



Somerset House Studios announces full programme for September - November 2023

- Sonya Dyer presents her first major solo showing at a London institution *Three Parent Child* 29 September – 12 November 2023
- Cultural programming studio (A)WAKE to curate a one-day programme of workshops, discussions and performances on 9th September
- Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen presents *May The Fox Take You* (working title), a new commission for online platform Channel, developed during the CCI x SHS Experimental Technology Fellowship.
- Screening of *May The Fox Take You* (working title) and in-conversation with Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen announced for 20th September
- AGM 2023 date confirmed for 13th October 2023
- New CCI x Somerset House Studios Experimental Technology Fellowship announced
- New residents joining the Somerset House Studios community include: Alice Bucknell, Elaine Mitchener, and Sin Wai Kin

[Finding loopholes in the www land of the oppressed | 9 September 2023 | Workshop 12:00 - 15:00, Talks and Performances 15:30 - 23:00 | New Wing | £12.50](#)

Somerset House Studios invites the cultural programming studio [\(A\)WAKE](#) to curate a one-day programme of workshops, discussions and performances by artists, researchers and storytellers who will be bringing new perspectives on the social, political and cultural impacts of technology. From digital algorithmic systems that support systems of oppression, to the Eurocentric, English-language-centric digital spaces, *Finding loopholes in the www land of the oppressed* discusses the dismantling of these power structures and rebuilding positive new worlds in their place.

Representing the West Asia and North Africa (WANA) diasporic communities perspective, (A)WAKE consider the barriers between race and technology, taking into account particularities such as navigating in landscapes of war and conflict, the lack of access to proper Wi-Fi, the lack of Arabic translations and/or censoring of Arabic languages.

Curated by (A)WAKE with support of Romy Gad el Rab.

- **Workshop: Swapping Algorithms with Salim Bayri 12:00 - 15:00**
Multimedia visual artist Salim Bayri leads a workshop inviting participants to break out of their online bubbles and exchange online experiences by swapping algorithms.
- **Talk: On Hacking Palestine with Isshaq Albarbary and Miriyam Aouragh 15:30 - 16:45**
A conversation exploring the influence of digitalisation in Palestine. Albarbary and Aouragh reflect



upon the pivotal moments of choice, wherein one must decide between embracing the role of the oppressed or the empowered.

- **Talk: Escape Routes in the Digital Black Hole with Salim Bayri, Ahaad Alamoudi, Heba Al Yamin, Romy Gad el Rab 17:00 - 18:30**

A panel talk of four artists on their relationship with the digital space and its potential. Sharing a breadth of work that spans the witty, intellectually challenging and aesthetically comforting, the panel will explore escape routes in the digital black hole.

- **Music Programme: Cheb Runner + Sarra Wild**

Cheb Runner 19:00 - 20:00

Live performance of Angry Immigrant, an hour-long live-show of compositions, merging traditional and contemporary electronic sounds together moving from Moroccan chaabi, spiritual sounds to eclectic disco, deep techno and Dutch gabber. Each track representing a year in Brussels as an immigrant. Accompanied by interactive visuals from multimedia artist Salim Bayri.

Sarra Wild DJ set 20:00 - 21:00

Expect a euphoric trip through jungle, R&B edits and Lebanese pop from one of Glasgow's most vital DJs.

New Commission on Channel : *May The Fox Take You* by Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen

May The Fox Take You is the new exclusive commission for Somerset House's online platform Channel, from artists Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen, recipients of the CCI x SHS Experimental Technology Fellowship. The work is an elegy occupying both the minute and overbearing currents of ongoing trauma, threading together personal accounts, references to rituals that originated in Jerusalem, Iraqi swear words and idioms, poetry, memory and civil engineering. The film brings together opposing notions - love and heartbreak, security and danger, pogo dance tutorials and military robot dogs, medicinal and toxic plants - summoning the energy of life, while haunting sense of harm lies underneath.

***May The Fox Take You* by Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen: Screening + In Conversation | Thu 20 Sep 18.45 – 20.30 | £6 | Lancaster Rooms**

Join Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen for a screening of new film *May The Fox Take You* as they share their ideas and process behind the commission.

***Three Parent Child: Sonya Dyer* | 29 Sep – 12 Nov 2023 | 10.00-18.00 daily | River Rooms | FREE**



Sonya Dyer - *Andromeda* | download [here](#)

Somerset House Studios has commissioned resident **Sonya Dyer** to exhibit across the River Rooms from September, marking her first major solo showing at a London institution. The cross-disciplinary show, ***Three Parent Child***, marks the final stage of Dyer's *Andromeda* trilogy, as part of her ongoing project [Hailing Frequencies Open](#), which reimagines the history and radical potentiality of human space travel, exploring the intersections between scientific enquiry, the stories of Black women of history and mythology, and ongoing conversations around monumentalism and memory. *Three Parent Child* features two main bodies of work: *Action > Potential*, and *Lucy*.

Action > Potential is a two-channel moving-image work centring *Andromeda*, the personified galaxy and constellation that shares its name with the Aiethiopian Princess *Andromeda* in Greek mythology. In Sonya's work, *Andromeda* metaphorically embodies the reclamation of the neglected stories of Black women of science and mythology. In *Action > Potential* *Andromeda* is trying to return 'home' to her galaxy after unexpectedly finding herself in a science lab, where she comes across a rogue mitochondria named *Lucy*. *Action Potential* is a scientific term used to explain the brief electrical impulse cells use to transmit information from one place to another. This exchange is what inspired the movement patterns in the film.

Lucy is a large-scale sculpture of the rogue mitochondria, mutating through the three River Rooms and transforming into something new. *Lucy* forms the last in a series of sculptures named after three enslaved women experimented on by a notorious 19th century gynaecologist.

The title *Three Parent Child* takes its name from recent scientific development of Mitochondrial replacement therapy (MRT), a new technique that incorporates DNA from three people to create a child, which mirrors Dyer's adherence to trilogies throughout her practice.

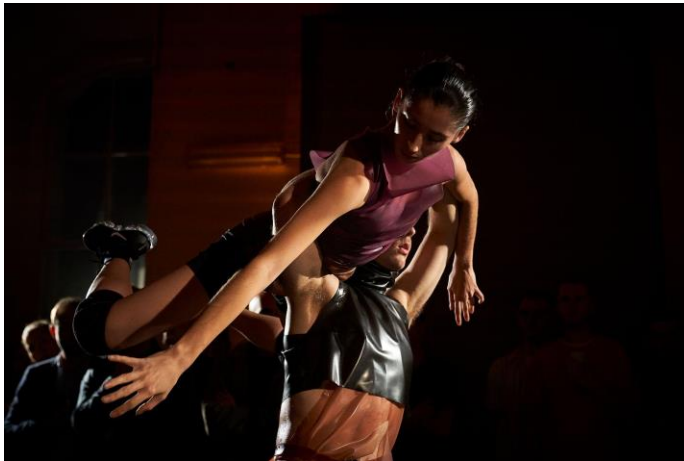
***Three Parent Child* is commissioned by Somerset House, and is supported by Cockayne – Grants for the Arts and The London Community Foundation.**



Sonya Dyer In Conversation | Tue 31 Oct 18.45 – 20.30 | £6 | Lancaster Rooms

Artist and Somerset House Studios resident Sonya Dyer sheds light on her new River Rooms installation, *Three Parent Child*, comprising of a two-channel moving-image work and multi-room sculpture. She'll be discussing ongoing Hailing Frequencies Open project - a reimagining of the history and radical potentiality of human space travel, exploration of the intersections between scientific enquiry, the stories of Black women of history and mythology, and ongoing conversations around monumentalism and memory.

AGM 2023 | 13 Oct 2023 | 19.00-23.00 | New Wing



AGM @ SHS Photo © Anne Tetzlaff - download [here](#)

Somerset House Studios proudly mark another year of its exceptional resident artist community with its yearly late-night party. Taking over the Studios' ground floor, this year's edition of AGM will be a night of collaborative energy, art installations, and captivating live performances, alongside a late opening of *Three Parent Child*, **Sonya Dyer's** new commission which travels through the River Rooms. Full programme to be announced.

This is an 18+ event

[New CCI x Somerset House Studios Experimental Technology Fellowship](#)

Somerset House Studios in partnership with UAL Creative Computing Institute (CCI) have launched a new [Experimental Technology Fellowship](#) offering a unique development and commission opportunity for artists who have an established practice but who have not yet worked with creative technology in a significant way. Revital Cohen and Tuur van Balen are the first recipients, and will receive practical and technological support over a 5-month residency across both sites to develop a new experimental work which will be presented on Somerset House's new curated online platform Channel in September 2023.



New Somerset House Studios Residents

Somerset House Studios welcome artists **Alice Bucknell**, **Elaine Mitchener**, and **Sin Wai Kin** as new residents.

- [Alice Bucknell](#) is an artist and writer working primarily through video game engines. Her current work explores interconnections of architecture, ecology, magic, and non-human and machine intelligence. She presented the New Worlds programme at Somerset House Studios, a series of talks, screenings, and performances that critically imagined new and alternative future worlds.
- [Elaine Mitchener](#) MBE is a contemporary vocalist, movement artist and composer working between contemporary/experimental new music, free improvisation and visual art.
- 2022 Turner prize nominee and recent Baloise Prize winner [Sin Wai Kin](#) brings fantasy to life through storytelling in performance, moving image, writing, and print. Drawing on the experience of existing between binary categories, their work realises alternate worlds to describe lived experiences of desire, identification and consciousness. Sin Wai Kin's "The Story Cycle" was the first commissioned film for Somerset House's online platform Channel.

ABOUT SOMERSET HOUSE STUDIOS

Somerset House Studios is an experimental workspace in the centre of London connecting artists, makers and thinkers with audiences. Located inside the repurposed former Inland Revenue building, the Studios offer space and support to artists pushing bold ideas, engaging with urgent issues and pioneering new technologies. It is also a platform for the development of new creative projects and collaborations. Up to 70 artists are resident at any one time and are supported to develop their practice for a defined period.

ABOUT SOMERSET HOUSE

Step Inside, Think Outside

As the home of cultural innovators, Somerset House is a site of origination, with a cultural programme offering alternative perspectives on the biggest issues of our time. We are a place of joy and discovery, where everyone is invited to Step Inside and Think Outside.

From our historic site in the heart of London, we work globally across art, creativity, business, and non-profit, nurturing new talent, methods and technologies. Our resident community of creative enterprises, arts organisations, artists and makers, makes us a centre of ideas, with most of our programme home-grown.

We sit at the meeting point of artistic and social innovation, bringing worlds and minds together to create surprising and often magical results. Our spirit of constant curiosity and counter perspective is integral to our history and key to our future.

Artists biographies [HERE](#)

Assets [HERE](#)



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