URBAN OASIS

4th October - 27th November

66 Great Queen Street London WC2B 5BX

MIDDL EIGHT

Contemporary art at Middle Eight Hotel

www.middleeight.com

ARTSCOPE INTL.

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Our initiative

Come experience Middle Eight as we transform into a vibrant cultural centre for contemporary art.

Open to the public from Friday, 4th October, we are curating a hotel-wide exhibition of artwork, presenting an evening of performance in QT, and offering guided expeditions around the top London art spaces that are all within a short distance of our front door. At Middle Eight, we are motivated to find new ways of celebrating our heritage, which is rooted in the creative arts. We are at the nexus of this London scene; with resources, access and knowledge to share with our guests. We see Middle Eight as a discerning curator, a passionate educator, a source of inspiration, and a go-to destination for celebrating creative expression at the epicentre of the city's cultural landscape.

Our inaugural programme is focused on reflecting the core components of our ethos through infusing our space. Visitors enjoy a comprehensive experience of multidisciplinary art practice through rotating exhibitions, performances, screenings and more...accompanied by guided tours, group discussions and other frameworks designed to educate and encourage, both on site and throughout London.

Middle Eight aligns with the most revered artists, musicians, choreographers and composers from the local neighbourhood, throughout London and at a globallyrecognised level.

About Urban Oasis

Join us as we reflect on ecologies, symbiosis and sustainability.

Inspired by the dimesions of the hotel's identity, we are pleased to introduce the curatorial concept that drives this season's project, and unites each component of the multidimensional practice that pulses throughout Middle Eight...*Urban Oasis*. For the first iteration of our contemporary art endeavour, we bring together artists whose materials and visual cues are inspired by, work in harmony with, and even expand on notions of the natural and the man-made across the building's landscape.

The works are 'in conversation' with the textures and design of the building, but also evolve the space as though we are planting a garden and bringing in new life, new ideas and new potential.

There is more to this theme of ecology and symbiosis throughout Urban Oasis. Artists also engage conceptually with the mutual goals, frameworks and messaging surrounding sustainability and ecological responsibility, reflecting on experience, revealing truths and finding hope and possibility through the act of creating. There are examples of art practice which look closely at the relationship that we have with our own human condition, our identities, and the impact of our physical and societal environments.

The artwork on display is for sale. Please enquire with Reception, who will help you contact our Advisory team dedicated to supporting your enquiry.

Our partnership

Artscope, intl. @artscopeintl

Founder Kate Fensterstock brings creative direction, programming and communications strategy to launch the contemporary art initiative at Middle Eight.

Artscope focuses on building a client's identity across the landscape of modern and contemporary art.

Kate's role as a curator and collection advisor brings the art practice in, through experimental concept design and careful logistics management. In building an immersive educational framework around the programme's features, the audience is authentically and enthusiastically engaged. Finally, with a decade of senior-level PR and Marketing experience, the offering and its reach has the potential to grow through detailed strategy.

Kate holds a Bachelor of Arts in History of Art from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and a Masters of Contemporary Art, High Merit from Sotheby's Institute in London. She is a member of the Serpentine New Contemporaries and The Tate Young Patrons groups. The Fensterstock family maintains a deeply committed involvement to the modern and contemporary art landscape, having collected art for over 30 years and taken active roles as charitable and institutional patrons. Kate is currently based between London and Palm Beach, Florida.



Frankie Boyle

Arthur Cohen

Ptolemy Mann

Orlanda Broom

Bernd Zimmer

Sian Fan

Francine Tint

Laura Lancaster

Megan Baker

Cayetano Sanz de Santamaría

Borgial



Frankie Boyle

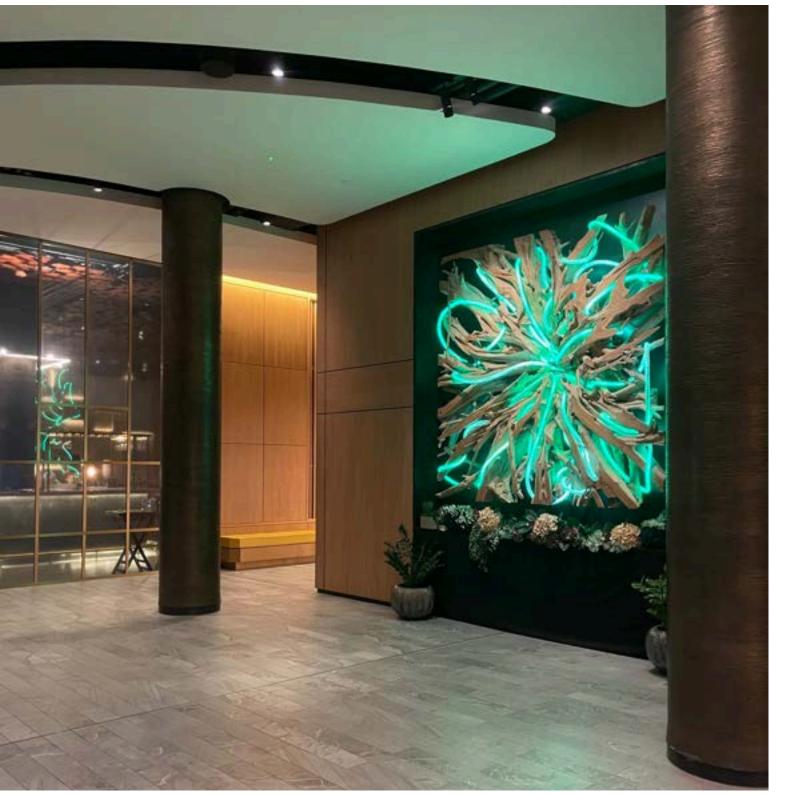
@frankie_boyle_studio

Specialising in immersive design with a focus on light and colour theory, Frankie creates transformative installations that evoke deep emotional connections. Facing the challenges of a speech and language disorder, her sensitivity to light and understanding of human behavior have shaped her creative journey. Boyle's work blends artistic creativity with scientific insight, exploring the impact of light on emotion and mental health. Her passion lies in using light to foster community wellbeing and introspection through immersive experiences.

Biophilia (Middle Eight Hotel) is a type of dynamic art installation which is capable of changing its shape and form to adapt to the environment where it hangs. Frankie has brought *Biophilia* in to engage with the iconic driftwood wall work that hangs at the entrance to the hotel.

Before our official opening, *Biophilia (Middle Eight)* glowed green, the LED light moving along the pathway created by the driftwood's form. From the 4th October, the light glows from blue in the morning, through to orange in the evening, to match the best quality and colour light intended to fit cycadian rhythmic patterns.

We intend for our guests to benefit from mental acuity as well as enjoy contemporary art practice.



Biophilia (Middle Eight Hotel) is a site specific work made uniquely for our space.

Frankie is available for commissions, and offers an extensive body of work available for purchase.

Please contact @kate@artscopeintl.com regarding sales enquiries

Arthur Cohen

@arthurcohen_ @candid_house

Arthur Cohen envisions an autonomous world rooted in weaving. His practice connects sculptures, installations, and performances. He describes his work as 'an ecosystem blending reality and fiction, a space between theater, costume, and visual art.' Infused with history and authenticity, his creation draws inspiration from his own identity, biblical narratives, the Jewish diaspora, and popular culture.

From crafting tapestries to installations and garments, a constant idea of mutation and movement lies at the heart of his work. His practice prompts viewers to contemplate the principles of our collective identity in a world saturated with chaos. Like a vibrational frequency, Arthur's language resonates between the ancient world and ours. The fusion of raw fibers with synthetic materials and metals forms a choreography of intertwining patterns; a serendipitous encounter between manufactured and industrial products.

We are pleased to be working with Arthur's tapestries in our main exhibition, as well as hosting a presentation of his performance practice in QT during our launch weekend.



Arthur Cohen Totem, 2024 Linen, sisal, aluminium, bras 45.5 cm x 40.5 cm (framed) £2,300

Arthur Cohen Sunrise, 2024 Linen, biological cotton, copper, brass, watercolour 44 cm x 39.5 cm (framed) £2,300



Arthur Cohen Behind copper, 2024 Linen, biological cotton, mohair, copper 44 cm x 39.5 cm (framed) £2,300

Arthur Cohen Volcanic II, 2024 Linen, copper, bras 44 cm x 39.5 cm (framed) £2,300

Ptolemy Mann

@ptolemymann @candid_house

Ptolemy Mann received her Master of Arts in Constructed Tiles from Royal College of Art, London, and her Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Textile Design from Central St Martins College of Art & Design, London. Her clients and collaborators include Tate Modern Museum, Paul Hughes Fine Arts, Gallerie Lene Bilgrav, British Land, Stanhope PLC, and Sotheby's among many others.

Ptolemy creates hand-dyed and woven artworks that have become the basis for a modern-day Bauhaus philosophy of art-making underpinned with intelligent colour theory. Her time-consuming and unique approach has evolved over a twenty-five-year period. Exquisite dynamics of colour move across their fine surface, creating a painterly sweep. The term 'Chromatic Minimalism' has been applied to her work, and Abstract Expressionism and architecture heavily influence her. In recent years she has been making huge gestural paintings on watercolour paper and canvas exploring the relationship between thread and pigment.





Ptolemy Mann The Golden Hour (Tangerine Light), 2022 Hand dyed and woven viscose 44 cm x 44 cm (framed) POA





Ptolemy Mann The Golden Hour (Yellow Ombre with Blue Grid), 2022 Hand dyed and woven viscose 79 cm x 64 cm (framed) POA

Ptolemy Mann The Golden Hour (Blue, Red Grid), 2022 Hand dyed and woven viscose 44 cm x 44 cm (framed) POA



Orlanda Broom

@orlandabroom @candid_house

Orlanda Broom graduated with an MA Fine Art from Winchester School of Art, Barcelona, after completing a BA Fine Art at Cheltenham & Glos. Her work has been selected for RA Summer Exhibition, Columbia Threadneedle Prize, Wells Contemporary, RWA. Commissions have included large scale works for Four Seasons Downtown, NYC and Mandarin Oriental in London. Orlanda worked with the charity Hospital Rooms to create a mural in an NHS facility. She is shortlisted for the Cass Art Prize 2024.

She paints densely layered compositions which draw from exotic flora set in wild terrains and otherworldly landscapes. She is interested in posing questions about when and where this landscape is and how it would feel to be here. The plant forms take on fleshy, corporeal qualities and the foliage seems to fight for dominance, old must make way for the new... ripe burgeons on rot.

Broom's paintings are created with a focus on materials, experimentation and the properties of paint, as such the composition evolves on the canvas and retains a dynamic energy. The profusion of strange organic forms and highly saturated colour is intended to seduce. The paintings are both celebratory of nature and a vision of a landscape devoid of human or animal trace.





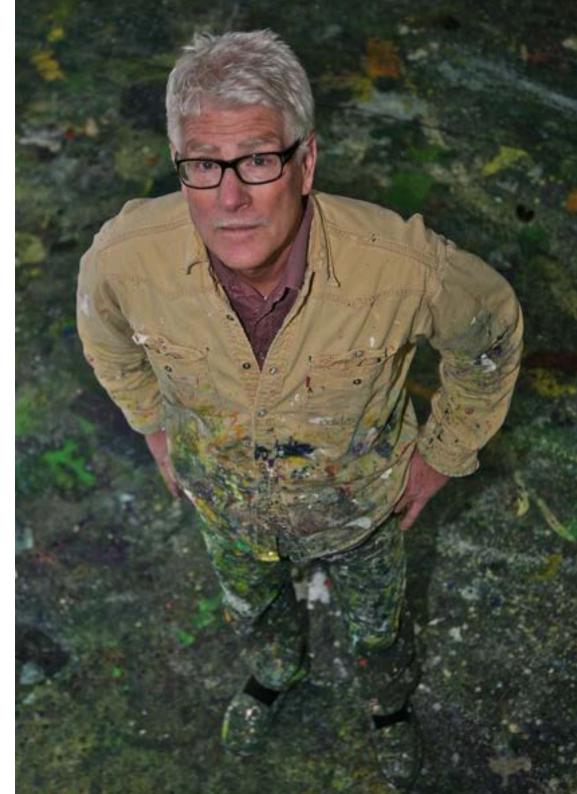
Orlanda Broom Curious Blue, 2022 Acrylic and resin on canvas 60 cm x 60 cm x 5 cm £4,000 Orlanda Broom Torch Ginger, 2023 Acrylic on canvas 100 cm x 100 cm x 2 cm £8,000

Bernd Zimmer

@atelierberndzimmer @upsilongallery

Bernd Zimmer is an internationally renowned and award-winning painter, recognised as a co-founder of Berlin's "Heftige Malerei." This movement is associated with wild artists rather than wild art itself. Zimmer is celebrated for his vivid, abstract landscapes that delve into the interplay between nature and abstraction, whether through conceptual art installations, painting, or printmaking, all of which he produces in-house.

Zimmer frequently draws inspiration from forests, oceans, and the cosmos. He translates these elements into abstract forms with dynamic colour palettes. His work often reflects the beauty and power of nature, whether inspired by his international travels or the Black Forest and lakes surrounding his base in Germany. Zimmer's art complements and enhances nature inspired environments.







Bernd Zimmer Im Spiegel, 2018 Lithograph in colours on wove paper 56 cm x 36 cm £5,000

Bernd Zimmer Reflex, 2022 Acrylic on paper 42 cm x 30 cm £3,850

Sian Fan

@sianfan

Sian Fan is a British/Chinese interdisciplinary artist currently based at Somerset House Studios. She has exhibited internationally with venues including Tate Modern, British Council, and the V&A, as well as producing work with Channel 4, the BBC and Facebook.

Her work combines movement, the body and technology to explore embodiment, spirituality and human experience in the digital age. She is particularly interested in the uneasy synchronicities between Asian and cyborgian bodies; in popularised depictions of Asiatic bodies in anime and video games; and in the thresholds of human identity where one exists as both and neither at the same time.





Sian Fan Sun Catcher, 2022 Giclee Print on Hahnemühle German Etching 85 cm H x 60 cm W (framed) £1,350

Francine Tint

@francinemtint @upsilongallery

Francine Tint has been an influential figure in the art world since the early 1970s. Her work is included in collections that include Bass Museum, Miami FL, and The Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL. Initially working as a costume designer and fashion stylist, Tint collaborated with icons like David Bowie and Ridley Scott, among others.

Her shift to painting came as a transformative response to personal loss, channeling her emotions into a new creative journey. Just as design can be an intersection of innovation and tradition, Tint's largescale, color-based abstract paintings reflect an energetic conversation between the boldness of modernity and the organic flow of natural forms.

Tint's approach aligns with a vision that celebrates creative expression as a powerful, sensory experience. Her works, known for their emphasis on color, light, and texture, echo the blend of nature and innovation a balance of timeless artistic practices and contemporary techniques. The layered, immersive quality of her paintings resonates with spaces designed to inspire, like the integration of nature and modern luxury, forming an experience that is as dynamic as it is inviting.





Francine Tint Dancing Soul, VII, 2022 Watercolour on paper 76.2 cm x 35.6 cm £5,000



Laura Lancaster

@laura_lancaster @workplacegallery

Laura Lancaster completed her BA in Fine Art at Northumbria University. Recent solo exhibitions include Closer and Further Away, Workplace, London, UK; Inside The Mirror, Wooson Gallery, South Korea; Running Towards Nothing, Night Gallery, Los Angeles; and A Stranger's Dream, Sargent's Daughters, New York, NY. She has been included in group exhibitions at Marlborough Gallery, London, UK; Royal Academy, London, UK; Museum of Art, Kochi, Japan; and others. Lancaster's work is included in The British Council Collection, UK; New Art Gallery, Walsall, UK; Nerman Museum, Kansas, USA; and The Government Art Collection, UK.

The figure is central to the work of Laura Lancaster, its presence intensified by the opposing entropic force of abstraction which perpetually subsumes and engulfs the protagonist deep into their surroundings. Images that are of their era - located in time through incidental clues such as clothing, pose, and contingent detail - are monumentalised by Lancaster through painting.

Rendered ambiguous through the looseness of her brushwork, images gleaned from found photographic images are dissociated from their specific context and orphaned from their original narrative to be represented as fragments. Through this process of isolation and dislocation her works become uncanny and symbolic, operating as signifiers of a wider, collective memory and a shared existential consciousness.







Laura Lancaster Untitled, 2021 Acrylic on linen 30 cm x 40 cm POA

Megan Baker

@meganbaker @gillianjasongallery

Megan Baker graduated from Central Saint Martins in 2018, when she received the Kate Barton Painting Award and the Cass Art Prize. Baker has been shortlisted for the Clyde and Co Art Award and also came runner up at the Hix Art Award, 2019. Between 2022 and 2023, the artist was exhibited at 'Eye of the Collector' art fair in collaboration with Christies, was part of the international show 'Homecoming' at Sharon Golan Art Projects in Tel Aviv, and took part in five group exhibitions. Following the success of Baker's first solo show in September 2022, Gillian Jason Gallery held another solo exhibition in October 2023.

Megan Baker's works explore moments of stillness within nature, capturing a feeling of comfort in solitude where the vastness of landscape makes us conscious of our contained state as human beings. Unfolding through layers of impasto, Megan Baker's oil paintings suggest an ever-changing state of being, where fragmented and gestural figures are continually interrupted by the immediacy of the paint. The oscillation of time intercepts the way the painting is understood, the surface flickering between a recognisable form and a sweeping brushstroke. Focusing on the physicality of the medium itself, Baker's practice is centred on the way time can be experienced through painting.





Meghan Baker Colour Study (Batten), 2024 Oil on canvas £4,345



Meghan Baker Colour Study (Rosetti II), 2024 Oil on canvas £4,345



Cayetano Sanz de Santamaría

@cayetanosanzdesantamaria
@candid_house

Cayetano Sanz de Santamaría graduated from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY in 2021, with Highest Honors, and completed his MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art, London. Exhibition and project highlights include a solo exhibition in Galeria La Localidad, winner of the Tagsmart Award at The Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair (UK), shortlisted for the Waverton Art Prize (UK) and several group exhibitions in London, UK with galleries including Arusha Gallery, Bermondsey Project Space, The Gallery at Green and Stone, BWG Gallery, and others.

In his practice, Sanz de Santamaría is deeply influenced by surrealism, magical realism and explorations of the human psyche that combined with his figurative approach serve to create vivid pieces filled with stories. His work is a tapestry of personal experiences and outside inspirations, interwoven with hidden narratives meant to engage and challenge the viewer. He believes that aesthetics, figuration, humor, and metaphor are powerful tools for communication in his work. Professionally, he aspires to be a voice for his country, Colombia, and to use his work as a tool for questioning and reflecting on the realities and complexities of our world.



Cayetano Sanz de Santamaría The Answer Lies Right in Front of You, 2024 Ink and watercolour on cotton paper 50 x 40 cm (framed) £1,250



Cayetano Sanz de Santamaría The Hunt, 2024 Ink and watercolour on cotton paper 50 x 40 cm (framed) £1,250



Cayetano Sanz de Santamaría Moonlight Sonata, 2024 Ink and watercolour on cotton paper 50 x 40 cm (framed) £1,250

An evening of performance

The Weaver's Guild

Chapter I : Yaffa Datura; Hatching Performance and Q&A

Join us as we navigate a new dimension of Urban Oasis, which reflects on the state of the human condition through ecosystems and symbiotic dynamics

Friday, 4th October 2024 6:00 PM-8:00PM QT I 66 Great Queen Street, London W2CB 5BX

Contemporary Art at Middle Eight Hotel

www.middleeighthotel.com RSVP essential 1 tess@wearememo.com



'The Weaver's Guild, Chapter 1: Yaffa Datura; Hatching', marks the birth of an exhaustive project concept that introduces one of three protagonists developed by multidisciplinary visual artist Arthur Cohen.

As 'Urban Oasis' at Middle Eight Hotel navigates themes of ecology, symbiosis and harmonising the natural with the manmade, 'Yaffa Datura; Hatching' seamlessly aligns in these efforts to explore, investigate and unpack complexities through the act of creative expression. Inspired by the practice of weaving, psychology and identity, a story is drawn from personal experiences.

We invite you to engage with this developing narrative, where we surrender to the will of performative storytelling through sound, movement and visual prowess.

Following the performance, our group discussion welcomes Arthur, collaborator and performer Borgial, and Co-Founder of Candid House Projects Raphael Tecucianu, mediated by the Director of Middle Eight Hotel's contemporary art initiative, Artscope Founder Kate Fensterstock.



Arthur Cohen is a multidisciplinary visual artist who navigates systemics, geopolitics, and notions of identity through the act of making and craft. His practice connects sculptures, installations, and performance, describing his work as 'an ecosystem blending reality and fiction, a space between theatre, costume, and visual art.' Infused with history and authenticity, his creation draws inspiration from his own identity, biblical narrative, the Jewish diaspora, and popular culture.

Borgial is a visual artist based in Paris, originally from Congo-Brazzaville. His practice revolves around performance and sculpture, in which he explores mythology as a space for healing and transcending Afro-descendant identities

Candid House Projects, established in 2020 by Nicole Huter and Raphael Tecucianu, is a London based gallery and art advisory, committed to forging authentic connections between artists and collectors, and finding new and engaging platforms for creative expression. An integral part of 'Urban Oasis', CHP is representing Arthur, Borgial, and a number of other participating artists across this first iteration of Middle Eight's contemporary art programme initiative..

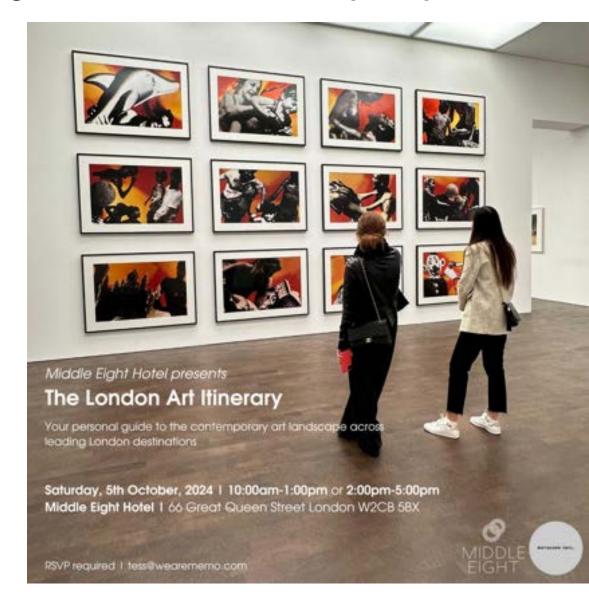
Your guide to London's contemporary art scene

Explore some of the most renowned destinations for art and culture, located moments from the Middle Eight front door.

Directed by Curator and Historian Kate Fensterstock, The Middle Eight Hotel London Art Itinerary represents the must-visit exhibitions, performances and showcases all within a short walk between stops. The sessions are carefully regenerated every six weeks.

We begin with an introduction of the day's focus, complete with prestigious yet accessible areas of learning and analysis. A site for art and culture in our own right, we start with a guided tour of the *Urban Oasis* group exhibition.

Our excursion then takes us into London to the finest galleries, museums and through public installations, complete with lectures from Kate, and group debate and discussion.



Contact us

Our team of experts are here to support our guests across our contemporary art programme at Middle Eight Hotel.

Please get in touch directly about booking requests, sales enquiries, or to arrange a meeting to discuss your interest in our initiative.

www.middleight.com | @middle_eight_hotel | kate@artscopeintl.com | Instagram: @artscopeintl

