



# Francis Offman

## *Economics of Painting*

# Nicole Bachmann

## *There are tides in the body*

# Youth Leadership Collective

## *Activate / Assemble / Amplify*

### **Yoga in the gallery with Ray Cluer**

Monday 20 May and Monday 10 June

£6, booking essential

Rejuvenate your mind and body with Yoga in the Gallery led by Ray Cluer. Open to all levels. Book your mat today.

### **BSL Tour: Explore with Olivier Jamin**

Saturday 15 June, 2pm

Free, booking essential

Join us for an enriching BSL tour led by Olivier Jamin. Discover the gallery through a unique perspective.

### **Francis Offman and Nicole Bachmann in conversation**

Wednesday 19 June, 6.30pm

Free, booking essential

Join Francis Offman and Nicole Bachmann as they discuss their shows, their practice, and the themes emergent from our Summer Exhibitions.

### Opening hours

Tuesday – Sunday, 11 am – 8pm

📍 @warwickarts @meadgallery

📱 @warwickartscentre



Mead Gallery  
3 May – 23 June

Summer 24  
Exhibitions

# Francis Offman

## *Economics of Painting*

Francis Offman's (b. Rwanda, 1987. Lives and works in Bologna, Italy) paintings tell stories of individual memory and collective experience. Using everyday materials such as coffee grounds, scraps of paper and textiles, the artist pays close attention to the economies at play in the world. The materials included are representative of local and international histories, carrying both the history of mass-production, global supply chains, and the transatlantic movement of goods, but also the histories of the friends and communities who gathered and gifted these materials to the artist.

Offman is from Rwanda and emigrated to Italy with his family following the civil war and genocide in 1994. The coffee which textures much of his work is a primary commodity in African countries including Rwanda, and while grown nowhere in Italy it is embraced there as a beloved national drink. Through considered inclusions of such items, the artist nods to the complex realities which underpin commonly held associations.

With Offman's reflections and experience of escaping the Rwandan genocide thirty years ago, this body of work contemplates an urgent emphasis, resonating with the current global and political climate, and the displacement of millions of people across the globe.

- 1 *Untitled, 2020–2022*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, bolognese plaster, chalk  
University of Warwick Art Collection
- 2 *Untitled, 2020–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 3 *Untitled, 2020–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 4 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 5 *Untitled, 2020–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 6 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on linen  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 7 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 8 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton paper  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 9 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton paper  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 10 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 11 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London
- 12 *Untitled, 2023–2024*  
Acrylic, ink, paper, coffee grounds, cotton, Bolognese plaster on cotton  
Courtesy Herald St, London

# Youth Leadership Collective

## *Activate / Assemble / Amplify*

*Activate / Assemble / Amplify* is the culmination of the Youth Leadership Collective's (YLC) exploration and creativity. Designed as an interactive exhibition, it offers a space where visitors can engage with the YLC's vision for themselves and their city. The exhibition showcases portraits captured by Coventry-based artist Ayesha Jones, as well as, sound pieces, pop-up performances and artworks as part of the Creative Learning Team's Youth and Schools projects. Through weekly sessions, the YLC come together to discuss their hopes, ambitions, worries, and frustrations, exploring what it means to be a young person in Coventry today. They have delved into topics of creativity, activism, and future aspirations, culminating in the creation of a manifesto capturing their shared ambitions and strengths. Under the guidance of Coventry's Poet Laureate, John Bernard, they have amplified their voices through spoken word, music, and participatory arts.

The Youth Leadership Collective are: Ava, Denzel, Ellie, Isaac, Laa'iqah, Lily, Reece, Theo, Yanai, Zeinab

Warwick Arts Centre is excited to present the Youth Leadership Programme in collaboration with YMCA Heart of England and Positive Youth Foundation. The programme is supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

# Nicole Bachmann

## *There are tides in the body*

Nicole Bachmann's (b. 1973, Zurich, Switzerland. Lives and works between London & Zurich) newly commissioned film, *There are tides in the body* (2024), takes its title from Virginia Wolfe's *Mrs Dalloway* (1975). The phrase has more recently been used by feminist theorist, Astrida Neimanis, to describe water as a communicator between bodies. For Bachmann, water can connect and separate, it can create and wash away borders. She explores the impact of controlled environments on individuals, drawing parallels with journeys made by migrants, often between coastal and urban landscapes.

Through performances located in Dungeness, Kent and Spon End, Coventry, the artist combines language, poetry and dance to form an embodied vocabulary that moves away from dominant world concepts and beliefs. Through doing this, Bachmann asks how we can become bodies of social and political change.

This commission is generously supported by The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, Migros Kulturprozent, Erna und Curt Burgauer Stiftung and Warwick Arts Centre.

Dual screen audio video installation, 17 min, 10 sec

Performers: Nandi Bhebhe, Patricia Langa, Hannah Parsons, Natifah White  
Editing: Rafael Sommerhalder, Nicole Bachmann  
Sound recording and sound design: Samuel Rodgers