



O N C A ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

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ABOUT O N C A

Creating space for change.

O N C A is a combined arts venue in the UK whose primary focus is on ecology: deepening community awareness and engagement with environmental and social change. From our gallery space in Brighton, we curate and support a wide range of arts events and activities, all of which respond in some way to environmental change or pressing social issues.

Since November 2012, our programme of exhibitions and outreach has engaged artists, scientists and the general public in vibrant discourse about the environment.

O N C A is a constantly evolving vehicle for reaching out to new diverse audiences, creating links with local community action groups and co-operatives, and capturing the imaginations of passers by, people local to the region and beyond.

O N C A believes that the arts are capable of catalysing dramatic shifts within society. Our mission is to inspire positive action in response to current cultural and environmental urgencies, through creativity, courage, collaboration, playfulness, learning and impact.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

Objectives and aims

The objects of the charity are:

1. To raise awareness of environmental and conservation issues through the arts.
2. To promote educational initiatives relating to art and conservation.
3. To raise funds to support conservation projects.

Our mission: O N C A supports the wellbeing of people and places by increasing awareness of, and engagement with, environmental and social challenges. It is a space for meeting, thinking, learning and celebrating art, always encouraging artists and audiences to ask big questions about difficult issues. O N C A embraces diverse perspectives and needs by modelling and fostering inclusive creative practices. We are proud to help people imagine, and move towards, thriving futures. To do this, we partner with local and international artists and organisations. We specialise in creative learning projects with children and young people. We do all this from our gallery and performance space in Brighton, UK, where we host a range of events – some led and curated by us, and some by visiting artists and companies who hire the gallery. Upstairs at O N C A we also run workspaces for artists, charities and businesses.



THE TEAM

The team is led by O N C A's Director, Persephone Pearl who has been involved with O N C A since 2012. Alongside Persephone is a core team of staff: Lu-Lu Evans (Business & Operations Manager), Lydia Heath (Gallery Manager), Ellie Liddell-Crewe (Art & Outreach Officer), and Susuana Amoah (Gallery Supervisor). In addition to the core team O N C A is extremely lucky to be supported by a passionate and committed group of volunteers and interns.

The team is aided by a board of Trustees which includes: Laura Coleman (Founder and Chair); Dr Julie Doyle, Reader in Media Studies at Brighton University and expert in climate change communication; Dr Eva Coleman, Director of The Phoenix Therapy Practice; Helena Joyce, a creative industries development specialist previously at Cultural Industries Development Agency (CIDA) and the Arts Council; Michelle Westbury, Chartered Accountant, specialising in audit work for charities; ecological artist and director Clare Whistler; Bridget McKenzie, cultural consultant, founding director of Flow Associates and former head of learning at the British Library; Imani Robinson, writer, curator and facilitator.

Honorary Patrons include Green MP Caroline Lucas, writers Robert MacFarlane and Ali Smith and artist Chris Drury.

TRAPPIST-1

ONCA is inspirational
and fascinating. ☺

I would like to see
beautiful people doing
work that makes
us think!

SPACE
SOME ART OUT

ONCA is
a place for
art + design
I hope to see
many more
people doing
work that makes
us think!

FINANCIAL REVIEW

O N C A is working hard to become financially sustainable, whilst also continuing to deliver an innovative and thought-provoking programme built around strategic partnerships and artistic quality. Project support from partners such as Arts Council England and Action for Deafness continues to help O N C A to develop its vision of interdisciplinary arts practice and its commitment to inclusivity, and to offer supportive ways of helping propagate work e.g. residencies, mentoring and outreach with harder-to-reach groups (including Deaf and BME).

Income and endowments from:	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2018	Total 2017
Donations and legacies	£4,430	-	£4,430	£2,777
Charitable activities	£79,490	£45,980	£125,470	£112,198
Other income	£398	-	£398	£2,082
Total income	£84,228	£45,980	£130,208	£117,057
Expenditure on:	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2018	Total 2017
Charitable activities	£99,783	£42,869	£142,652	£126,371



“The painting is a study in light and shadow, capturing the vibrant colors and textures of the tropical forest. The use of bold, expressive brushstrokes adds a sense of movement and energy to the scene.”

2017-18 HIGHLIGHTS

Mephitic Air (Brighton Digital Festival)

Crossover Point (House Biennial)

Extinct Icons & Ritual Burials (RDLS)

The Whole Is Other, Than The Sum Of Its Parts (Graduate Monthly)

SHUT DOWN (Vincent Dance Theatre / Brighton Festival)

Stuck (HOAX Theatre)

We Almost Didn't Make It (Beverly Naidus)

Dreams of Disguise (Irene Fubara-Manuel)



MEPHITIC AIR: September - October 2017



515 visitors

Wesley Goatley and Tobias Revell, Brighton Digital Festival / Laurence Hill

Mephitic Air was a data sonification and visualisation installation that explored new immersive methods of understanding the local and global systems of air pollution, and the data through which it is measured. This work was originally made in consultation with the Environmental Research Group at King's College London, and shown at Somerset House, London as part of Utopia 2016, and the London Design Festival 2016.

HOUSE BIENNIAL: October 2017



371 visitors

Crossover Point, Becky Warnock

Crossover Point was a community project led by artist Becky Warnock for HOUSE Biennial, working with a diverse group of participants from Brighton Table Tennis Club to explore stories, memories and the ideas that connect us. The project culminated in two exhibitions of work, one at Brighton Museum & Art Gallery and one at O N C A.

EXTINCT ICONS & RITUAL BURIALS: December 2017

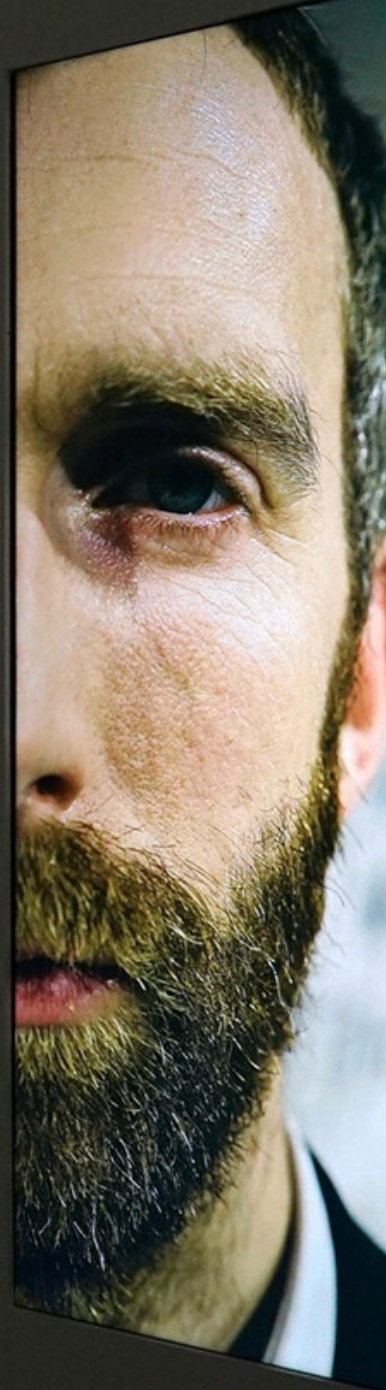


704 visitors

Katie Tume, Clare Whistler, Megan Powell, Lynne Shapiro, Megan Hollingsworth, Sol Howard, Hannah Aston and Susan Richardson, OX Art, Hannah Battershell

This exhibition explores the role of ritual in acknowledging biodiversity loss, and is timed to coincide with Remembrance Day for Lost Species 2017. Extinct Icons by Katie Tume, aka Mother Eagle, pays homage to some of the most famous extinct species – persecuted in their lifetime, but revered and worshipped in death, like martyrs.

Remembrance Day for Lost Species (November 30th) is a chance each year to explore the stories of species, cultures, ways of life and habitats driven extinct by unjust power structures and exploitation, past and ongoing. It emphasises that these losses are rooted in violent, racist and discriminatory economic and political practices. It provides an opportunity for people to renew commitments to all that remains, and supports the development of creative and practical solutions.



THE WHOLE IS OTHER: April 2018



451 visitors

Graduate Monthly

Graduate Monthly presents a curated programme of artwork, performances and interactive events from over 40 local emerging artists. Graduate Monthly is part of O N C A's artist support programme, taking the form of crits, reading groups, advice sessions, skill sharing and visiting speakers.

SHUT DOWN: May 2018



1361 visitors

Vincent Dance Theatre, Brighton Festival

Movement, spoken word, rap and striking visuals collided in Charlotte Vincent's powerful and darkly funny film installation. Played across six screens, with an outstanding cast of performers, including three talented teenagers from East Sussex, SHUT DOWN investigates the pressures, contradictions and confusions of being a man.



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STUCK: July 2018



293 visitors

HOAX Theatre

Strap on your inflatable safety device to meet three fates who are caught between their memories, fantasies and present day predicament. Laugh as they become increasingly stuck. In the muck. WTF?! Devised with clown-director Lucy Hopkins and eco-scenographer Andrea Carr, 'stuck' was a hilarious exposé of the end of the world as we know it. HOAX specialise in provocative contemporary work, blending text, physical theatre and comedy to voice to social and ecological issues.

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WE ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT: August 2018



253 visitors

Beverly Naidus

This interactive installation, made with support from the Seattle-based ARTifACTs collective, addresses the uncertainties faced by humanity as climate change and ongoing ecocide and environmental injustice affect many populations around the world.

A goal of the installation is to foster more dialogue about ways to move past dystopian thinking and support resilient activism, no matter how discouraging things may seem.

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DREAMS OF DISGUISE

Y button to scroll through menu items.
return key and the LEFT button is the return key.



DREAMS OF DISGUISE: September 2018



198 visitors

Irene Fubara-Manuel

In its depiction of the trance-like out-of-body/embodyed moments of biometric interaction in the border, the exhibition blurred documentary truth with science fiction, to reveal the ubiquitous surveillance of migrants and the rising desire for opacity.

Building from the artist's real experiences at the UK Border these video games, moving images, and 3D printed objects linked these supposedly race-neutral biometric technologies to their colonial and racist histories, subverting them in ways that grant mobility – however virtual or fictional – to black migrants.



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THE O N C A BARGE & OUTREACH

In summer 2018, O N C A took over the management of the Barge at Brighton Marina. This followed a year of collaborating with The Goodall Foundation to offer a range of family and youth centred creative workshops on board.

Our vision is of a community centred learning space that supports artist development, and offers a programme of creative activities addressing environmental and social change.

Watch this space!

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GREEN CURTAIN AWARD

2018 award winner: Subira

Supported by an Irene Mensah Brighton Fringe bursary, Subira is a poetry performance that explores being queer, black and angry.

Subira Wahogo the person is a defiantly queer, unapologetically Black spoken word poet and activist. Their work weaves together the personal and political, through experiences and imaginations, spoken with rage, softness and laughter.

Subira was our artist in residence during Desire & Resistance, our exhibition and events programme for International Women's Day 2018.

The O N C A Green Curtain Award goes to the Brighton Fringe project that best manifests O N C A's mission of supporting artists and audiences to engage with environmental and social challenges.

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fish tastic
fun

great

Creative 😊

sunny-sisly

CRAFTY!

great

Good

fish

Interesting💡



it is so
so so ver
fun! 😊 !!



Awesome!
COOL!

sistiy
din
win

C*reativ