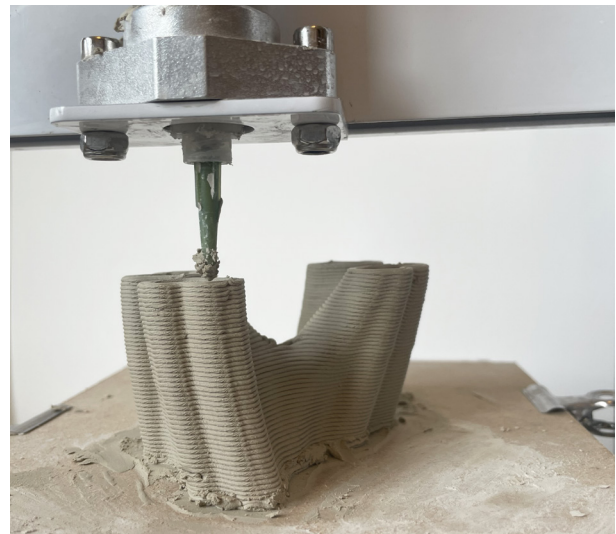


CoLAB: A Community Research Project at Kettle's Yard

13 August - 4 September 2022



3D printer, photo: Kaitlin Ferguson

Kettle's Yard is pleased to announce the launch of CoLAB, its 2022 summer community programme. CoLAB will connect North Cambridge's local community, an artist, and researchers at the University of Cambridge. Artist Kaitlin Ferguson will transform the Clore Learning Studio at Kettle's Yard into a creative research laboratory, where she will collaborate with local communities to explore a research question currently being investigated by Dr Louise Hickman at the Minderoo Centre for Technology and Democracy. The project will bring new voices to research questions about experiences of physical access in the city and result in a Living Archive of the perspectives of people living in Cambridge today. The Archive will be shared back with academics and inform current research.

Dr Louise Hickman uses ethnographic, archival, and theoretical approaches to examine how access is produced for disabled people. Her research explores the historical conditions of access work and considers how data can be used to embed access and care into our cities and cultural spaces. She takes an interdisciplinary approach informed by feminist theory, critical disability studies, and science and technology studies. CoLAB will collect the perspectives of people from across Cambridge with lived experiences of disability or sensory impairment, their carers, and people working in care to create a rich Living Archive that speaks directly to Dr Hickman's current research.

CoLAB will form a meeting ground between research at the University of Cambridge, contemporary arts practice, and local communities in North Cambridge. It will respond to requests from community partners to 'feel the benefit of having the University of Cambridge on our doorstep' and will explore meaningful and creative ways of increasing access to research.

Kaitlin Ferguson says:

"I am really looking forward to getting the CoLAB space set up and the moment we open the doors to the public."

Heather Lord, community participant says:

"Doing art for adults is like when children stop skipping. There's a point in life when we all stop skipping. CoLAB has made me skip again."

CoLAB is FREE and open to everyone. A series of workshops, open days and events will run in the Clore Learning Studio from Saturday 13 August - Sunday 4 September.

www.kettlesyard.co.uk/events

The project has been commissioned by Kettle's Yard and funded by Cambridge City Council and Arts Council England.

Notes to Editors

For all PRESS enquiries please contact Helen Dickman
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About Kettle's Yard

Kettle's Yard is one of Britain's best galleries - a beautiful and unique house with a distinctive modern art collection, and a gallery exhibiting modern and contemporary art. Supporting this is an established learning and community engagement programme, archive, and programme of chamber concerts. In February 2018, Kettle's Yard reopened after a two-year development by architect Jamie Fobert. The new Kettle's Yard includes exhibition galleries, education spaces, a café and welcome areas. Kettle's Yard's mission is to contribute to society by inspiring and engaging audiences through art, learning and research of the highest quality. We believe that great art should not be the privilege of the few, but for everyone. Our values reflect Kettle's Yard's creator Jim Ede's support for artists and belief in art's power to make us look again and change how we act in the world.

www.kettlesyard.co.uk

About Kaitlin Ferguson

Kaitlin Ferguson is an interdisciplinary artist based in Norwich, UK. Her participatory and individual practices respond to the natural world and seek to recontextualise experiences of being human within the deep time scales of the planet Earth. Her practice combines multiple media including sculpture and print-making and she works to find creative and hopeful approaches to issues such as the climate crisis that promote care for each other and for the planet. Ferguson is an Associate Artist at Kettle's Yard, the Fitzwilliam Museum, and the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts and has created participatory projects for these institutions and many others including the Barbican Centre and the University of East Anglia. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Fine Art from Norwich University and a Masters with Distinction from the University of Edinburgh.

www.kaitlinferguson.com

About Dr Louise Hickman

Dr Louise Hickman is an activist and scholar of communication. She uses ethnographic, archival, and theoretical approaches to consider how access is produced for disabled people. She applies an interdisciplinary lens drawing on feminist theory, critical disability studies, and science and technology studies to consider the historical conditions of access work, and the ways access is co-produced through human (and primarily female) labour, technological systems, and economic models and conditions. Louise is Research Associate at the Minderoo Centre for Technology and Democracy at the University of Cambridge. She has worked previously at the London School and Economics and Political Science and at the Ada Lovelace Institute. She holds a PhD from the University of California, San Diego.

www.louisehickman.com

www.mctd.ac.uk

About CoLAB

CoLAB is a summer-long pilot project in partnership with communities in North Cambridge, the Minderoo Centre for Technology and Democracy at the University of Cambridge, and Kettle's Yard. By facilitating creative engagement with research, CoLAB will enable a greater diversity of voices to engage with academic enquiry and challenge perceptions of the University. Community participants and artist Kaitlin Ferguson will co-create a final artist output that will be shared with visitors to Kettle's Yard and with our partner academic Dr Louise Hickman.

www.kettlesyard.co.uk/events



Kaitlin Ferguson in her studio