

Articles

[Hans Ulrich Obrist's Venice](#)

Sotheby's - 3 May 2017

[Art Review: Venice Biennale](#) (Waldemar Januszczak)

The Times - 21 May 2017

...As if to prove you can make art that is politically engaged and a joy to experience, the Diaspora pavilion in the Palazzo Pisani features a squad of displaced artists from Britain, young and old, who have created one of the Biennale's best events. Isaac Julien's *The Leopard* is a beautiful film installation about the mysterious transport of black Africans to an ornate palace in Europe. Khadija Saye makes gorgeous wet collodion tintypes in which this haunting 19th-century photographic process heaps poetry and sadness onto her imagery.

[Venice around Town](#)

Frieze - May 2017

But some quieter works excelled: Barby Asante's multipart installation *As Always a Painful Declaration of Independence: For Ama. For Abab. For Charlotte and Adjoa* (2017) stood out for its sensitivity to the difficulty of making a single statement on this kind of a stage. In a hallway, votive candles dedicated to women who influenced the artist (from unidentifiable relatives to Nina Simone) lined the side of one staircase, so discreetly they might be quite passed by; in another, a pile of emancipatory books is accompanied by a recording of readings from, and discussions of, the same by the artists and others; inset into another book is a tiny LCD screen, on which a video plays of the artist in a Venetian palazzo, running silently, or jumping in ecstasy, or walking a canal with a tribal mask in front of her face. There was no clear takeaway but that declaration is difficult, requires many moods, and many voices.

[Venice 2017 review/ 26 recommended pavilions, shows and individual works](#)

a-n The Artists Information Company - 15 May 2017

In traditional Italian homes the kitchen door often has a beaded curtain, and so in honour of its palazzo takeover Susan Pui San Lok excites you with a journey through a deep curtain of gold tapes before you find yourself in Hew Locke's sea of his suspended boats. With featured artists including AIR Council member Libita Clayton, [Larry Achiampong](#), Ellen Gallagher, and [Barbara Walker](#), the work is mostly site-specific as well as transporting you to a place of difference. A must see.

[Black Presences at the Venice Biennale](#)

Al Jazeera - 20 May 2017

I know of at least one person who asked "Is this necessary?" about the Diaspora Pavilion. For them, "this" is black artists taking up too much space, playing music too loudly, being just too much. Perhaps "this" is also creating discomfiture for those who believed, for a minute, that the art world, along with the Millennial generation, had become "colour-blind" - so over race that racism is no longer a real threat. But the fact that Diaspora artists had to create an alternate space for themselves - to counter the erasures that they encounter - meant that those who purport not to see colour, race, ethnicity, or difference could not support their fantasy. And that *is* embarrassing.

[Singapore artists at the 2017 Venice Biennale draw inspiration from the past](#)

The Peak - 17 May 2017

Tan says: "Perhaps, one of the reasons I'm interested in her personally is that she helped me make a connection between London and Singapore through the condition of the diaspora. It is a condition where 'return' is not always simple, direct, or even possible – as in her case..." "As an artist working in the UK, I feel there are also experiences where one doesn't just make artworks, but also somehow becomes a representative – Halimah, for instance, did not just demonstrate her craft of weaving, but she also 'performed' the Malay subject. And Venice is certainly a place where issues around representation are rife – albeit mostly around national representation."

[british-art-sails-to-venice-academicians-biennale](#)

Royal Academicians Magazine - 13 May 2017

...a joint project by the University of the Arts, London, and the International Curators Forum. At the palazzo Pisani a Santa Marina, the work of 12 emerging artists is shown alongside that of their mentors, such as [Yinka Shonibare RA](#), whose mentee is the figurative painter Kimathi Donkor. Having visited the Biennale for the first time in 2015, Donkor now finds himself exhibiting there, after a rigorous selection process. "I didn't expect that my paintings would be on show next time I went!" Donkor explains. "And Yinka is an artist who I have admired for a long time."

[venice-2017-review-britain-biennale-phyllidas-folly-diaspora-pavilion](#)

a-n - 12 May 2017

Water is inescapable too, in anger and dread, in the excellent Diaspora Pavilion at the Palazzo Pisani. Here, Isaac Julien's 2007 film *The Leopard*, about the crisis of Africans crossing clandestinely to Sicily, sits near a gorgeous 2010 Ellen Gallagher projection and a flotilla of tiny, and fragile sculptural boats by Hew Locke. If the official biennale presentation, curated this year by Christine Macel, seems lacking in politics, this is one of the city's pockets where the conversation about global migration, the nature of diaspora and domestic diversity seems alive and important.

[Vive: 10 To See](#)

Epeak - 20 April 2017

2. Diaspora Pavilion: The International Curators Forum (ICF) and University of the Arts London (UAL) present Diaspora Pavilion, a project conceived to challenge the prevalence of national pavilions within the structure of a biennale. Through the work of eight mentors and 11 UK-based emerging artists, the exhibition will expand on diaspora as a term, and forms part of the ICF and UAL's joint 22-month Diaspora Platform project. Artists include Michael Forbes, Isaac Julien, Hew Locke and Yinka Shonibare.

[The Weight of History in Venice](#)

Business Times - 16 May 2017

...Gothic palace houses the Diaspora Pavilion, an exhibition showcasing 19 UK-based artists seeking to expand the meaning of **diaspora**. Among them are respected names such as Isaac Julien, Ellen Gallagher and Yinka Shonibare.

[Singaporeans making their mark at the 2017 Venice Biennale](#)

Channel News Asia - 12 May 2017

[Singapore artists chart new waters at Venice Biennale](#)

Straits times - 16 May 2017

[Isaac Julien: an act of remembrance](#)

Financial Times-11 May 2017

... felt more strongly than ever today (a single-screen version will be shown this month in the **Diaspora Pavilion** at this year's **Venice Biennale**).

[New Nicholas Serota pavilion among this year's Venice Biennale highlights](#)

How To Spend It - 8 May 2017

...[Tate](#) director Nicholas Serota is launching the Diaspora pavilion, featuring works by 11 up-and-coming British artists from diverse backgrounds, such as Kimathi Donkor, who is of central African descent, and mentors such as Nigerian-born Sokari Douglas Camp, who makes figurative sculptures out of oil barrels.

[What The UK And Ireland Are Showing At The 2017 Venice Biennale](#)

ArtLyst-5 May 2017

Artlyst is off to **Venice** for a week of immersive art overkill. ... Cannaregio 6103-6104, 30100 **Venice**
The **Diaspora Pavilion** showcasing the work ...

[A Series of Rogue Pavilions Wrestles with the Venice Biennale's National Structure](#)

artnet News - May 9, 2017

For Kouoh, the issue of national representation at **Venice** is a “tricky, double-edged sword.” This sentiment is echoed by David A. Bailey, co-curator of the **Diaspora Pavilion**: “**Venice** is one of the oldest **Biennales**, and it's based on colonial ...

[Singapore Pavilion opens at Venice Biennale](#)

TODAYonline - May 10, 2017

At the Singapore **Pavilion** for the **Venice Biennale** 2017, Zai Kuning presents his most ambitious work to date, Dapunta Hyang: Transmission of Knowledge, brings to life the imagined vessel, steered by the first Malay King Dapunta Hyang Sri Jayanasa, of ...

[Singaporeans making their mark at the 2017 Venice Biennale](#)

Channel NewsAsia - May 12, 2017

VENICE: The Singapore **Pavilion** at the 57th edition of the **Venice Biennale** was launched at the historic Arsenale on Wednesday (May 10), with multidisciplinary artist Zai Kuning and his 17m-long ship made of rattan, beeswax and string leading the charge.

[The weight of history in Venice](#)

THE BUSINESS TIMES - May 11, 2017

Beside Zai, Tan and Choo, other Singapore artists and curators involved in this year's **Venice Biennale** include Annie Jael Kwan who is bringing the performance works of Boedi Widjaja and Lynn Lu to the **Diaspora Pavilion** next month, as well as Yeo Chee ...

[PH unveils works of two top artists at Venice art exposition](#)

Inquirer.net - May 11, 2017

VENICE – “The Spectre of Comparison,” a thought-provoking collaboration of contemporary artists Manuel Ocampo and Lani Maestro, was unveiled today (May 11) at the 57th International Art Exhibition of La **Biennale di Venezia**. At the “**Biennale Arte** 2017” ...

[Artist and Citizen: Mark Bradford Presents His Democratic Vision at Venice Biennale](#)

Culture Type - May 11, 2017

To guide the process, Bradford created a full scale replica of the U.S. **Pavilion in Venice** in his Leimert Park studio and experimented with the most innovative and effective ways to activate the five-gallery space, which features a central rotunda. In ...

[PHL Pavilion at Venice Biennale opens](#)

GMA News - 9 hours ago

This year, the Philippine **pavilion** bears the theme "The Spectre of Comparison," and features the works of Filipino-Canadian artist Lani Maestro and US-based Manuel Ocampo and how they "relate to notions of nationhood, **diaspora** and identity." Curated by ...

[2 more Filipino contemporary artists make waves at 'Olympics of art'](#)

Inquirer.net - May 13, 2017

VENICE — They may be in their 20s, but Katherine Nuñez and Issay Rodriguez are already making waves in the global art scene, this time at the prestigious "Biennale Arte 2017," which features contemporary art. Biennale Arte 2017 (**Venice Art Biennale** ...

[Philippine Pavilion in Arsenale Opens to the Public](#)

Philippine Information Agency - 9 hours ago

The Spectre of Comparison, the Philippine **Pavilion** at the 2017 **Venice Art Biennale**, successfully held its vernissage on May 11 and is now ready to show the world how the works of Maestro and Ocampo relate to notions of nationhood, **diaspora** and identity ...

[Malta Returns to the Venice Biennale After 17 Years](#)

Hyperallergic - May 10, 2017

The country is an amalgam of cultures and influences, and that complexity will be examined at the 2017 **Venice Biennale** by the Malta **Pavilion** — the country's first national showing at the international contemporary art extravaganza in 17 years. Homo ...

<https://hyperallergic.com/378018/malta-returns-to-the-venice-biennale-after-17-years/>

[*David adjaye, sokari douglas camp, ellen gallagher, isaac julien, hew locke, vong phaophanit and yinka shonibare mentor young artists for venice*](#)

artbahrain - 7 april 2017

Each scheme lasts for 22 months and offers the emerging artists and curators the opportunity to take part in forums and masterclasses with their mentors. The aim is to create cross-generational connections that will support professional development.

[Diaspora Pavilion at the Venice Biennale](#)

Contemporary art society - 12 May 2017

...a group of 19 British-based, ethnically diverse artists who, through the many narratives underpinning their work, speak eloquently of the infinite complexities of the very idea of nationality. Overwhelmingly one comes away with the profound sense of identity being constantly under construction, of the ongoing interrogation of heritage in relation to the individual, whether that be via ethnicity or intellectual and artistic commonality.

[Venice Biennale 57 From An Artist's Perspective Hedley Roberts Picks Twelve](#)

artlyst - 15 May 2017

Diaspora was one of the big hits of press week. The following party was so full that at one point even the artists couldn't get back in. By the end of the first day, all the press material and catalogues were gone. The show itself is very textured and lively in its diasporic theme...

[Installation View: Diaspora Pavilion - The very first Diaspora Pavilion in Venice offers a glimpse into an art practice that isn't bound to nation states.](#)

Contemporaryand - 12 May 2017

[Isaac Julien featured in Diaspora Pavilion, Venice Biennale](#)

Victoria Miro - 12 May 2017

key facts

Between 800-950 visitors every day launch week

Launch night on the 10th May 2017 saw an estimated 2000 people enter through doors

Queues around the block on both the Wednesday night Diaspora Launch event opening and the Arts Council England breakfast launch on Thursday morning (9.30am-11.00am)

Tours from curators/patrons and their directors with Arts Council England, The Government Art collection, V&A, British Council, Whitechapel, Serpentine,

Features

Will Gompertz's piece ran on BBC's News at Ten and on BBC World on Friday 12 May.

BBC Radio 4 - Front Row with John Wilson airing TBC

BBC documentary airing primetime (8/9pm TBC) on Saturday 17th June

QUOTES

Nick Serota Video

<https://www.facebook.com/creativeentrs/videos/1794727230843498/>

Facebook - 11 May 2017

title: Today we're taking a break from our 'Creative Entrepreneur Spotlight' series. Instead, we're going to showcase some of our favourite works from the 57th Venice Art Biennale @labiennale with a live takeover directly from Venice.

Here is exclusive footage of a brief interview with Nicholas Serota, chair of the British Arts Council, at the opening of the 'Diaspora Pavilion' in collaboration with @uniofthearts london and more.

Issac Julien video

https://www.facebook.com/creativeentrs/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf

Insightful to learn more about mentorship in the art world with expert artist mentor @isaacjulien at @labiennale in Venice at the 'Diaspora Pavilion' today.

How can mentors help artists gain exposure and go from creatives to Creative Entrepreneurs?

--

Hans Ulrich Obrist video

<https://www.facebook.com/creativeentrs/videos/1794740997508788/>

Continuing with our #venicebiennale2017 takeover live from Italy. Here's an interview with arguably the most influential art curator in the world, Hans Ulrich Obrist @hansulrichobrist.

We discussed the opening of the 'Diaspora Pavilion' as well as the importance of setting a basis for #creativeentrepreneurs in the UK.

Kimathi Video

<https://www.facebook.com/creativeentrs/videos/1794682304181324/>

Video - Opening speeches

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=%E2%80%AA%23%E2%80%8Ediasporapavilion>

Written quotes

“Established practitioners can help emerging artists by giving advice and support at a critical stage in their careers. This important and exciting initiative breaks new ground and brings some of the best young artists to international attention in Venice.”

Sir Nicholas Serota, Chairman, Arts Council England

“If you’re wondering what you can do at this time of social unease and growing prejudice in the world, supporting the Diaspora Pavilion is a direct way to affect long term change. Diaspora Pavilion directly tells a story, through the portal of the Venice Biennale 2017, about how we want Britain to be seen around the world.”

The Right Hon. David Lammy MP

“I am honoured to be involved in this much needed project. When we increase opportunity for diverse voices, we increase the texture and complexity that is the lifeblood of the arts. This is a vitally important project not just for its participants, but for the very richness of our culture.”

Sir David Adjaye OBE

“As the leading provider of creative talent in the UK, UAL has a responsibility to be leading on projects like this. Our involvement in Diaspora Pavilion adds to our vital work in making a tangible difference for emerging artists.”

Nigel Carrington, Vice-Chancellor of University of the Arts London (UAL)

“We’re pleased to support these important artists and curators through the Beyond the Frame initiative, and to help inspire and develop the next generation of leaders in the cultural sector.”

Bloomberg Philanthropies