

IKON

Ikon Gallery, 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
0121 248 0708 / www.ikon-gallery.org
Open Tuesday-Sunday, 11am-5pm / free entry

Events Diary July – September 2015

All events take place at Ikon Gallery unless otherwise stated



Vanley Burke, *Siffa Sound System* (1983). Black and white photograph

Exhibition Opening

Wednesday 22 July, 6–8pm – FREE

Join Ikon to celebrate the opening of three new exhibitions – *At Home with Vanley Burke*, Takehisa Kosugi: *SPACINGS* and Julie Brook: *Pigment*. Pay bar.

Vanley's Summer Party

Wednesday 22 July, 8–11pm, £10 per person

Ikon celebrates the summer with a special party mixing Vanley Burke's favourite Caribbean music and food. Sound system provided by Wassifa Showcase. Entry ticket includes a free cocktail, 'The Vanley' and barbeque available from Café Opus. Limited spaces available, advance booking advised. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711.

Talks and Tours

Spotlight Tours

Every Friday, 1pm and Sunday, 3pm – FREE

Join a member of Ikon's staff team for a 15 minute spotlight tour looking at a key work in the exhibition. No need to book, meet in Ikon foyer.

Seen/Unseen Tours

Thursday 23 July, 1pm – FREE

Thursday 27 August, 1pm – FREE

Thursday 24 September, 1pm – FREE

Join artist Jacques Nimki for a 15 minute introductory tour of *Seen/Unseen*, a permanent installation throughout Ikon Gallery of more than 300 barely visible silhouettes of plant drawings.

Running Through The Jungle: Eddie Chambers and Morgan Quaintance in conversation

Thursday 30 July, 6.30–8pm – FREE

Part of a series of inter-generational conversations considering race, art and globalisation convened by artist/curator Marlene Smith. Artist Eddie Chambers is Associate Professor at The University of Texas in Austin, his latest book *Black Artists in British Art: a history since the 1950s* was published in 2014. Morgan Quaintance is a London-based writer, musician, broadcaster and curator. Places are free but should be booked. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Artist's Talk – Vanley Burke

Thursday 10 September, 6.30–8pm – FREE

Join photographer Vanley Burke in discussion about his life and work, including the inspiration behind his current exhibition *At Home with Vanley Burke*. Places are free but should be booked. Please visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Heritage Spotlight Tour

Friday 11 September, 1–2pm – FREE

Join us for an extended spotlight tour looking at the history of Ikon's current home, the former Oozells Street School, designed by architect John Henry Chamberlain in the

1870s. No need to book, meet in Ikon foyer. Presented as part of Birmingham City Council's Heritage Week. www.birminghamculture.org

Audio Described Tour

Sunday 20 September, 1–2pm – FREE

Join us for an informal audio described introduction to our current exhibitions with a focus on two key works. Suitable for blind and partially sighted visitors and their friends and family. Places are free but should be booked. Please visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Afternoon Tea and BSL Tour

Sunday 20 September, 2.30–4.30pm – £4 per person

Join us for an informal exhibition tour, followed by tea and cake. The tour includes British Sign Language (BSL) interpretation. Suitable for Deaf visitors and their friends and family and a fitted induction loop is available. Booking essential, visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711.

Artist's Talk – Julie Brook

Tuesday 22 September, 6.30–8pm – FREE

Join artist Julie Brook as she discusses her films, including *Pigment*, currently showing in Ikon's Tower Room. Places are free but should be booked. Please visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Berending Kumpo Talk

Wednesday 23 September, 6.30–8pm – FREE

A rare opportunity to meet the performers from Berending in The Gambia who perform at the *Birmingham Weekender*, 26 and 27 September. Places are free but should be booked. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Workshops and Courses

Saturday Studio

Saturday 25 July, 2–4.30pm

£6 per person*

Join us for our new practical, gallery-based session devised especially for adults. Explore creative approaches to making art in response to Ikon's current exhibitions. An informal opportunity for those wanting to develop a portfolio or take part in a fun afternoon of making. Places are limited and booking is essential. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711. *Cost includes refreshments and materials.

Short Drawing Courses

Mondays 7–21 September, 10am–12pm

or Wednesdays 9–23 September, 6–8pm

£30 per person

£24 concessions: students, unwaged, 60+

Learn fresh skills and approaches with tutor Tom Jones as he leads a three week practical drawing course designed for all levels of ability. Taking inspiration from Vanley Burke's exhibition, explore how we curate our own domestic spaces using colour, form and written words. All materials provided. Places are limited and booking is essential. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711.

Photography Masterclass with Vanley Burke

Saturday 12 and Saturday 19 September

11am–4pm – £125 per person

£95 concessions: students, unwaged, 60+

A unique opportunity to work alongside photographer Vanley Burke, learn about black and white photography plus darkroom developing techniques. This two day course explores themes inspired by his current Ikon exhibition and is suitable for adults, especially teachers and students of art. Please bring a 35mm camera. All film materials are provided. Places are limited and booking is essential. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711. Organised in partnership with BOM (Birmingham Open Media) www.bom.org.uk

Looking at art: a beginner's course

£72 per person, concessions available

Thursdays, 24 September – 3 December, 1–3pm

(no session 29 October)

Saturdays, 26 September – 5 December, 11am–1pm

(no session 31 October)

This 10 week course looks at art across four regional art galleries, in partnership with Wolverhampton Adult Education Service. At The Barber Institute of Fine Arts we explore art from the Renaissance to the twentieth century, followed by a visit to The New Art Gallery Walsall to focus on early twentieth century art and the influence of non-European cultures. At Wolverhampton Art Gallery we consider Pop Art, Black Art and issues of gender that also inform our final visit to Fiona Banner's exhibition at Ikon Gallery. This course is suitable for adult learners of all ages with no previous art knowledge. Booking essential. For more information contact Wolverhampton Adult Education Service on 01902 558180 or www.aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk.

Literature

Poetry Evening with Vanley Burke

Friday 21 August, 6.30–8pm – FREE

Join Birmingham-born poet Sue Brown and English dub poet Moqapi Selassi for an evening of performance poetry exploring issues around immigration and Black British heritage. Places are free but should be booked. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Performance

Rie Nakajima and David Toop

Sculpture 7

Sunday 6 September, 2–4pm – FREE

CBSO Centre, Berkley Street, Birmingham B1 2LF

Ikon, in collaboration with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, presents *Sculpture*, an ongoing project devised and curated by Rie Nakajima and David Toop. A consideration of events as sculpture, it questions notions of performance as entertainment, conventions of duration and negotiations of space, through an understanding that any event that defines itself from the environment and within time is a Sculpture.

Places are free but should be booked. Please visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

For this event, five artists, including Rie Nakajima and David Toop, work within defined guidelines:

1. You can place your Sculpture in any part of the space except for those that are forbidden by external forces.

2. Please choose the duration of your Sculpture.

This can be approximate for your own purposes but please be specific when you tell us the duration.

3. If your Sculpture lasts for longer than the time you have chosen then you may find that the next Sculpture overlaps with yours. Please don't be alarmed by this.

www.bcmg.org.uk / www.sculpturetoopnakajima.com

Birmingham Weekender

25–27 September, across Birmingham city centre

FREE

Birmingham's arts organisations come together to stage a free weekend of amazing outdoor arts, with events throughout the city centre. Marking the opening of the newly transformed New Street Station, *Birmingham Weekender* embraces the brilliance of local and international artists. Join us and enjoy two days full of music, dance, theatre, food, sport and fashion. www.birminghamweekender.com

Associated events

Berending Kumpo

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September, 12pm

Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, roaming throughout the city – FREE

For *Birmingham Weekender*, Ikon presents *Berending Kumpo* from The Gambia. Kumpo is a masquerade figure who mysteriously appears and disappears and scares away malevolent spirits. Dressed in an elaborate full-length bark coloured costume, he moves furiously about carrying weapons, one in each hand, that he slaps together while screaming. The combination of dramatic sound and exaggerated movement causes a collective sense of excitement and anxiety. This is an opportunity to experience a distinctly authentic performance. Based in The Gambia the performers undertake their first UK residency at Ikon and artefacts representing Kumpo feature in Vanley Burke's exhibition at the gallery.

Art Explorers and Makers

26–27 September, 12–4pm – FREE

Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, B1 2HS

Become an Art Explorer and join us for free creative activities in Oozells Square, led by professional artists, designers and makers from Craftspace. Suitable for all ages. No need to book, stay for as long as you like. Visit www.ikon-gallery.org for full details.

At Home with The Diskery

Saturday 26 September, 1–4pm – FREE

During the *Birmingham Weekender* Ikon Shop has teamed up with The Diskery, a local independent record shop (est. 1952), for a celebration of second-hand vinyl. This is a unique opportunity to buy, swap and listen to a selection of records inspired by the collection of Roots Reggae and Ska music in Ikon's exhibition *At Home with Vanley Burke*. Throughout the exhibition Ikon hosts a pop-up shop from The Diskery, selling vintage records.

Café Opus at Ikon

The Caribbean Experience

Café Opus at Ikon responds to Vanley Burke's exhibition with special dishes featured on the menu from mid July to September. To book call Café Opus on 0121 248 3226.

Caribbean Sunday Lunch

Sunday 20 September, 1pm

£15 per person

Café Opus at Ikon hosts a Caribbean Sunday Lunch, featuring dishes and vegetables from Vanley Burke's cherished allotment in Handsworth. To book spaces or for further details call Opus on 0121 200 2323.

Caribbean Barbeque

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September

£4 per person

To coincide with the *Birmingham Weekender*, Café Opus at Ikon offers a Caribbean barbeque including jerk chicken, spiced lamb pittas and vegetable pittas.

To book call Café Opus on 0121 248 3226.

Also visit Café Opus during Vanley Burke's exhibition and pick up a free story by local writer Charlie Hill. *Of atoms and curses and souls* is Hill's tale of Birmingham and its history. www.charliehill.org.uk

Family Events

Free drop-in activities

For all ages. No need to book, stay for as long as you like

Family Saturdays

Open to all ages (adults very welcome), these afternoons of creative activities engage, challenge and delight. Join us as we explore the current exhibitions and make original artwork.

Saturday 1 August, 1–4pm – FREE

Join Ikon at the Africaada Caribbean Festival, Centenary Square

Saturday 5 September, 1–4pm – FREE

A sound workshop inspired by the work of Takehisa Kosugi

Creative workshops

Activities aimed at specific age groups

When booking please indicate children's ages and note that children should be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Parent and toddler mornings

Tuesday 8 September, 10–11am

Friday 11 September, 10–11am

£4 per child, payable in advance

These gallery-based sessions are for parents with toddlers aged 0–3 years. Places are limited, please visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711.

Summer Holiday Workshops

Thursday 13 August, Thursday 20 August*,

Thursday 27 August

10.30am–12pm (3–5yrs)

2–4pm (6yrs+, younger siblings welcome)

£4 per child, payable in advance

Join us during the school holidays for fun creative workshops, explore the current exhibitions and make original artwork in response. Places are limited, please visit

www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon Shop on 0121 248 0711. *Organised in collaboration with musicians from BEAST (Birmingham ElectroAcoustic Sound Theatre).

Events for Young People

Ikon Youth Programme (IYP) is a group of young people, aged 16–21 years old, who share an interest in visual art. Meeting regularly at Ikon, participants are encouraged to devise creative projects, establish links with other youth groups and share their opinions about a range of topics. www.ikon-gallery.org/iyp

Bronze Arts Award Summer School at Winterbourne House and Garden

Monday 3 – Friday 7 August, 10am–4pm

£30 per person

University of Birmingham, 58 Edgbaston Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2RT

Join us at Winterbourne House for a week-long summer school for local young people aged 12–15. Booking essential. For more information contact Claire Bird c.bird@ikon-gallery.org or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

IYP spotlight tours

Saturday 15 August

12pm and 2pm – FREE

Join a member of the Ikon Youth Programme for a 15 minute spotlight tour looking at a key work in the exhibition. No need to book, meet in Ikon foyer.

Bronze Arts Award Summer School at The Red House Glass Cone

Monday 17 – Friday 21 August, 9.30am–3pm

£30 per person

High Street, Stourbridge DY8 4AZ

Ikon visits Stourbridge and hosts a week-long summer school for local young people. Booking essential. For more information contact Claire Bird c.bird@ikon-gallery.org or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708. To book call Julie Edmonds on 01384 815571 or email julie.edmonds@dudley.gov.uk

Open Social

Friday 11 September, 6.30–9pm – FREE

A chance for young people to visit the exhibitions and enjoy workshops and discussions produced with digital artists and musicians from BOM (Birmingham Open Media – www.bom.org.uk). Booking essential, please email Claire Bird c.bird@ikon-gallery.org or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Black Country Voyages

Black Country Voyages (2014–2017) is an art programme for local young people, aged 16–21 years old, involving members of the Ikon Youth Programme (IYP). It takes place on

board a canal boat, generously lent by Sandwell Council.

For 2015, Jacques Nimki is the lead artist for *Black Country Voyages*, transforming the boat into *The Black Apotheca* – a floating laboratory of herbal liquids derived from local plants, fermenting slowly over time, housed in glass, reflecting light and colour. It showcases drawings, recipes and objects, all relating to the business of apothecaries, plus a collection of lozenges, cordials, country wines, sorbets and teas available for consumption at selected events. During the summer Nimki and IYP host workshops along the canal network for visitors to interact with *Black Country Voyages* – for more information please visit www.blackcountryvoyages.org or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Black Country Voyages is organised in partnership with the Canal & River Trust.

Keep up to date with this project via Twitter: @bcvoyages #blackcountryvoyages and Facebook: blackcountryvoyages

Associated events

Bumblehole Family Fun Day

Saturday 25 July, 11am–4pm – FREE

Artist's Talk – Jacques Nimki, 1pm – FREE

Bumblehole Conservation Group Visitor Centre, Windmill End, Netherton, Dudley DY2 9HU

Join artist Jacques Nimki and guest speakers at Bumblehole Family Fun Day.

***Black Country Voyages* at Stourbridge**

Monday 17 – Thursday 20 August

10am–4pm – FREE

The Red House Glass Cone, High Street Stourbridge DY8 4AZ

Black Country Voyages tours to Stourbridge for a week of drop in botanical workshops.

***Black Country Voyages* at Pelsall North Common**

Sunday 23 August, 11am–4pm – FREE

Pelsall North Common, Wood Lane, Walsall WS3 5DZ

Black Country Voyages tours to Walsall for a one off event at Pelsall North Common. Join us for an afternoon of botanical activities including creative workshops with Jacques Nimki, print making and walks.

Black Country Boating Festival

Saturday 12 September, 10am–5pm – FREE

Bumblehole Conservation Group Visitor Centre, Windmill End, Netherton, Dudley DY2 9HU

Black Country Voyages tours to Netherton. Join us at this event for an informal afternoon of workshops, canal side entertainment and boat trips.

***Black Country Voyages* at Birmingham Weekender Saturday 26 and Sunday 27
September**

12–4pm – FREE

Brewmaster Bridge, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB

IYP (Ikon Youth Programme) take over the boat with performances from local young people on Saturday and drop in creative workshops on Sunday.

Note to Editors:

1. Ikon is an internationally acclaimed contemporary art venue situated in central Birmingham. Established in 1964 by a group of artists, Ikon is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation. The gallery programme features artists from around the world and a variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation. Ikon's off-site programme develops dynamic relationships between art, artists and audiences outside the gallery. Projects vary enormously in scale, duration and location, challenging expectations of where art can be seen and by whom. Education is at the heart of Ikon's activities, stimulating public interest in and understanding of contemporary visual art. Through a variety of talks, tours, workshops and seminars, Ikon's Learning Team aims to build dynamic relationships with audiences, enabling visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art.
2. Ikon is open Tuesday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am - 5pm. Admission is free.
3. *At Home with Vanley Burke* is supported by the Mill Dam Trust and funds raised through *Art Happens*, the Art Fund's crowd-funding platform. Takehisa Kosugi's exhibition, *SPACINGS*, is supported by the Japan Foundation, The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation and the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation. *Vanley's Summer Party* is supported by Adrian and Junie Bland and Brugal Rum. *Berending Kumpo* is supported by *Birmingham Weekender*. *Black Country Voyages* is supported by Arts Council Strategic Touring, the Canal & River Trust and Sandwell Council. Ikon's core Learning programme is supported by Arts Connect West Midlands.
4. For the latest news and events follow @ikongallery on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).
5. Ikon Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council.
6. For more information and high-res images and to request an interview with the artist please contact Rebecca Small or Emily Luxford at Ikon on 0121 248 0708 or email r.small@ikon-gallery.org or e.luxford@ikon-gallery.org

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Berending Kumpo, Senegal Festival (2011)



Black Country Voyages



Rie Nakajima and David Toop, *Sculpture 2* (2013). Image courtesy Metod Blejec



Family workshop