

# ARNOLFINI

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Arnolfini to explore history of resistance in Bristol with major exhibition

*Still I Rise: Act 3*

14 September - 15 December 2019



*Exhibition image (left): Immolation IV by Judy Chicago 1972.*

*Courtesy of the artist, Salon 94, New York, and Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco*

*Arnolfini image (right): credit Jamie Woodley*

Arnolfini, Bristol's international centre for contemporary art, will stage a major exploration celebrating the city's history as a hotbed of radical feminist and queer resistance, placing the work of local artists and collectives alongside individuals and groups from around the world, from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

*Still I Rise: Feminisms, Gender, Resistance - Act 3* will be in its main gallery spaces 14 September – 15 December, and focuses on stories of international resistance movements and alternative forms of living from a gendered perspective.

With over 100 exhibits by some 70 practitioners, *Still I Rise* presents the way in which resistance has been approached by visual artists, writers, architects, designers, activists, working as individuals or in groups.

The exhibition also references key historic moments including the Civil Rights Movement, resistance against dictatorships in Latin America in the 1960s–70s, independence movements against colonial rule in Africa and Haiti, the Women's Liberation Movement, the AIDS crisis and the Stonewall Rebellion.

The exhibition, which is free to visit, responds to local conversations about Bristol's legacy in the Transatlantic Slave Trade by focusing on black feminist artwork and activism. It also looks at the

histories of feminist movements out of Bristol, by featuring a range of material from Feminist Archive South. Initiated in 1978 and based in Bristol, FAS is said to be the UK's first archive of feminist writing, publications, and donated material.

Arnolfini will present an extensive programme of events around the exhibition, including live performances, artist talks and screenings. The programme has been created in collaboration with Arnolfini's local cultural partners, including In Between Time, Circus City Festival, and University of the West of England (UWE Bristol). These partnerships, along with a wide network of local cultural partners, ensure the organisation continues to be a place of culture, enjoyment, education and inspiration for everyone.

Arnolfini's popular families programme also restarts, with monthly events: all-day drop-in artist-led workshops will allow children to get seriously creative while expending some energy, and more focused sessions with storytelling, collaborative art making and performance workshops will welcome those who like a quieter family experience.

Throughout the opening period 'relaxed openings', organised with local community organisations, will ensure the building is welcoming for visitors with specific access requirements such as quiet spaces, guided tours, and audio descriptions.

The exhibition also includes works by a range of Bristol-based artists including Bryony Gillard (recently shortlisted for the Jerwood/FVU Award), Young In Hong, and the late Monica Sjöö, who lived and worked in Bristol for much of her life.

The exhibition opens in Bristol following critical acclaim for previous iterations at Nottingham Contemporary and De La Warr Pavilion.

Kieran Swann, Head of Programme at Arnolfini, says:

"It's brilliant to be relaunching Arnolfini's exhibitions programme with *Still I Rise* – a hugely significant exhibition celebrating the triumphs of women around the world. Between the exhibition, performances, workshops and talks there is a whole range of unique and exciting experiences. As Bristol's international centre for contemporary art, we are dedicated to keeping the urgent and relevant conversations of our daily lives at the fore of what we do – through a programme that combines extraordinary, international contemporary art alongside the work of our brilliant artists who call Bristol home."

Arnolfini is an independent charity, supported by Arts Council England. It is now part of UWE Bristol, which also owns Bush House, the distinctive waterfront building the gallery has inhabited since 1975.

*Still I Rise - Act 3* runs from 14 September – 15 December 2019.

Act 1: 27 Oct 2018 – 27 Jan 2019, Nottingham Contemporary

Act 2: 9 Feb – 2 Jun 2019, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea

## **ENDS**

For more information about Arnolfini contact [arnolfini@fourcommunications.com](mailto:arnolfini@fourcommunications.com)

### Exhibiting artists and collectives include:

Amina Ahmed, Jane Addams / Hull House, Barby Asante, Alice Constance Austin, Xenobia Bailey, Glenn Belverio (Glennnda Orgasm), Shirley Bruno, Micha Cárdenas, CARYATIDS (Chicks in Architecture Refuse to Yield to Atavistic Thinking in Design and Society) (Carol Crandall, Kay Janis and Sally Levine), Carolina Caycedo, Judy Chicago, Phyllis Christopher, Jackie Collins and Pat Garrett, Jamie Crewe, Blondell Cummings, Gille de Vlieg, Dyke Action Machine!, Gran Fury, Feminist Land Art Retreat, Guo Fengyi, fierce pussy (Nancy Brooks Brody, Joy Episalla, Zoe Leonard, and Carrie Yamaoka), Jeneen Frei Njootli, Eduardo Gil, Anna Halprin, Margaret Harrison, Rachael House, Hayv Kahraman, Corita Kent, Donna Kukama, Suzanne Lacy with Corey Madden, Zoe Leonard, Mary Lowndes, Kristin Luke and Minna Haukka, Vali Mahlouji / Archaeology of the Final Decade, with works by Kaveh Golestan, Alex Martinis Roe, Barbara McCullough, Ana Mendieta, Louise Michel and Communardes, Ad Minoliti, Ni Una Menos, *Josèfa* Njtam, Okwui Okpokwasili, Albert Potrony, Brenda Prince, Queer Yale Archive / YAMP (Yale AIDS Memorial Project), Raju Rage, Tabita Rezaire, Monica Ross, Lala Rukh, Zorka Ságlová, Victoria Santa Cruz, See Red Women's Workshop, Judy Seidman (Medu Art Ensemble), Turner Prize 2019 nominee Tai Shani, Pamela Singh, Monica Sjöö, Terence Smith (Joan Jett Blakk), Linda Stupart, Ramaya Tegegne, Jala Wahid, Faith Wilding, Women Against Pit Closures, Zadie Xa, Osías Yanov.

### Screening programme including works by:

Bryony Gillard, Lis Rhodes, Tanya Syed, Tourmaline.

### Performance, public workshops, and events by:

Cigdem Aydemir, Ira Brand, Angela Goh, Young In Hong, Erin Markey, QTIPOC Family, Split Britches, Keijaun Thomas (recently nominated for the 2019 ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art).

### Archival research and curation by:

Amy Budd, Albert Potrony, and D-M Withers.

The exhibition is a collaboration between Nottingham Contemporary, De La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill-on-Sea, and Arnolfini in Bristol; and is curated by Irene Aristizábal (Head of Curatorial and Public Practice, BALTIC), Rosie Cooper (Head of Exhibitions, De La Warr Pavilion), and Cédric Fauq (Curator, Nottingham Contemporary), with Kieran Swann (Head of Programme, Arnolfini) for Act 3.

## About Arnolfini

Woven into the fabric of Bristol since 1961, Arnolfini is a pioneer of interdisciplinary contemporary arts, presenting an ambitious programme of visual art, performance, dance, film and music. Housed in a Grade II listed, fully-accessible building at the heart of the harbourside, Arnolfini is an inspiring public space for contemporary arts and learning, welcoming half a million visitors each year and offering an innovative, inclusive and engaging experience for all. An internationally-renowned institution, Arnolfini supports and develops work by living artists, investigating their influences and aspirations, and celebrates the heritage and wide-reaching impact of the organization by sharing a 55 year archive of exhibition slides, publications and artist book collection with the public and artists, inspiring new commissions.

2019 is a year of new beginnings for Arnolfini as they re-open their spaces. Collaboration will be at the centre of this approach as Arnolfini explore again their role as Bristol's International Centre for Contemporary Arts. Arnolfini look forward to sharing and developing many new projects as the year progresses.

Find out more about Arnolfini, *Still / Rise*, and current programme of events at [www.arnolfini.org.uk](http://www.arnolfini.org.uk)