

## ICA PROGRAMME APRIL – JUNE 2025

Today, the ICA is pleased to share its extensive April – June season with many more programmes due to be announced in the coming weeks. This evolving season will continue to bring together new voices across live music, visual art, film and talks, reaffirming the ICA's commitment to championing contemporary culture in all its complexity and urgency.



Diasporas Now co-founders Lulu Wang, Rieko Whitfield, Paola Estrella.

## A SEASON WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

Across disciplines, the April – June 2025 programme reflects a commitment to artistic risk-taking, critical discourse, and cultural dialogue. With an expanded focus on live performance, landmark exhibitions, talks and a cinematic programme that spans contemporary and historical perspectives, the ICA invites audiences to engage with a Spring season that celebrates the interconnectivity between different artforms.

### Highlights include:

- The launch of three new programmes:
  - ***ICA Speaking Futures***, a flagship programme of yearlong talks, performance and workshops, in collaboration with performance collective Diasporas Now
  - ***In the Studio***, an artist talk series spotlighting artists and bringing them into dialogue with our audiences

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- *The Pulse*, an inaugural network platform for new creative practice across visual arts, music and cinema.
- Live performance dates as part of **Nora Turato**'s UK debut exhibition, *pool7*
- The introduction of a new Book Fair, titled **GLUE**
- Further details on **Lubaina Himid** and the ICA presents **Connecting Thin Black Lines 1985 – 2025**
- Live performances from **Maria Somerville, Hania Rani, mark william lewis, YHWH Nailgun, Coined (Astrid Sonne & Fine), Circuit Des Yeux** and more.
- The film programme dedicates seasons to the Portuguese production house **Terratreme**, as well as surreal Polish director **Wojciech Jerzy Has**.

## LIVE

This spring, the **ICA's live programme** continues with a series of performances that cut across genre lines, each embracing an uncompromising approach to sonic exploration. The season promises debut performances, exclusive collaborations, and immersive spatial audio experiences.

The season launches on 1 April with **mark william lewis**. Already a cult figure in London's underground scene, the singer-songwriter and producer's hazy alt-rock experiments releases have earned wide acclaim. The following night on 2 April, **YHWH Nailgun** – a four-piece from NYC known for their primal, shape-shifting energy – bring their raw, unrelenting sound to the ICA stage.

On 10 April, **The Orchestra (For Now)** present their debut EP, *Plan 75*, having rapidly built a cult following for their high-intensity live shows. The next evening, on 11 April, renowned DJ's **Hannah Holland and Lydia Garnett** blur the boundaries between sound and cinema, curating a one-off club night to celebrate their short music film, *Last Exit on Bethnal*.

The season continues with genre-defying performances from **Jamilah Barry** (April 12) and **Leifur James** (April 17). On 16 April, **These New Puritans** present a one-night only installation unveiling their new record *Crooked Wing* in full on the d&b Soundscape system.

On 22 April, pianist and composer **Hania Rani** unveils *Chilling Bambino*, a solo work presented in immersive **live spatial audio**.

On 29 April, Scenic Route kicks off their ICA-hosted series celebrating collaboration, with live sets from the Danish powerhouse duo, **Coined, aka Astrid Sonne & Fine** and **Anysia Kym & Jadasea**, exploring musical synchronisation and oscillation.

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As the season unfolds, expect standout sets from some of the most compelling new voices in music, **Dawuna** (April 30), Super Furry Animals' new side project **Das Koolies** (May 7) and **Maria Somerville** (May 10). May will see expansive sonic experiences grace the stage with artists whose work stretches the boundaries of the human voice with avant-garde figures **Circuit Des Yeux** performing on May 14 and rising vocal collective **NYX** will present their new eponymous album on May 23.

Further performances throughout the season will expand the possibilities of live sound, with details to be announced, including new d&b Soundscape shows.

The full programme of Live events is available at [ica.art/live](https://ica.art/live)

## EXHIBITIONS

*pool7* (9 April – 8 June) sees **Nora Turato** bring her signature fusion of language, media, and performance to the ICA in her first UK solo exhibition. Known for her incisive critique of contemporary communication and its discontents, Turato's work straddles the space between advertising and poetry, high and low culture. *pool7* extends her exploration of linguistic consumption and overload, where she manipulates text and voice with precision and urgency. The exhibition run will include an artist talk, a text activation workshop led by Alessia Arcuri, and two consecutive nights of new thought-provoking performances by Nora Turato (5 & 6 June). Sobs, screams and cries will burst through her improv-inspired monologues, tapping into reactions we suppress.

In collaboration with Turner Prize winner, **Lubaina Himid**, the ICA presents **Connecting Thin Black Lines 1985 – 2025** (24 June – 7 September), celebrating 40 years since *The Thin Black Line*, the groundbreaking exhibition held at the ICA in 1985. Featuring works by **Brenda Agard, Sutapa Biswas, Sonia Boyce, Chila Kumari Singh Burman, Jennifer Comrie, Himid, Claudette Johnson, Ingrid Pollard, Veronica Ryan, Marlene Smith, and Maud Sulter**, the exhibition marks the first time their work will be shown together again, alongside new commissions and pieces created over the past four decades. The show will be accompanied by a rich programme of events.

For more information about the exhibition programme, visit [ica.art/exhibitions](https://ica.art/exhibitions)

## FILM

The ICA's celebrated cinema programme brings together landmark retrospectives, contemporary film, and festival collaborations. **Spectres: The Cinema of Jacques Rivette** (20 February – 1 June) continues its exploration of the radical

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narrative structures and durational experiments of the French filmmaker, while *In Focus: Sylvain George* (4 – 6 April) presents the politically charged work of a documentarian committed to capturing the lived realities of migration and resistance.

The ICA also presents a season dedicated to *Terratreme* (4 April – 26 June), one of the most vital production companies in Portuguese cinema today, alongside *The Long Strange Trips of Wojciech Jerzy Has* (5 – 26 April), spotlighting the Polish director's surreal and visionary storytelling. Meanwhile, *Caught by the Tides* (from 11 April) launches the latest instalment of **Off-Circuit**, the ICA's space for this generation's medium-redefining filmmakers. Additional highlights include the return of *Queer East* (23 April – 18 May), a retrospective of **Lucy Baretto** (24 April – 2 May), and collaborations with *Open City Documentary Festival* (6 – 11 May) and *SAFAR Film Festival* (11 – 18 June). Off-Circuit will continue throughout the season, with further titles to be announced.

Our film programme encompasses over 50 weekly screenings, updated every Monday to include new releases and extended runs. For our full schedule, please visit [ica.art/films](https://ica.art/films)

## TALKS AND ENGAGEMENT

ICA's Talks and Engagement continues to be a platform that provides space for urgent cultural conversations, foregrounding artists and creatives working across visual arts, music and contemporary culture.

April sees the launch of *ICA Speaking Futures* (April 2025 – April 2026), a new flagship talks, performance and workshop programme exploring the intersection between art and life and celebrating artists as catalysts for imagining and shaping the future. For the first yearlong season of *Speaking Futures*, the ICA is collaborating with **Diasporas Now** – a platform of expanded performance by the global majority. *Speaking Futures* × *Diasporas Now* will develop a cross-cultural programme of exchange and knowledge production, gathering artists together, sharing urgent discussions and inviting audiences to shape the journey. Together we will explore how art practice can provide strategies for dreaming new futures. Special events around this programme includes open studio performances in collaboration with 198 Contemporary Arts and Learning. Taking place across ICA and 198, the first session will be led by artist Joshua Woolford at ICA (13 May). *Speaking Futures* × *Diasporas Now* is in partnership with AnOther magazine.

This April, the ICA also launches *In the Studio*, an artist talk series spotlighting artists and bringing them into dialogue with audiences. The programme kicks off with New York-based artist **Baseera Khan** (2 April) in conversation with MOMA

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curator Matha Joseph. Marking their first London solo show at Niru Ratnam Gallery, *Pocket Diary*, this is the first time Khan will be in conversation about their work in London. Working across painting, sculpture, installation and performance, Khan poetically navigates issues around cultural identities, gender and desire. This is followed by a special UK talk with The International Association of Art Critics (AICA) led by art critic and historian **Élisabeth Lebovici** (16 April) and a book launch of **Vishaan Chakrabarti's** 'The Architecture of Urbanity: Designing for Nature, Culture, and Joy' (17 April).

**The Pulse** programme also begins this season. The inaugural network platform will showcase new and emerging practices in zine culture, literature, music, and new technologies – making space for experiential projects and collaborations. Looking ahead, the **GLUE Book Fair and Creative Programme** launches on 13 & 14 September. Celebrating emerging artists, self-publishing and DIY book makers across the visual arts, GLUE will also bring together established publishers with emerging artists and new practice. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of London's newest book fair that has a unique spotlight on new practice and emerging artists. To apply for a publishers table, [click here](#).

Continuing into Term 3, the **ICA Creatives: Youth Forum** offers free artist-led creative workshops for people aged 16–30. The 2025/26 edition takes a genre-fluid approach to creativity in collaboration with artist collective **Pesolife**. Term 3 (12 April – 28 June) invites 20 young people to explore creative video making with Kalina Blaize.

What does youth voice sound like at ICA? We are navigating this collectively with young people through ICA Creatives: Youth Forum. During this 6-month programme, five young creatives are working with artists and practitioners gaining skills in interpretation, creative writing, DIY radio and archiving. Reimagining how art is experienced and interpreted by our audiences, participants will work with artist **Hannah Catherine Jones** (foxymoron) to create a sound piece in response to the upcoming exhibition *Connecting Thin Black Lines 1985 – 2025* at the ICA in June.

For our full programme of Talks and Engagement [click here](#).

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Members get free, discounted and priority-access tickets across our programme. Learn more at [ica.art/become-a-member](https://ica.art/become-a-member).

## Editions and merchandise

- Nora Turato limited edition launches in April to coincide with her solo exhibition, *pool7* at the ICA
- ICA x Nora Turato sweatshirt designed by the artist releases in April to coincide with *pool7*
- New in the Bookshop – an exclusive collection of archive posters from celebrated exhibitions, gigs, and talks at the ICA; and a new tote bag based on a classic design from the ICA archive.

Visit [shop.ica.art](https://shop.ica.art).

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## About the Institute of Contemporary Arts:

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) is London's leading space for contemporary culture. We commission, produce and present new work in film, music, performance and the visual arts by today's most progressive artists. In our landmark home on The Mall in central London, we invite artists and audiences to interrogate what it means to live in our world today, with a genre-fluid programme that challenges the past, questions the present and confronts the future.

The ICA platforms the daring and the curious, supporting artists and ideas that challenge perceptions, inspire social change, and connect with diverse audiences locally and globally. As a space for bold, boundary-pushing creativity, we cultivate connections across disciplines, communities, and cultures. Our cross-disciplinary programming invites audiences to explore beyond the boundaries of individual art forms, fostering experimentation and the discovery of new perspectives. Open to all voices and ideas, we embrace interplay and interaction across club nights, film festivals, gigs, exhibitions, talks, and digital art. With inclusivity and collaboration at the heart of our work, we remain fearless in shaping contemporary creativity, connecting diverse voices, and making unexpected connections that define the future of arts and culture.

Our history of presenting and promoting visionary new art is unrivalled in London: from Kenneth Anger to Kathy Acker, Kano to Klein, Jackson Pollock to Jean-Michel Basquiat, Gay Sweatshop to Forensic Architecture, David Bowie to Stormzy, Pop Art to queer techno. Today, as ever, our inclusive programme reflects and represents who we are as a disparate and diverse collection of cultures and identities.

Exactly 78 years after a group of artists and poets founded the ICA as an alternative to the mainstream, we are committed more than ever to pave the way for the next generation and to platform creative voices. The ICA continues to celebrate risk and champion innovation, and experimentation across the arts – a playground and a home for today's most vital artists.

Central to the ICA's vision and mission is a commitment to diversity, equality, and inclusion at all levels of the organisation. We want to create and maintain an ICA that is a positive environment where similarities and differences of people are valued – a space where everyone belongs and feels welcome. We hold ourselves accountable through our regularly reviewed Anti-Racism Strategic Plan; Equality and Diversity Policy and Action Plan; and Safety Policy.

Since its inception, the ICA has been the home of future-thinking ideas and urgent cultural discourse. We are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment that encourages dialogue and debate, recognising that differing viewpoints are essential to the advancement of contemporary arts and culture.

The ICA is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

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## Press Enquiries

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To download press images, visit [ICA's Dropbox](#)

## Visitor Information

Monday: Closed

Tuesday to Thursday: 4pm – 11pm

Friday to Sunday: 12pm – 11pm

Exhibitions close at 9pm. For further information about opening times of our box office, bar and cafe, please visit: [ica.art/visit-contact](http://ica.art/visit-contact)

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## Access

If you have an access requirement that we can assist you with, please contact us in advance of your visit for more information at [access@ica.art](mailto:access@ica.art) and we will make our best endeavours to help you. Full venue accessibility information can be found here, and you can download an accessibility map of the venue at [ica.art/media/01795.pdf](http://ica.art/media/01795.pdf)