footprint is essential. We need to act and plan to reduce waste of all kinds and strengthen our financial resilience to secure our long- term health and wellbeing. This runs across everything that we do.



Exhibitions, Displays & Projects

Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends 11 November 2023 – 18 February 2024 **Turning Forms, Helen Ede's Bedroom** From April 2024

12 March – 11 June 2024

A G E N D A Project 1 Part 1: Yevheniia Laptii

Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive 2 March – 26 May 2024

Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours 22 June – 6 October 2024



lssam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive, 2024. Photo: Jo Underhill

Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours, 2024. Photo: Jo Underhill





Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends, 2023. Photo: Jo Underhill



'I can hardly think of a more uplifting show for the dying days of autumn than Making New Worlds at Kettle's Yard. Everything about it is bright, beautiful and hopeful, and as amiable as the subtitle suggests.'

- The Observer, November 2023

'This is how it's done! Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends is such a beautiful and thoughtful show. - Instagram, December 2023

'This sense of energy that permeates Kettle's Yard, is electrifying, with works infused by the spirit of one of the twentieth century's most influential, but overlooked radical artists'

- Selvedge Magazine, December 2023

Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends

This group exhibition was based on the pioneering vision of artist Li Yuan-chia (1929 – 1994) and the LYC Museum & Art Gallery which he founded and ran between 1972 and 1983 in the Cumbrian village of Banks, alongside Hadrian's Wall.

The exhibition retraced Li's commitment to fostering creativity, his interest in play and his investment in new ways of being in the world. The exhibition put the LYC into conversation with Kettle's Yard. Both projects evolved over time, with collections and exhibitions being shaped through friendships and personal affiliations, including with the artist Winifred Nicholson, who was an important presence at both the LYC and Kettle's Yard.

Li's practice – as both artist and organiser – was at the centre of the exhibition, along with those artists he exhibited at the LYC and those who were part of the cosmopolitan networks he enabled and enriched. *Making New Worlds* also included works by contemporary artists reflecting on the afterlives of Li's work in the present.

Featured Artists:

Audrey Barker, Thetis Blacker, Anna Brownsted, Hsiao Chin, Lygia Clark, Delia Derbyshire, Ian Hamilton Finlay, Bettina Fung, Naum Gabo, Andy Goldsworthy, Barbara Hepworth, EJ Hooper, Madelon Hooykaas, Dom Slyvester Houédard, Claire Langdown, Liliane Lijn, Ovidie Maitec, David Medalle, David Nash, Grace Ndiritu, Paul Neagu, Ben Nicholson, Kate Nicholson, Winifred Nicholson, Mira Schendel, Elsa Stansfield, Takis, Aaron Tan, Charwei Tsai, Shelagh Wakely, Donald Wilkinson and Li Yuan-chia.



Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive 2 March – 26 May 2024

'Kourbaj's bringing together of art, science and politics creates hugely affective work that simply cannot be ignored.'

- Studio International, March 2024

'Harrowing, beautiful, timely and deeply moving. Unmissable.'

- Visitor comment, April 2024

'The archive at Kettle's Yard registers an urgent need to pay attention and an urge or will to grow again, to keep going, just like a seed.' – Art Monthly, April 2024

'I really enjoyed this relevant, moving and thought provoking exhibition. It felt alive and fluid speaking to me of the world we live in and urging me to respond more actively in any way I can.'

- Visitor comment, May 2024



Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive

Since 2011 Issam Kourbaj's artwork has responded to the ongoing conflict in Syria, and reflects on the suffering of his fellow Syrians and the destruction of his cultural heritage. This exhibition presented key works from this period alongside a new series which explored themes of loss, memory and renewal.

Inspired by a seed's ability to sprout roots in new environments, Kourbaj grew Syrian wheat (donated by ICARDA) at Kettle's Yard and Downing College, creating new work in collaboration with The Heong Gallery, Cambridge University Botanic Garden and the Sainsbury Laboratory, Cambridge University, and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The exhibition – the artist's largest to date – included installation, sculpture, performance and works on paper. Kourbaj was present at intervals throughout the exhibition, which evolved as he added to the displays.

A concurrent exhibition of work by Issam Kourbaj took place at The Heong Gallery, Downing College, Cambridge. A new publication explored the themes and artworks in both exhibitions.



Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours 22 June – 6 October 2024

'The experience is both physical and heady: look up, look close, feel your eyes widen, or lie down, beguiled by it all, on the floor.' - The Observer, June 2024

'Each painting is a capsule of time and space... a palimpsest of effort and care, a portal into an intimate conversation between artist and canvas in which the journey of the work remains pulsing just beneath the surface.'

- Emily LaBarge, June 2024

'Her energy and use of colour in these latest works was superb. I loved taking on the feeling of working that big wall in the installation piece she painted directly onto the walls at Kettle's Yard.' - Instagram, August 2024





Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours

This was the first major solo exhibition in the UK of work by Megan Rooney (b. 1985, South Africa). Her paintings have an irresistible life and energy, renewing the potential of abstraction to embody the richness of the visual world.

In June 2024, Rooney spent three weeks making a new 'mural', painting directly on the walls of one of Kettle's Yard's two galleries. In the other gallery a group of new paintings was exhibited for the first time.

Created in 'family groups', the size of the canvases she used were determined by the reach of her outstretched arms. Vibrant colour and line appeared boundless, capturing the ebb and flow of their making, from the use of abrasives to remove pigment to repeated overpainting. Each work told a compelling story, poetically recalling the real, the remembered and the imagined – inviting visitors into their restless and pleasurable worlds.

The exhibition was accompanied by a new performance work and publication.

Exhibitions - Digital

In 2023/24 we continued to produce and share some online content for exhibitions that could be viewed at home. These included filmed interviews with exhibition artists and curators, a timelapse of Megan Rooney painting, and a live streamed performance by Issam Kourbaj. In total these recieved 5,935 plays.



Watch this live streamed performance by Issam Kourbaj.

See a timelapse of Megan Rooney painting her mural 'Echoes & Hours' at Kettle's Yard.





Watch students from North Cambridge Academy interview Issam Kourbaj. <u>Hear from the curators of 'Making</u> <u>New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends'.</u>

v Students from North Can



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Events Programme

From August 2023 to July 2024 we organised 153 events as part of our public programme. The events included online talks, performances, exhibition tours, in conversations and family workshops. Of these events, 13 were organised by the friends of Kettle's Yard and included, studio visits, talks and behind the scenes tours. Our events programme reached a total of 7,398 people.

'The Kettle's Yard Studio Sunday offer is one of the best things to do with kids in Cambridge. My girls really engaged with the Megan Rooney exhibition after spending time thinking about colour, contrast and shapes. The teachers in the studio are brilliant, kind and supportive. We will be back in August!'

-Studio Sunday attendee, July 2024



Watch Noel Ed De Leon's 'To Set Food on this Land' performance, part of Recursions at Kettle's Yard for 'Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends.'

'It was lovely to hear Helen Petts talk and I appreciated her frank approach. I also liked hearing other members of the audience talk about their experiences of the LYC museum... inspired me to sign up as a Friend of Kettle's Yard!' - Audience member for LYC Film Screening, January 2024



Collection & Archive

Donations

In April 2024 a gift of 9 works on paper by Henri Gaudier-Brzeska (1891-1915) and one by Henry Rayner (1902-1957) were gratefully received. In July 2024 a further work on paper by Henri Gaudier-Brzeska and Catherine Yass's *Portrait: sculpture* (1995/2024) entered the collection

Archive donations during the reporting period included a selection of material given by architect David Owers relating to the design and building of the 1970 extension to Kettle's Yard; material relating to Henri Gaudier-Brzeska; and correspondence of Helen Sutherland.

Loans

Four paintings by Alfred Wallis were loaned to MAC Birmingham for the exhibition Worlds Away: Art, Nature and Wellbeing (2 September – 26 November 2023). Barbara Hepworth's 1973 Group of Three Magic Stones, and the 18th-century Delft tiles from the dining table in the house were loaned to the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, for the exhibitions Real Families: Stories of Change (6 October 2023 – 7 January 2024) and Black Atlantic: Power, People, Resistance (8 September 2023 – 7 January 2024). Helen Frankenthaler's Blue Tide was included in the exhibition Sheer Verve: The Women's International Art Club at the Ben Uri Gallery, London (13 September – 15 December 2023) and Henry Moore's Head featured in the exhibition Henry Moore in Miniature at the Holburne Museum, Bath (3 May – 8 September 2024).

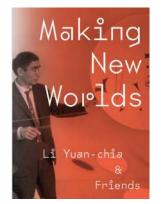
Art for Students Scheme

In October 2023 70 students borrowed 95 artworks as part of the annual Art for Students scheme. An article in the Cambridge alumni magazine CAM Mag highlighted the history of the scheme featuring interviews with former and current participants.



Publications

In 2023/24 we produced major new publications to accompany all three of our exhibitions, and the Kettle's Yard House Guide was reprinted to include new acquisitions and updated biographies.

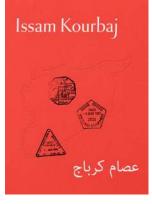


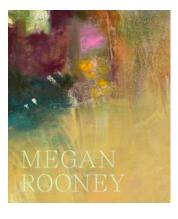
Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends £25

This book included essays by curators Amy Tobin, Hammad Nasar and Sarah Victoria Turner, as well as nine short texts by Elizabeth Fisher, Ysanne Holt, Annie Jael Kwan, Lesley Ma, Gustavo Grandal Montero, Luke Roberts, Nick Sawyer & Harriet Aspin, Nicola Simpson and Diana Yeh.

lssam Kourbaj £25

Published to accompany two substantial solo exhibitions at Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge and The Heong Gallery, Downing College, Cambridge, this new book explores the life and work of Issam Kourbaj. Edited by Guy Haywood, with texts by Åsmund Asdal, Brian Dillon, Bonnie Greer, Rana Haddad, Guy Haywood, and Prerona Prasad.





Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours £35

This major new book explores the variations in Megan Rooney's painting practice across a series of new works made for the exhibition. Three newly commissioned essays by Rebecca Birrell, Emily LaBarge and Amy Tobin, and an interview with the artist in her studio explore Rooney's practice and the resonances of her hugely captivating work.

Catherine Yass, Portrait: sculpture (1995/2024).

Research

Collection Research

The archive and collection received a high number of enquiries and research visits from academics, researchers, students and artists.

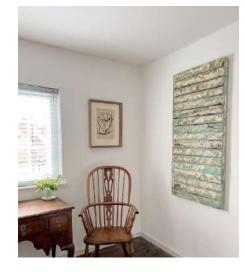
A series of stories on the Kettle's Yard website showcased new research on themes such as the influence of <u>Ottoline Morrell</u> and <u>Eugenia Errázuriz</u> for Jim Ede and the work of Edward Wolfe in the Kettle's Yard collection.

A display in Helen Ede's bedroom, titled *Turning Forms* (open from April 2024), featured works from the reserve collection on the theme of transition. An archive display in the vitrine outside the Research Space (opened June 2024) explored Jim and Helen Ede's gardens at their homes in Morocco, France and England.

House and collection curatorial staff presented papers at conferences and symposiums hosted by the Henry Moore Foundation and the Association for Art History on works in the Kettle's Yard collection. Dr Anna Reid was a Visiting Research Fellow for Cambridge Visual Culture, researching the presence of Surrealist objects and influences in the Kettle's Yard archive and collection. In May 2024, she led a masterclass and gave a public lecture on her research.

A series of participatory research workshops began in June, led by external practitioner, Shama Khanna and funded by the University of Cambridge Collections-Connections-Communities Strategic Research Initiative involved members of the Kettle's Yard Community Panel exploring and responding to the house and collection using nature as a starting point.





Art, Research and Community Dialogue in North Cambridge

Kettle's Yard was awarded funding from the Enhancing Research Culture Fund. Art, research and community dialogue in North Cambridge piloted an exploration of the embedding of community engagement in Kettle's Yard, exploring the benefits of adopting a 'philosophy of solidarity', becoming useful and relevant through working in fellowship with communities 'in conscious, equitable and interdependent relations' (Lynch 2021: 4)¹

Researcher Molly Stock-Duerdoth explored the process and impact of our project, 'Sanctuary', with artist Issam Kourbaj, as an action research project. Community participants reported feelings of value, connection and inclusion through taking part in the 'Sanctuary' project. Stock-Duerdoth's findings and reflections are informing the processes of how Kettle's Yard collaborates with our local communities in future projects and programmes to ensure such impacts can be successfully delivered.

'I feel that there is this whole community out there who will see this project and will then think about their place in Cambridge. And maybe they'll want to connect with Kettle's Yard as part of that thinking.' -Reflection from a project participant



Sanctuary at Arbury Court Library. Photo: Kettle's Yard

Music

We held 20 concerts at Kettle's Yard during the 2023/24 season and welcomed a total of 1,604 attendees. Chamber and New Music attracted generous donations over the year from individuals and trusts, enabling the prospect of steady development in the future.

Chamber Music

A total of 59 subscription tickets were sold for this series. Chamber Music Programmer Justin Lee programmed a popular season of fifteen concerts, with many concerts selling out and all being very well attended. Concerts by ensembles and individual soloists remained the most popular, with particular highlights being the Van Kuijk Quartet and pianist Boris Giltburg.

New Music

New Music Curator Tom McKinney arranged a well-liked group of four concerts from January to June 2024, each featuring musical performances which were distinctive from the Chamber Series. Each concert was well attended, often by first time ticket bookers to Kettle's Yard music. For the series we welcomed violinist Rakhi Singh, Eliza McCarthy on piano, improvising saxophonist John Butcher and lastly The Hermes Experiment. Kettle's Yard continues to develop its reputation for presenting New Music, and this was endorsed by a new significant donor.

Student Music

One evening concert was held on 7 March 2024. A substantial audience enjoyed five impressive student performers, playing harp with viola, and a piano trio. Future student music concerts are planned for forthcoming years.

'Thank you for the most glorious evening at @kettlesyard tonight, and huge thanks to @tom_mckinney for programming such a magnificent #NewMusic series in #Cambridge!' - Twitter, April 2024

'I just wanted to write you a few words about the fantastic performance at Kettle's Yard last week from the Marmen Quartet. I particularly like the Debussy Quartet and theirs was the finest I recall hearing, exciting and so together.' - Visitor, February 2024



Schools and Formal Learning

In 2023/24 the Kettle's Yard learning team welcomed:

175 in person school visits3,513 students565 teachers151 Arts Awards were achieved

Look/Make/Talk

Kettle's Yard welcomed 800 primary school pupils from Reception to Year 6, staff and volunteer parents to engage with our supported Look / Make / Talk programme. During their visit, pupils learn and apply critical and creative thinking skills to make connections, observations and explore ideas before making their own artworks to take home with them.

The pilot programme was generously supported by the Clore Duffield Foundation and provided free return transport and participation in the programme for eligible primary schools within Cambridgeshire. For many, it was their first visit to Kettle's Yard, and we were so pleased to see the pupils and staff leaving feeling inspired, excited and energised!



School visit with Look/Make/Talk. Photo: Kettle's Yard

'The practical session was FANTASTIC! All the children were so engaged. The atmosphere was buzzing!.' -Teacher who attended Look/Make/Talk



North Cambridge Academy students interviewing Issam Kourbaj

North Cambridge Academy Arts Ambassadors

Fifteen year 8 Arts Ambassadors from North Cambridge Academy discovered the work of Issam Kourbaj before having an opportunity to interview the artist for a film shown in the exhibition, *Urgent Archive*.

All of their work goes towards attaining their Arts Award Bronze qualification and championing creativity within their school and community.

'We particularly loved the interview between the artist and the children. It gave us great inspiration, left individuals moved to tears, and made us think of the value of art in response to war.'

- Visitor to the Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive exhibition

Children, Families and Young People

Children, families and young people: 2,248

Families-in-Residence

Inspired by Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends, Kettle's Yard was delighted to welcome our first Families-in-Residence.

The families spent time discovering the exhibition through creative sessions and sharing reflections and ideas with artists Hannah Jane Walker, Anna Brownsted and Hannah Kemp-Welch. This aided them to develop 3 new events and creative resources to support visiting families to engage with the exhibition.

Read about the outcomes in our blog post

Twilight at the Museums Concert

With support from the Friends of Kettle's Yard, we hosted the first family concert at Kettle's Yard with Britten Sinfonia as part of the University of Cambridge Museums Twilight at the Museums programme.

Drawing Machine

Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends explored the unique welcome for local children Li Yuan-chia's created at the LYC Museum. Li created a drawing machine which was a highlight of the children's room.

Artist Anna Brownsted worked with local children to experiment with drawing machines, and created instructions for visitors on how to use the machine. The drawing machine was a popular part of the exhibition, and the children visited it at Kettle's Yard, where they received their Arts Award certificate.



Bridges

Supported by The Mildred Fund, Bridges is a new programme at Kettle's Yard for young people aged 14-19 years. It aims to empower young people, giving them confidence and agency in art spaces by using creative exploration as a tool to support their personal and artistic growth.

Read about Bridges on our website

'I feel like today has shown me that it is not about being good at art. It is about exploring and asking questions. I feel like I will go home and reach for art for myself when I need it and not worry about whether it is always excellent – I can play and make art.'

- Bridges Participant





Adults & Access

Bread Workshop with Issam Kourbaj

Delivered in partnership with the Syrian Arts & Cultural festival, participants joined artist Issam Kourbaj and baker Alison McTaggert to explore the practice of breadmaking. Together they fostered a reflective and discursive space to knead and fold in embodied memories and inherited tales around bread.

Audio Described Tours

Browsted with students. Photo:

Kettle's Yard continues to develop a programme for blind and visually impaired visitors. Participants enjoyed a tour of *Li Yuan-chia & Friends* and *Urgent Archive*. Further sessions were delivered at CamSight events in the community to introduce Kettle's Yard. Participants felt warmly welcomed and enjoyed the opportunity to explore the artworks and themes of the exhibition together.

Community

Working closely with our local community in North Cambridge is central to our work. 'Your Kettle's Yard' is a programme which welcomes our neighbours to collaborate with Kettle's Yard and artists to be creative and curious about the world.

Community participants: 2,454 Community partners: 28





Community Panel Meeting. Photo: Kettle's Yard

Sanctuary. Photo: Kettle's Yard

Community Panel

In November 2023, we welcomed our first members to a meeting of a pilot community panel for the organisation. The community panel enables Kettle's Yard to deepen our relationships and broaden our impact, ensuring our resources are even more meaningful for our communities.

Through their involvement, the community panel members:

- Advise Kettle's Yard to effect positive change.
- Act as an ambassador for their community.
- Get to know Kettle's Yard and discover what goes on behind the scenes.
- Represent and reflect the members of all communities living or working in Cambridge.
- Discuss significant community issues and activities.

"I am particularly passionate about making our art spaces more accessible for all which doesn't always need to be explicitly executed but I believe whatever the subject matter, I have the knowledge and life experience to help reach audiences that have felt galleries are not always for them." - Member of the Community Panel

Sanctuary

Kettle's Yard was approached by Arbury Court Library to work with the community to design a set of acoustic sound panels for the library.

Together artist Issam Kourbaj and the North Cambridge community collated a catalogue of 'stories of sanctuary', told through a series of diverse objects belonging to people in the local area. Photographs of the objects in the hands of each individual were presented on the acoustic boards at the library.

Sound artist Hannah Kemp-Welch brought recordings of some of these stories together, reflecting the contributors' ideas of sanctuary through home, connection, creativity and peace.

Issam also worked with self-selecting participants to establish a final design of the panels. The panels were installed at a community celebration in March 2024.

Material Power with Corona House

Inspired by the exhibition, Material Power: Palestinian Embroidery, and with the generous support of the Barakat Trust, women from Corona House worked with exhibiting artist Aya Haidar to explore notions of 'what is home' through embroidery sessions. Haidar's practice focuses on the hidden domestic labours of women and her work often uses textiles found in the home. Haidar gave each participant a plain tea-towel and invited them to embroider 'what is home'.

Corona House provides accommodation for women who are at risk of homelessness from ages 18 – 64.



'I will always remember the sense of support and comradeship and the wonderful ideas and inspiration Aya gave me to develop my piece.' -Participant from Corona House

Engagement

Website Unique Pageviews 594,004* Participants in Community & Learning Programme 8,971

Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive 23,194

Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends 27,100

*We no longer include shop website visitors when reporting on website unique pageviews. **Total visitors to *Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours* which extended beyond the period of this report to 6 October 2024. Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours 36,310**

28 Learning and Community Partnerships

168 in person school visits to Kettle's Yard

> Total attendance from 1 August 2023 - 31 July 2024

> > 106,450

41

Communications

Kettle's Yard has continued to run focused print campaigns for exhibitions and music. Different designers were used on all three major exhibitions, inviting a unique and diverse approach for each exhibition poster. With a focus on sustainability we continued to reduce print runs where possible to minimise waste.

During 2023/24 blog posts, films, GIFs, artist interviews and other online content continued to be produced. There was growth on all social media platforms, particularly Instagram. Kettle's Yard also joined TikTok in this period and began building up an audience on the platform, aiming to target audiences aged 35 and under.

In September 2023 we launched the new Kettle's Yard website after working with Substrakt on the redevelopment. Since launching in September 2023 to July 2024 we have seen 594,004 unique page views and 211,092 users. A new digital strategy was developed to support use of the new website and other digital platforms.

During this period Kettle's Yard launched a free digital guide on the Bloomberg Connects app. Since launching the guide has recieved 560 views with the most popular audio being an introduction to the Kettle's Yard house by Jim Ede, and the most popular video a timelapse of the pebble spiral in the sunlight.



MEGAN ROONEY ECHOES & HOURS & HOURS MBER IC CONCERTS

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MUSEUMS & BOTANIC GARDEN

Visitor Comments





OQV Liked by vertie 63 and others

anvarice - Follow



So many creative projects and unique presentation styles from both Part 1 & 2 students. The atmosphere was great!

Proud that my own practice. Saunders Boston Architects was one of the snonsors

Congrats to everyone involved on a fantastic showcase of talent!

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'It's a perfect Kettle's Yard show, both in terms of the aesthetic (appreciation for natural forms, found objects and discreet interventions) and sensibility all about openness, friendship and collaboration.

- Visitor to Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends, January 2024



John Sharpe @JazzSnipe - Mar 15 I enjoyed the wonderfully bracing and restless exchanges between John Butcher and Rhodri Davies at Kettle's Yard in Cambridge last night, with my particular highlight being the skirling tenor saxophone dirge pitched against a tolling harp note in the second set.





£

Cambridge Community Development 26 February · 🚱

A few more photos of printmaking, exploring and shadow making from last weeks supported trips to the University of Cambridge Museums and Kettle's Yard! Thanks again to the museums staff for facilitating the visits and local groups and organisations that helped to get families to take up the opportunity

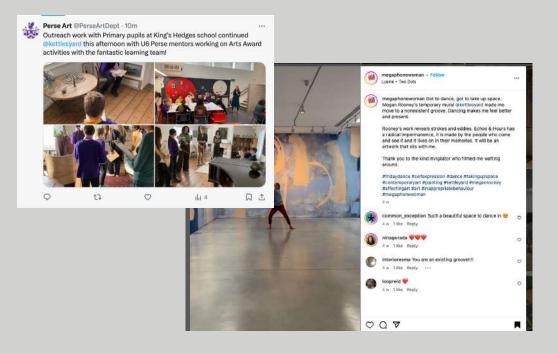


'My visit was an incredibly enriching experience, and I cannot recommend it enough to art enthusiasts. It is a cultural treasure that truly deserves to be explored.'- Visitor, December 2023

Eleanor Costello (She/Her) + 1st Visual Arts Communications & Marketing Professional 1d . 3

Really love how the team at Kettle's Yard are rethinking traditional exhibition content, inviting local school children to interview artist Issam Kourbaj for their latest film. A really great way to get communities that they're already working with involved in the organisation across departments and to keep content accessible

'Such a moving and important exhibition from Issam Kourbaj at Cambridge's Kettle's Yard opening this weekend. "Urgent Archive" is a compelling call to pay attention, to count the cost and still to hope for better days to come.' - Visitor, March 2024



Media Coverage

In 2023/24 Kettle's Yard received positive press coverage for *Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends, Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive* and *Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours.* Coverage included two 4 star reviews in the Observer, a profile interview in the Financial Times and reviews in Studio Internatioal, Apollo and local press.



Making New Worlds: Li Yuanchia and Friends







46

And a second sec

Cambridge is a beautiful city with a rich history and culture. There are many things to see and do in Cambridge, and June is a great time to visit. The weather is warm and sunny, and the city is alive with activity. Here are nine great things to do in Cambridge in June 2024: 'Syrian artist Issam Kourbaj's exhibition at Kettle's Yard... has the low buzz of a theatre foyer - a thrum of hushed conversations lanced by the occasional warm greeting or exultant reaction.' -The Natinoal on *Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive,* March 2024

PLASTER

Megan Rooney's blue fortnight

/24 Words: Matthew Holma

3 Amazin n July 20

Te l

As a ten-month winter breaks into glorious summer, Matthew Holman travels to Kettle's Vard, Cambridge to speak to Megan Rooney, who has just made a gigantic four-wall mural about the seasons. The first thing he wants to find out? How a spider seduced a moth





Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia and Friends review - the open invitation of one remarkable man



entre Greener of Backet of Barnel Greener Aylant **Sectle's Yand, Cambridge** Mark Bappened when the Chinese artist Li Yaan-chia torraed an al barn in Cambria into a free-form space that attracted werrome from Delia Dorbshine to Asch Goldsworthw? Find an in this captivating group-show

studio international

Share (X

Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive

Through his sensitive and thoughtful works, Kourbaj ensures the plight of those in his native Syria cannot be forgotten



Kettle's Yard, Cambridge 2 March – 26 May 2024 by BETH WILLIAMSON

'What is different in this instance is a real sense of convivality and friendship, being and making and working together in ways that Li would have recognised, understood and valued. Our understanding of 20th century British art is all the more richer for it.'

- Studio International on Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia & Friends, November 2023 'Megan Rooney's latest work, at Kettle's Yard in Cambridge, is a multi-hued abstraction that sends your eyes right up to the ceiling in neck-tilting amazement.'

- The Observer on Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours, June 2024

ARSITY

Taking time for art in the beautiful chaos that is a Cambridge term Popy Niller argues that although it can be tiding, it's important we took in a much art as we can during chaos of term-time













47

studio international



Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-chia and Friends

Conviviality and friendship shine through this group show exploring the works of Li Yuan-chia and that of the artist friends he showed at his LYC Museum and Art Gallery in Cumbria. Plus: contemporary artists reflect on his legacy.

Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, until 18 February 2024. Review by Beth Williamson ...

Images:

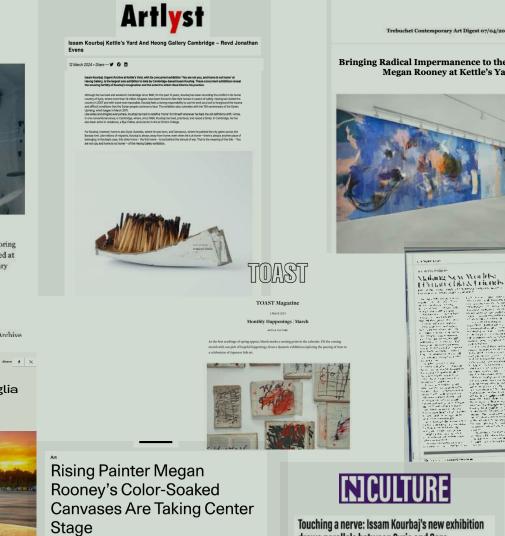
Li Yuan-chia in his studio at the LYC Museum and Art Gallery, Brampton, Cumbria, 1960, Image courtesy of Demarco Digital Archive



Gabrielle Schwarz

Jul 8, 2024 9:20A

1. Hit the beaches



TREBUCHET

Trebuchet Contemporary Art Digest 07/04/2024

Bringing Radical Impermanence to the Institution: Megan Rooney at Kettle's Yard



draws parallels between Syria and Gaza

THE GREAT WOREN ARTISTS

GWA Newsletter: July

Chloe Aridjis on Leonora Carrington; Cat Bohannon on the female body; Art and activism; and all the art you need to see, read, and listen to this month!



(until 17 A

3: Firelei Báe

She

V D C

Dear readers, July is upon us. England are in the semis, and, finally, we have a new government. There are also a ton of great shows to see and books and articles to read (scroll on). But first, a few updates!

10 Shows to See in the UK & Ireland



te: Deadweight at Whitechapel Art Gallery (until 15 Sept) ot: Remembering flowers at Sadie Coles HQ, Davis Street, London

Sueño de la Madrugada (A Midnight's Dream) at South London







STIR > BEE > FEATURES

Honouring the legacy of the artist Li Yuan-Chia at Kettle's Yard

Making New Worlds, an exhibition at the University of Cambridge's Kettle's Yard, looks closely at modern and abstract art through the artist Li Yuan-chia and his conta

by Rhea Mathur | Published on : Jan 13, 2024

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Governance & Staffing

Staff

In 2023/24 we welcomed several new staff and a number of staff moved to new roles: Meg Breckell joined as Curatorial Assistant, Adela Minarikova, Yasemin Gyford, Sid White-Jones and Mac McNaughton all took on additional roles as part of our Duty Manager Team, Kiarash Khazaei, Yasemin Gyford and Sinead O'Loghlen joined as Retail Assistants, Samantha Carrie, Jack Pate and Elizabeth McDonald joined as Visitor Assistants, Audrey Lee, Lyn Prior, Penny Klein and Molly Stock-Duerdoth as Learning Hosts, Inga Fraser joined as Senior Curator, House & Colletion, Naomi Polonsky as Assistant Curator, House & Collection, Edie Ingleby joined as Assistant to the Director & Programme Support, Hannah Walker as Young People's Programme Coordinator, Tom Allin-Roberts joined as Digital Communications Assistant, Ruby Salter joined in the role of Development Assistant, Meri Croft (previously Development Assistant) took up the role of Development Manager, and Letty Pilgrim supported a number of short-term projects as Temporary Project Administrator.

In 2023-24 we said goodbye to the following staff: Habda Rashid, Eliza Spindel, Laura Algar, Laura Moseley, Senah Tuma, Kim Watson, Anais Pronovost-Morgan, Flora Paychere, Francis Hardy and Inga Garriock.

Committee

The committee in July 2024 comprised:

Sonita Alleyne (Chair), Marjolein Wytzes, Malavika Anderson, Sarah Griffin, Helen Harwood, Favaad Iqbal, Antoinette Jackson, Alyce Mahon, Suling Mead, Nichola Steele-Williams and Luke Syson.

Music Committee

The Music Committee in July 2024 comprised: Marjolein Wytzes (Chair), Chloe Davidson, Simon White, Susi Woodhouse, Sibylle Jackson, Justin Lee and Tom McKinney.

We welcomed Ailsa McTernan as the new Student Representative to the Committee.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee in July 2024 comprised: Antoinette Jackson (Chair), Rod Cantrill, Favaad Iqbal, Sabine Jaccaud and Nick Panatti.

Thank you to all.

Friends of Kettle's Yard Committee

The Friends Committee in July 2024 comprised: Nicci Steele-Williams (Chair), Jeremy Barnett, Lucy Grabiner, Alexei Hartley, Nicki Marrian, Louisa Riley Smith

Earlier in the year Penny Heath, Sebastian Carter, Rolfe Kentish and Martin Thompson stepped down.

Many thanks to all of the voluntary Committee Members who give so much time and support to Kettle's Yard.

Volunteers

Our gratitude to the many volunteers who supported Kettle's Yard activities in 2023/24.



Staff summer party, 2024

Working Groups

Kettle's Yard has three working groups which all staff are invited to join: Access, Environmental Responsibility and Anti-Racisim. All three groups aim to meet every two months to review and improve practice at Kettle's Yard, share knowledge, and reflect on the world around us.

Access

Agenda items in 2023/24 have included access for blind and partially sighted visitors, sensory maps, volunteering opportunities, recruitment and advertising. At some meetings we have started with a discussion of a short film, audio clip or piece of writing related to disability to help us to broaden our understanding and question our approach to access.

In the Spring we reflected on recent tours for visually impaired visitors and learning from that experience. Early in 2024 we recorded British Sign Language videos introducing visitors to Kettle's Yard for use on the website as well as on site, and visitor services staff have been learning some basic BSL. A BSL film is now showing by the desk in the entrance area. In the summer, we began the process of designing sensory maps for visitors. In the summer it was agreed to commission an access audit.

Environmental Responsibility

In 2023/24 Kettle's Yard made good progress with its aim to be more sustainable. The Environmental Responsibility Policy was updated in April 2023, along with an action plan. In June 2023 we achieved our Silver Award for Green Impact, a United Nations award-winning programme designed to support environmentally and socially sustainable practice in an organisation. In March - April 2024 Kettle's Yard undertook a major heating and cooling project to improve the environmental controls in the Kettle's Yard house, with the aim of improving efficiency. Sustainability contiuned to be recognised across all aspects of Kettle's Yard, with improvements being made in exhibition design, shop packaging, and printing.

Anti-Racism

Over 2023/24 Kettle's Yard staff have reviewed and reflected upon a range of antiracism resources, and in doing so have updated language and terminology used in internal and external communications. The Anti-Racism Working Group began meeting in April to co-edit and update our Anti-Racism Action Plan, including introducing detail on planned schedules and achievements. A member of the Kettle's Yard staff team is currently chair of the Change Makers Action Group at the University of Cambridge, which supports conversations about diversity and representation among the University of Cambridge Museums and their audiences.

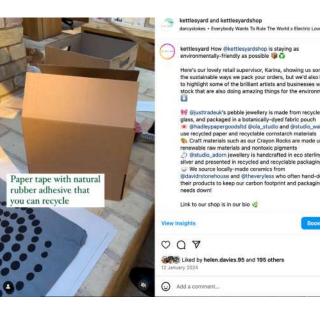
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British Sign Language Video on



Commercial Activity

Shop

In September 2023, the shop was named as one of the "Best Museum Gift Shops in the World" by the Financial Times. Shop sales exceeded expectations for the year, bolstered by a 19% increase in online sales. Online sales represented 22% of retail sales for the year, up from 17% in 2022/23.

Our best-selling product for Christmas 2023 was Kit Wood's Hat, a hand-knitted hat inspired by the jumper in Christopher Wood's Self Portrait. Designed and made in collaboration with fair trade suppliers Just Trade and Aura Que, the initial batch sold out within 24 hours following an Instagram post. The hat won the Best Product award in the Association of Cultural Enterprises Awards 2024.

We have continued to support a wide range of designer-makers in the shop, including ceramicists, jewellers and illustrators. In October 2023, we commissioned local printmaker Little Enn to design a recipe journal and label set inspired by the medlar tree in the Kettle's Yard garden, telling the story of the medlar jelly made by a Kettle's Yard Visitor Assistant each year.

Café

The Garden Kitchen turnover and contribution to Kettle's Yard increased by 7% for 2023/24.

Working with the Garden Kitchen, Kettle's Yard introduced Daily Delegate Packages - coffee, lunch, afternoon tea packages at fixed prices - for meeting and away day customers. This made it easier to create a bespoke package depending on client budgets and needs, whilst also being more manageable for staff.

During Winter 2023 and Summer 2024 we hosted two LATE evening events. At these events the Garden Kitchen offered a special menu of seasonal food and drinks to enjoy. The Garden Kitchen continues to be a very important part of the Kettle's Yard brand offering visitors responsibly sourced, freshly prepared vegan and vegetarian food and a warm and friendly atmosphere.

'The food was exceptionally good. Much better than one expects from a museum cafe. I enjoyed the soup so much that I got a chance to speak with the chef and ask about the ingredients. Lovely staff as well.'- Visitor to the café

Venue Hire

Private event bookings continued to build across 2023/24, resulting in a 43% increase in total revenue with the average income per event increasing to over £1,600. The increase in average revenue results from Kettle's Yard focussing on high value events, the introduction of the Kettle's Yard wine list, and our aim to put the exhibition and collection at the heart of each event.

In July a new edition of the <u>Kettle's Yard Private Events brochure</u> launched both as a download from the Kettle's Yard website and in a printed form.

'The tour of the exhibition was fantastic and all our guests were very happy - the guide was excellent and all of your hosts lovely and very welcoming. Thank you very much for a wonderful evening.' - Venue Hire Client



Funding & Supporters

2023/24 has been another successful year, which would not have been possible without the generous support of individual donors, Trusts and Foundations, Arts Council England and the University of Cambridge. Kettle's Yard gives heartfelt thanks to all those who have supported exhibitions, music, joined the Friends and Patrons schemes, become corporate partners and donated on site. Thank you for all you have helped us achieve.

Patrons

The Patrons continue to be a vital source of regular income for Kettle's Yard contributing to overall core costs as well as individual projects and exhibition circles. Their generous support enables Kettle's Yard to commission artists, plan conservation projects and deliver an innovative programme.

This year a varied events programme both online and in person was presented, including exclusive visits to exhibitions held at other institutions including the V&A, Tate Modern and Frieze Art Fair. Intimate tours and talks were offered by the Kettle's Yard curatorial team and Director, focusing on their experience working with the house and collection and presenting world-class exhibitions.

The Friends of Kettle's Yard

The Friends of Kettle's Yard raised over £47,000 through their membership and events programmes this year. We held three onsite events, 10 offsite events and one online event, including exclusive visits to private collections, talks from international artists, and behind-the-scenes tours of galleries in London, Cambridge and further afield.

The Friends financial contribution enabled essential conservation and preservation of our artworks and objects, as well as vital outreach to our community. The Friends provided a grant to the Twilight at the Museums Family Concert with Britten Sinfonia. This event allowed families to experience their first concert at Kettle's Yard together. The 'Once Upon a Time' concert brought together music and visual arts to engage its younger audience with the essence of Kettle's Yard.

The Friends of Kettle's Yard also provided a grant for the Development Assistant salary of £16,500, enabling the organisation to administer and steward its vital base of donors and assist the Friends Committees.

Exhibition Circle

Making New Worlds: Li Yuan-Chia & Friends was generously supported by the Paul Mellon Centre and a £20,000 donation from the Ministry of Culture Taiwan. 10 generous individuals joined the Exhibition Circle for Issam Kourbaj: Urgent Archive raising £6,900. The supporters circle for Megan Rooney: Echoes & Hours was equally supportive, with gifts from Thaddaeus Ropac and 13 individuals raising over £56,000.

Partnerships

We continued to receive valuable financial and in-kind support from City Asset Management PLC, A Practice for Everyday Life, David Zwirner, Anna's Flower Farm, Murray Edwards College, Langham Press and Resolute AV.

Music

The continued success of our New Music and Chamber Music Programmes this year prompted \pounds 18,799 in donations to the Music fund.

Thank you.



Patrons Visit to Tate Modern. Photo: Sarah Larby

Supporters 2023/24

Public Investment

Arts Council England Research England

Director's Circle

Dr Carol Atack and Alex van Someren, Sir Charles and Lady Chadwyck-Healey, John and Jennifer Crompton, Samantha de Reus and Felix Zhang, Sarah and Gerard Griffin, Dr Andy Harter CBE and Lily Bacon, Ruth Rattenbury, Guy Vesey, Tamsin and Stewart Wilkinson.

Ede Circle

Michael Allen OBE & Marjolein Wytzes, Stuart Ansell, Dr Sophie Bowness, Angela Choon, Eve Corder, David Cleevely CBE & Rosalind Cleevely, Nicholas Crompton, Jennifer Crouch, Professor Martin & Dr Claire Daunton, Emma Davis, Sean Gorvy, Tim Llewellyn OBE, Anne Lonsdale CBE, Nicki & Christie Marrian, James & Melanie McLaren, Suling Chan Mead, Keith Moffat, Joanna Prior, James Ross-Russell, Jonathan & Nicole Scott, Professor Elizabeth Simpson OBE, Robin Vousden, Lord Wilson of Dinton.

Supporters

Arts Council England, Jonathan Anderson, Stuart Ansell, Carol Atack & Alex van Someren, Rana Begum, The Binks Trust, Sarah Bowness & family in memory of Alan Bowness, Sonja & Martin J. Brand, Cambridge City Council, Cambridge County Council, Sir Charles & Lady Chadwyck-Healey, Suling Chan Mead, David Cleevely CBE & Rosalind Cleevely, The Clore Duffield Foundation, Cosman Keller Art and Music Trust, John and Jennifer Crompton, Nicholas Crompton, Richard Crowther, Professor Martin & Dr Claire Daunton, Emma Davis, De Reus Foundation, Shirley Ellis, Virginia Forbes, Antony Gormley, Sarah and Gerard Griffin, Dr Martin H. Johnson, Dr Andy Harter CBE and Lily Bacon, Callum Innes, Sabine Jaccaud, Jennifer Lee, Louisa Macmillan, Nicki and Christie Marrian, James and Melanie McLaren, The Mildred Fund, The Paul Mellon Centre, Cornelia Parker, Vicken Parsons, The Polonsky Foundation, The Porthmeor Fund, Bianca and Stuart Roden, Sir Paul Ruddock & Lady Jill Shaw Ruddock CBE, Ministry of Culture Taiwan, University of Cambridge, Edmund de Waal, Caroline Walker, Ai Weiwei, Guy Weston and Ina Sarikhani Weston.

Corporate Support

AstraZeneca, City Asset Management, David Zwirner, Anna's Flower Farm, Murray Edwards College, A Practice for Everyday Life, Langham Press, LOEWE, Thaddaeus Ropac, Resolute AV.

With special thanks to the Friends of Kettle's Yard and all those who wish to remain anonymous.

Thank you to the following







Anna's Flower Farm

A Practice for Everyday Life







David Zwirner









RESOLUTE AV

Thaddaeus Ropac London Paris Salzburg Seoul

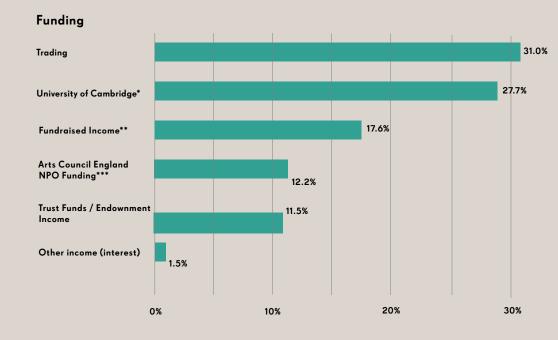


Accounts

The net income position at the close of the 2023-24 financial year demonstrates a stable overall financial performance, with income increasing by 2% and expenditure rising by 4% compared to the previous year. This result comes amid a period of investment in recent revenue streams, a month-long closure of the Kettle's Yard house for improvements, and decreased employer's pension contribution rates.

Core income has continued to benefit from support provided by the University toward rebuilding Kettle's Yard's endowment fund, while trading remains strong. A delayed Education grant as well as delayed Exhibition costs will feature in the accounts next year.

	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Core funding	1,406,818	1,512,049	(105,231)
Exhibitions	180,036	267,205	(87,169)
House	2,683	12,681	(9,998)
Music	86,312	48,895	37,417
Education	51,438	58,362	(6,924)
Community	20,583	31,161	(10,578)
Individual Giving	209,203	51,899	157,304
Trading	477,842	285,806	192,036
Surplus/(Deficit) before planned expenditure from reserves	2,472,620	2,268,058	204,562
Assets			
	l general funds		430,552
Surplus/(Deficit) before planned 2,472,620 2,268,058 expenditure from reserves Assets Unrestricted Reserves Balance carried forward - Unrestricted general funds Balance carried forward - Unrestricted general funds (held in investments) Specific and Designated Reserves			445,198
	•		113,170
Specific and Designated Reserves			
Balance carried forward			1,739,594
Permanent Endowment Account			
Balance carried forward			7,784,171
Total Assets			10,400,235



* includes funding from University of Cambridge to support growth of the Endowment Jim and Helen Ede Fund

** includes £13,500 project grant from Cambridge City Counil

*** NPO = National Portfolio Organisation

