

Cement Fields

New Art North Kent



Anna-Maria Nabirye with Noor Afshan Mirza and Brad Butler, *Hold Your Ground*, 2012. Commissioned by Film Video Umbrella. Image courtesy of the artist.

PRESS RELEASE

Cement Fields announce Sarah Craske, Anna-Maria Nabirye, and nnull as the recipients of the Jerwood Whitstable Biennale Artist Attachment programme.

With support from the Jerwood Arts Development Programme Fund, it has been possible for Cement Fields to offer three artist development opportunities, which will provide valuable paid time and support to three early-career artists over the next year, starting in September 2020.

Each artist will receive £8,000 alongside a personalised development programme that will include mentoring and peer support. All three artists will have the opportunity to showcase new thinking or work at the next edition of Whitstable Biennale.

Sue Jones, Artistic Director and CEO says, “Coming at a time of deep uncertainty for artists and the arts more widely, it is vital that we continue to create space for artists to explore new ideas and take risks at critical moments in their practice and career.”

Cement Fields is delighted to support such exceptional artists in partnership with Jerwood Arts.

Sarah Craske works in the liminal, transdisciplinary space between art, science and technology. Their work explores the Anthropocene through philosophical enquiry into our relationship with various forms of climate breakdown, drawing on specialist expertise and technologies and taking part in research collaborations across the world. Craske exhibits in interdisciplinary places of histories, knowledge, narratives and context, including libraries, museums, and laboratories, purposefully prioritising their rich contexts over white cube galleries. These sites, buildings and organisations provide materials to work with and become a structural part of the work.

Anna-Maria Nabirye is a multidisciplinary artist working across visual arts, live art, social practice, theatre, film, TV and fashion. Her work is focused on the narratives of Black Women within the African Diaspora. Anna-Maria's work combines and layers elements from the different creative worlds she occupies. Working in service of the subject material and intended audience Anna-Maria allows that to lead and guide the main medium within which the work is presented. Anna-Maria is currently occupied with creating joy and how that intersects with the experiences and cultural representation of Black women. Without Joy there can be no revolution.

nnull (they/them, he/him) is a researcher, writer and artist based in London, UK. As both transgender and a migrant, their work investigates the embodied experience of these processes of transition and how they interface with political and bureaucratic structures. They also research colonial legacies in the global south and intergenerational trauma. Despite their work being explorations on identity, they would like to remain anonymous. The name 'nnull' emerged from the desire to be free to identify as nothing, which in our current world, as a world that assigns identities and punishes deviants, is impossible.

The Jerwood WB Artist Attachments are supported by Jerwood Arts.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cement Fields is a distinctive visual art organisation based in North Kent. We work collaboratively with artists and communities to create ambitious new art along the Thames Estuary, from Dartford to Whitstable.

Our programme supports the creation of pioneering new work, often with an emphasis on early-career artists, and creates learning opportunities for young people to develop imagination, skills, and find meaningful pathways into creative careers. Working with partners, our projects invite people and communities to collaborate with artists, to research, make, and exchange views on contemporary art.

Cement Fields has grown out of Whitstable Biennale, a visual art festival founded in 2002 with an international reputation for developing experimental new work, often giving artists their first commission, and attracting over 70,000 visitors to each edition.

Cement Fields is supported using public funding by Arts Council England, and the University of Kent.

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Cement Fields New Art North Kent

Jerwood Arts is the leading independent funder dedicated to supporting UK artists, curators and producers to develop and thrive. We enable transformative opportunities for individuals across art forms, supporting imaginative awards, bursaries, fellowships, projects, programmes and commissions. We present new work and bring people from across the arts together through our exhibitions and events in London, as well as across the UK.

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