



Assembly Dundee: Friday 12 October 2018

Unit 6 Vision Building, 20 Greenmarket, Dundee, DD1 4QB

With 'Scotland's first design museum' V&A Dundee opening to the public in September, the third a-n Assembly event for 2018 will explore the idea of 'cultural outposts' and the challenges and advantages these offer for sustained artist-led practice.

Dundee is a city in transition. As the new V&A emerges out of the waterfront and surrounding industrial buildings are converted into luxury hotels or demolished to make way for high end housing, the city is undergoing a period of intense cultural and architectural change. With much of the city's cultural strategy currently focusing on Dundee's population as its target audience, artists are calling for the city to also support grassroots artistic production, critique and dialogue as part of a healthy and sustainable community.

Programmed in collaboration with artist Joanna Helfer, Assembly Dundee will offer a platform to discuss the impact these changes are having on the local arts ecology, and present a range of responses by artists and organisations from areas around the UK that have undergone similar transformations.

Using Dundee as a starting point, the day-long event will combine discussions, presentations and practical hands-on workshops to explore meaningful ways to live, work and connect in challenging places.

**For more info and to book visit:
a-n.co.uk/assembly/dundee**

Welcome and introduction to the day
11 – 11.30am

a-n's External Programmes and Partnerships Manager Hannah Pierce gives a quick introduction to a-n and the [Paying Artists Campaign](#).

Session 1: Artist-led models in redeveloping cities | 11.30am – 1pm

Looking at various models of artist-led activity in the UK, this session will address the different ways in which artists have self-organised in cities undergoing large-scale redevelopment, and the importance of maintaining grassroots autonomous activity in these places where cultural identity is shifting. Speakers and organisations include: [Generator Projects](#) from Dundee; Becky Peach, Artistic Director at Liverpool-based [The Royal Standard](#); and Cardiff-based artist [Thomas Goddard](#).

Lunch
1 - 1.45pm

Time for a break and to recharge!

Vegan and gluten free options will be available.

Session 2: A network of outposts
1.45 – 3.15pm

This round table discussion will bring together artists, curators and representatives from regions around the UK that could be thought of as 'cultural outposts'. Considering the unique challenges and opportunities brought about by such locations, a-n CEO [Julie Lomax](#) will chair a dialogue between members of Aberdeen-based collective [Tendency Towards](#), Belfast-based curator [Alissa Kleist](#), artist Beth Emily Richards (who is also a producer for [Jamboree](#), an artist-led event based in Dartington) and Assembly programmer [Joanna Helfer](#). This dialogue will be documented by artist [Jen Collins](#) and will culminate in actionable outcomes, with event participants invited to connect and form networks of support.

Coffee Break
3.15 - 3.30pm

Session 3: Places of production
3.30 – 5.30pm

Recognising that cities need to support the places, workshops and facilities that artists need in order to create work, this practical workshop will hear from four different models of making and production, followed by a taster session and group discussions about the importance of these facilities in maintaining a healthy cultural ecology. Attendees can select from one of the workshops and hear from the facilitators about their practice. Workshops will include taster sessions from the artist-led initiatives [Dundee Print Collective](#) and [Dundee Ceramics Workshop](#), photography and performance workshop with lens based performance artist [Sekai Machache](#) who is currently graduate artist-in-residence at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, and Cardiff-based studio provider [Spit and Sawdust](#) which will present on its approach to production spaces and connecting to communities.

Lunch and refreshments are provided as part of the day. This is a full day event. Booking is required. Tickets are free for a-n members and £5 for non-members.

For more info and to book visit: a-n.co.uk/assembly/dundee