

IKON

Exhibitions / Events
December 2017 – March 2018
ikon-gallery.org
Free entry



Thomas Bock

Exhibition

6 December 2017 – 11 March 2018

First Floor Galleries



1

Cover Thomas Bock
Mithina (Mathinna) (1842)
Watercolour
Presented by J.H. Clark 1951, AG290
Courtesy Tasmanian Museum
and Art Gallery

1 Thomas Bock
James and Henry Barnard (c. 1850)
Cased, hand-coloured daguerreotype
Presented by O Rodway 1943, Q610
Courtesy Tasmanian Museum
and Art Gallery

2 Thomas Bock
Untitled, *Manalakina (Mannalargenna)*
(1831–1835)
Drawing, watercolour
© The trustees of The British Museum

Ikon presents the first UK exhibition dedicated to the work of convict artist Thomas Bock (c.1793–1855). A selection of drawings, paintings and photographs demonstrate Bock's technical skill and sensitivity to a wide range of subject matter.

Born in Birmingham (UK), Bock trained as an engraver and miniature painter. In 1823 he was found guilty of "administering concoctions of certain herbs ... with the intent to cause miscarriage" and sentenced to transportation to Australia for 14 years. He arrived in Van Diemen's Land, now Tasmania, where he was quickly pressed into service as a convict artist. An early commission included a number of portraits of captured bushrangers, before and after execution by hanging, including the notorious cannibal Alexander Pearce.

At the heart of the exhibition is Bock's extraordinary series of portraits of Tasmanian Aboriginal people, now in the British Museum. His drawing throughout is fine and the likenesses probably very true. The sitters have a demeanour that conveys both pride and despair, suggesting that Bock, being marginalised himself, closely identified with them and sought to convey the tragedies suffered by these indigenous people through the British settlement in Australia.

Ikon's exhibition also includes a number of nude life drawings as well as daguerreotypes by Bock – tiny photographic images on silver plate, mounted and glazed in cases – depicting people he would otherwise have drawn or painted, and demonstrating his openness to new techniques.

Bock's story is a compelling one, his time in Tasmania brought him recognition within his field, and his work is remarkable not only for its inherent quality but also for the light it shines on the early years of a penal colony in Australia – the aspiration and the awfulness of it.

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue available from Ikon Shop. ikon-gallery.org

Organised in partnership between Ikon and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.



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Edmund Clark

In Place of Hate

Exhibition

6 December 2017 – 11 March 2018

Second Floor Galleries

3.4 Edmund Clark
In Place of Hate (2017)
Image courtesy Edmund Clark
and Flowers Gallery



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British artist Edmund Clark is Ikon's artist-in-residence (2014–2018) at Europe's only entirely therapeutic prison, HMP Grendon, in Buckinghamshire. This exhibition is the culmination of his residency, comprising photography, video and installation.

Established in 1962, HMP Grendon requires inmates to accept responsibility for their offence. Within the prison environment they can exercise a degree of control over the day-to-day running of their lives, making a commitment to intensive group therapy and democratic decision-making, whilst holding each other to account. Evidence shows that Grendon has delivered lower levels of violence in prison and reduced instances of reoffence after release.

Clark, an artist with a longstanding interest in incarceration and its effects, has worked with inmates, prison officers and therapeutic staff, immersed himself in the prison routines and taken part in wing community meetings, a key element of life at Grendon.

Clark's work is shaped by his engagement with issues of censorship, security and control. He cannot make images that reveal the identity of the prisoners or details of the security infrastructure and so his response has been to create work that explores ideas of visibility, representation, trauma and self-image. These themes influence how prisoners and the criminal justice system are perceived by the public, politicians and media and are above all central to the experience of the men and staff engaged in the therapeutic process at Grendon.

The exhibition is accompanied by two publications, an exhibition catalogue and an artist's book, both available from Ikon Shop.
ikon-gallery.org

Presented in partnership with HMP Grendon and the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

For more information on Edmund Clark's residency at HMP Grendon visit artathmpgrendon.org



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5 Edmund Clark
In Place of Hate (2017)
Image courtesy Edmund Clark
and Flowers Gallery

Thomas Bock
Convicts, Race and Art
Friday 15 December, 10am–5pm – FREE
Evening reception, 5.30–7.30pm – FREE
King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS
(Closest tube station Temple)
Booking essential

A day symposium contextualising the life and work of artist Thomas Bock. Debates include art in a time of colony; the representation of Australia's indigenous peoples; and the politics and experience of transportation from the Midlands to colonial Tasmania. Talks by Dr Gaye Sculthorpe, Head of Oceania, British Museum, and Dr Malcolm Dick, Director, Centre for West Midlands History, University of Birmingham. Evening reception includes a talk by Jonathan Watkins, Ikon Director. The symposium is organised in partnership with the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, King's College, London. To book visit bocksymposium2017.eventbrite.co.uk

Edmund Clark
In Place of Hate
Monday 12 February 2018, 11am–6pm – FREE
Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
Booking essential
A day symposium bringing together artists, critics, ex-prisoners and criminologists to consider art, media and criminal justice. Edmund Clark, Ikon's artist-in-residence at HMP Grendon, is in conversation with Anthony Downey, Professor of Visual Culture in the Middle East and North Africa, Birmingham City University (BCU). Including a paper by Dr Jamie Bennett, Governor of HMP Grendon & Springhill, the symposium is organised in partnership with Elizabeth Yardley, Professor of Criminology and Director of the Centre for Applied Criminology, BCU.

Public Events

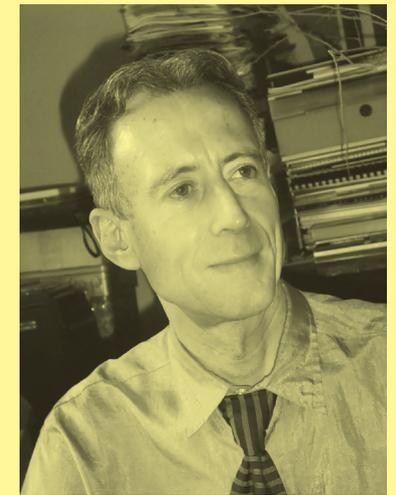
Exhibition Opening

Opening night – Edmund Clark and Thomas Bock
Wednesday 6 December, 6–8pm – FREE
Join us to celebrate the opening of our new exhibitions. Pay bar.

Talks

Alys Fowler
These Are A Few of My Favourite Things
Monday 11 December, 6–7pm – £3
Booking essential
Gardening columnist for *The Guardian*, Alys Fowler selects her eight favourite works of art, revealing her personal inspirations. Fowler is widely known for her weekly column; has contributed to *Gardens Illustrated* and *The National Geographic*; and has written five books, the latest *Hidden Nature* is about paddling the canals of Birmingham. Fowler is fascinated by urban nature and how we make space for it. *These Are A Few of My Favourite Things* returns to Ikon after successful runs during 2009–2011 with contributors including author Jonathan Coe, artist Ruth Claxton and legendary rock drummer Carl Palmer.

The Art History of Thomas Bock
Talk and Book Launch
Tuesday 12 December, 6–7pm – £3
Booking essential
Join Jane Stewart, Principal Curator at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, and Trawlwoolway artist Julie Gough for papers and discussion on the art history and legacy of Thomas Bock. The talk is followed by the launch of *The Importance of Being Anachronistic: Contemporary Aboriginal Art and Museum Reparations* (2016). The book, a collaboration between the journals *Discipline* and *Third Text*, is edited by Professor Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll, Chair of Global Art History at the University of Birmingham.



Peter Tatchell

Peter Tatchell
Refugee detention: Britain's shame
Wednesday 28 February 2018, 6–7pm
£7/£5 concs
Booking essential
An opportunity to hear from renowned human rights campaigner Peter Tatchell. Having campaigned for over 50 years, since 1967, at this event Tatchell discusses how the asylum system is rigged against genuine refugees, from the moment they apply through to incarceration, legal aid, tribunal hearings and deportations.
petertatchellfoundation.org

Book online at ikon-gallery.org or call us on 0121 248 0708. All events take place at Ikon Gallery unless otherwise stated.



Steelhouse Lane Lock-up
Courtesy West Midlands Police



Winter Craft Market

Thursday 14 December, 4–8pm – FREE

Ikon hosts a special late night opening – shop for unique handmade gifts, cards and decorations; enjoy creative activities and demonstrations by independent Midlands based crafters; get into the festive spirit with music and seasonal treats at Yorks Café; and take advantage of 20% discount in Ikon Shop. Find out more about our stall holders via Ikon's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

Film Screenings

Van Diemen's Land

Wednesday 24 January 2018, 6–8pm – FREE

The Last Confession of Alexander Pearce

Wednesday 7 February 2018, 6–8pm – FREE

Booking essential

In collaboration with Flatpack, Ikon is programming a series of film nights to coincide with the Thomas Bock and Edmund Clark exhibitions. This starts with a screening of *Van Diemen's Land* (2009), the story of Alexander Pearce, one of Australia's most notorious convicts. In 1822 Pearce and seven fellow convicts escaped from Macquarie Harbour penal station only to be faced with the hardships of the Tasmanian wilderness. Thomas Bock sketched Pearce before and after his execution in 1824, and these portraits feature in Ikon's exhibition. See Ikon's website for further screenings.

Workshop

Collage Workshop with Eloise Renouf

Sunday 11 February 2018, 1–3pm – £25

Booking essential

Join artist, designer and illustrator Eloise Renouf for some paper play in this nature inspired workshop. Renouf shares tips, techniques and inspirations from her own work so you can create and take home at least one of your own collage pieces. No experience necessary. eloiserenouf.com

Tours

Spotlight Tours

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

Join a member of Ikon staff for a 15 minute spotlight tour focused on a key work in the exhibition. No need to book, meet in Ikon foyer.

Access Tours

Available on request – FREE

Booking essential

Ikon can provide British Sign Language (BSL) and audio described introductions to our current exhibitions. Individual or group bookings are free but must be booked. Call Ikon on 0121 248 0708 or email learning@ikon-gallery.org

The Bock Streets of Birmingham

A guided walk with Ben Waddington

Thursday 1 March 2018, 1.30–4.30pm – £6

Booking essential, places are limited

Meet at Ikon for a tour of the Thomas Bock exhibition, followed by a guided walk led by Ben Waddington, Still Walking Director, exploring the industrial geography of Birmingham and looking for evidence of the city that Thomas Bock would have recognised. Join us for rest, refreshments and conversation afterwards in a local public house. Please wear footwear appropriate to urban walking. stillwalking.org

Talk

In the Frame

Wednesday 7 March 2018, 6–8pm – £5

Steelhouse Lane Lock-up

Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham B4 6NW

Booking essential

Photographic historian Pete James discusses the early history of photography in Birmingham, with reference to its use as a means of surveillance by the Birmingham Police Force in the nineteenth century, and in relation to Edmund Clark's exhibition at Ikon. The talk takes place at Steelhouse Lane Lock-up in collaboration with West Midlands Police Museum. Please note access is via a spiral staircase.

Book online at ikon-gallery.org or call us on 0121 248 0708.

Please consider making a donation for free events. Ikon is a registered charity and your support helps us with everything we do.

Family Events

Free Drop-in Activities

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

Family Saturdays

Saturday 6 January 2018, 1–4pm – FREE

Saturday 3 February 2018, 1–4pm – FREE

Saturday 3 March 2018, 1–4pm – FREE

Join us for practical and hands-on activities inspired by the current exhibitions. Spend some creative time making and experimenting as a family.

Art Explorer Bags

During exhibitions – FREE

Available at reception

Ikon's Art Explorer Bags are specially made for each exhibition. They contain short creative activities to help families explore the gallery together.

Bookable Family Workshops

Activities aimed at specific age groups.

Pinhole Portraits

Tuesday 20 February 2018, 1–4pm

Thursday 22 February 2018, 1–4pm

£4 per child

Booking essential

Join us during half-term holidays for an afternoon with artist Jo Gane as we make pinhole cameras from recycled materials. Inspired by our current exhibitions take and process your own images out and about in the galleries. This workshop is suitable for children over 7 accompanied by an adult. When booking please indicate children's ages. jogane.co.uk

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Ikon Slow Boat

Ikon *Slow Boat* continues its three year programme, *Looping the Loop* (2017–2019). Based in Ladywood, *Slow Boat* is crewed by members of the Ikon Youth Programme (IYP) who work with artists and local communities to explore the canals and organise workshops, exhibitions and film screenings in this unique social space.

Following on from Autumn residencies by artists James Lomax and Mahtab Hussain, *Slow Boat* goes into hibernation for the Winter. Check Ikon's website and social media accounts for details of our Spring programme with new artists-in-residence, including Rie Nakajima and Celebrating Sanctuary.



Ladywood residents (2017)



Ikon family workshop

Ikon Youth Programme

Ikon Youth Programme (IYP) is a group of young people, aged 16–21 years old, who share an interest in visual art. IYP meets once a week at Ikon to tour the exhibitions, get to know the Ikon team, share ideas and work with artists. These sessions are relaxed, friendly and informal. For more information contact James Cockbill on 0121 248 0708 or visit ikon-gallery.org/iyp

People Like Us #4 – Dispossession

Thursday 15 February 2018, 6–8pm – FREE

Booking essential

Join IYP for a special screening of *Dispossession: The Great Social Housing Swindle* (2017). *Dispossession* explores the agenda behind the neglect, demolition and regeneration of council estates in the UK over the past thirty years. The film reveals how individuals and communities are fighting against the state and private developers, as they try to save their homes from demolition. The screening is followed by a discussion with artist Mahtab Hussain.

Young People's Showcase

March 2018

In the New Year IYP collaborates with Free Radical, an exciting and dynamic organisation giving voice to Birmingham's young people on a new project entitled *Theatre for Democracy*. Watch this space and check social media for details. beatfreaks.com/free-radical

Teacher Events

Meet the Learning Team

Wednesday 6 December, 5–6pm – FREE
Booking essential

Group leaders, teachers and educationalists are invited to meet Ikon's Learning team for an introductory tour of the new exhibitions, before discussing how groups of all ages might fully engage with them. Stay for a glass of wine at the exhibition opening from 6pm. Places are free but should be booked by emailing learning@ikon-gallery.org

Creative Teacher Retreat

Saturday 20 January 2018, 12–4pm – £25
Booking essential, places are limited
Tea and cake provided

Inspired by Ikon's current exhibitions, this creative retreat provides all teachers with an alternative environment to develop ideas through practical hands-on activities and dialogue with colleagues from different educational settings. Join our Learning team and artist Jo Gane to develop approaches to Ikon's exhibitions and then explore materials and methods to take back to the classroom. Organised in collaboration with regional teachers' network 4MAT and Birmingham Educational Partnership.



Ikon Creative Teacher Retreat

School Visits

At Ikon your pupils can enjoy creative learning and develop key transferable skills such as problem solving, communication and literacy. We offer countless opportunities to think creatively and critically, engaging in cross-curricular learning, narrowing the achievement gap and raising attainment. There is a range of options available to suit your needs.

Group Visits

Group visits, tours and creative workshops are available for each exhibition. For more information see ikon-gallery.org/learning/adults/ or call the Learning Team on 0121 248 0708.

Find Out More

Second Floor Resource Room

During exhibitions – FREE

Take a trip to the Resource Room where you will find background information relating to our exhibitions including filmed interviews and books.

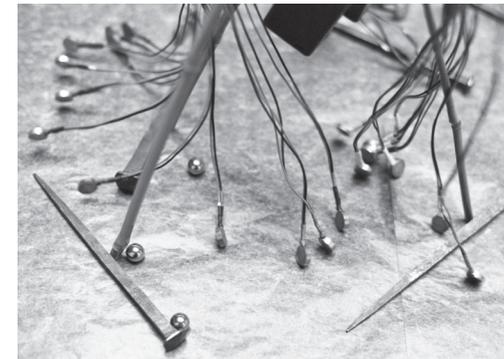
Future Ikon Exhibitions



6

6 Langlands & Bell
Infinite Loop (2017)
Monoprint, archival inkjet prints on
310gsm Hahnemuhle Photo Rag bright
white paper
Courtesy the artists

7 Rie Nakajima (2016)
Photograph by Marie Roux



Langlands & Bell

Internet Giants : Masters of the Universe
21 March – 10 June 2018

Ikon presents an exhibition of new and recent work by British artists Ben Langlands and Nikki Bell, marking the 40th anniversary of their artistic partnership. Featuring the iconic new architecture of global technology companies such as Apple, Facebook, Microsoft and Google, the exhibition includes relief sculptures, installations and portraits exploring the increasingly profound influence these huge companies will have on all our lives as we enter the Information Age. The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue, with an essay by Anthony Vidler and an interview with the artists by Dr Hans-Michael Herzog.

Rie Nakajima

21 March – 3 June 2018

Rie Nakajima is one of the most experimental artists working in the UK. Fusing sculpture and sound, her artistic practice is open to chance and the influence of others, raising important questions about the definition of art. Nakajima makes pieces often in direct response to architectural space, using a combination of kinetic devices, musical instruments and found objects. Ikon's exhibition consists entirely of new work and includes a number of performances.

About Ikon

Ikon is an internationally acclaimed contemporary art venue situated in central Birmingham. Housed in the neo-gothic Oozells Street School, it 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. 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, our Learning Team aims to build dynamic relationships with audiences, enabling visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art.



Ikon Shop

Open daily, you'll find a wide selection of art books, exhibition catalogues and design led giftware suitable for all occasions, alongside seasonal ranges and special items made in Birmingham.

If you are interested in collecting affordable art or need to find a special piece for your walls at home then take a look at our limited editions. Each of these unique works are investment pieces as they are by artists who have exhibited at Ikon.

Students, Independent Birmingham, Brindleyplace and Culture Card holders receive a 10% discount (conditions apply).

Alternatively browse our shop online at ikon-gallery.org

Follow Ikon Shop's products of the week on Instagram @ikongallery

For offers and news of our latest products sign up to the Ikon email list via the website.



Yorks at Ikon

Visit our new look café and enjoy speciality coffee (roasted at Yorks Coffee Roasters here in Birmingham), house-baked cakes, loose leaf teas, craft beers on tap, wine and cocktails. Enjoy Yorks' renowned brunch menu including shakshuka, Arabian buttered eggs and avocado smash alongside familiar favourites such as eggs benedict. Lunch brings a changing selection of sandwiches, flatbreads, hot rice boxes and salads. From 5pm onwards, Yorks fires up the pizza oven, serving stone baked pizzas. Visit yorkscafe.co.uk for menu details, specials and regular live music events.

Thank you

Ikon would like to thank the following for their invaluable support over the past 12 months

Archives Jean Painlevé; ARTIMBARC; Arts & Humanities Research Council; Arts & Science Festival; Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Europe; Birmingham City University; British Museum; Canal & River Trust; Bloxham Charitable Trust; Galleria Continua; San Gimignano/Beijing/Les Moulins/Habana; Exterior Media; Flatpack Film Festival; Glenn Howells Architects; Grantham Yorke Trust; HMP Grendon; Japan Foundation; Stephen and Sigrid Kirk; Henry Moore Foundation; Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust; Mill Dam Trust; Oakley Charitable Trust; One Million Years Foundation; David Owen; Polish Cultural Institute; Saco Serviced Apartments; Swedish Arts Grants Committee; Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac London, Paris, Salzburg; Garfield Weston Foundation; The University of Birmingham; David Zwirner and others who wish to remain anonymous.

Support Ikon

As a charity, Ikon needs your support. We rely on donations from individuals and businesses to fund what we do. If you would like to support us, whether by making a donation, becoming a patron or leaving a legacy, visit ikon-gallery.org or call 0121 248 0708.

Corporate Patrons

ARTIMBARC; Deutsche Bank; Emmerson Press; EY; Glenn Howells Architects; Hilton Garden Inn Birmingham Brindleyplace.

Ikon would also like to thank all those who make a donation during their visit.

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Registered Charity no. 528892

Exhibition supporters

The Thomas Bock exhibition is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian Cultural Diplomacy Grants Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Gordon Darling Foundation, the John Feeney Charitable Trust, the Owen Family Trust, and a Jonathan Ruffer Curatorial Research Grant from Art Fund.

Edmund Clark, Artist-in-Residence at HMP Grendon is supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

Project and Event supporters

Ikon's Learning Programme is supported by Arts Connect West Midlands, Birmingham City University, Cass Art and the Michael Marsh Charitable Trust.

Ikon's Slow Boat, *Looping the Loop*, is supported by Arts Council Strategic Touring, Michael Marsh Charitable Trust, W.A. Cadbury Trust, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, the Canal and River Trust and Grantham Yorke Trust.

Ikon is a charity and offers free entry for all, please consider making a donation during your visit.

