

Join us after-hours at the Fitzwilliam Museum for a special, one-off night of music, poetry and performances inspired by radical poet, artist and printmaker, William Blake.

In conversation with the Fitzwilliam's exhibition 'William Blake's Universe', our 'Museum Late' event explores the theme of conflict beyond borders, looking at the tension between imperialism and continental artistic exchange, feminine and masculine romanticism, as well as the destructive and regenerative power of art in a time of war.

Throughout the evening's activities, get involved with our hands-on workshops and talks with leading Blake scholars and student curators. Alongside the UK-wide student exhibition packed full of artworks and performances created in response to Blake.

Dress up and immerse yourself in an evening of art, music, theatrical performances and more.

SPECIAL THANKS TO DR SARAH HAGGARTY, REBECCA MARKS AND THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

EAT AND DRINK

Blake-inspired Curated Playlist and Live Music

THE COURTYARD CAFE | GROUND FLOOR
18.30-21.00

Described as the original punk and rock music's favourite poet, William Blake has influenced generations of musicians including Bob Dylan, Patti Smith, Jah Wobble and U2. Check out our Blake-inspired playlist and some live improvisations by our musicians in the cafe area throughout the night.

FOOD

- £8 Spiced Rubbed Pulled Pork, Asian Slaw, Gochujang Mayo, Brioche Bun
- £8 Lemon & Chilli Marinated Halloumi, Asian Slaw, Gochujang Mayo, Brioche Bun (v)
- £9 Red Thai Curry, Marinated Prawns, Fragrant Rice, Popadoms, Coriander (gf)
- £9 Red Thai Curry, Vegetables, Fragrant Rice, Popadoms, Coriander (vg, gf)

DRINKS

From **£4.50** Larger / Ale

£5 G&T

£5 Wine

Selection of Soft Drinks available

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MUSEUM LATE

LOVE ART AFTER DARK 2024

30
APR



18:30 - 21:00

WILLIAM BLAKE

AND CONFLICT BEYOND BORDERS AND FORMS



The
Fitzwilliam
Museum

PERFORMANCES

Singing and Spoken Words: Reinterpreting Blakian Verses

ROOM 33 AND ROOM 17 | GROUND FLOOR AND UPPER FLOOR
Live at 18.45-19.25 and recorded sound all-night long

In response to the 'William Blake's Universe' exhibition, poets Mary Jean Chan, Nadia Lines, and Eric Yip have teamed up with composers Spencer Boya, Jo Fraser, and Carla Ng to compose original live performances to reinterpret Blake's poetry and art, through pieces respectively titled 'Fractal/Flood', 'Good Taste', and 'Four Proverbs of Hell'. The performances of these pieces will be accompanied by theremin and clarinet performances by Jo and Shelly Lee, and artworks by Audrey Chan. 'Good Taste' and 'Four Proverbs of Hell' are performed live on the beautiful staircase in Room 33. Enjoy Mary Jean's recorded found poem using the words of William Blake, set to original music by Spencer and accompanied by Audrey's oil painting 'Water Serpent in the Calla Lily' with the blue melancholic lighting in Room 17.

Poetry and composition commissioned by the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Improvisations on the Bombshell Cello: The Colliding Sounds Between the New and Traditional In Iraq

ROOM 26 AND 33 | GROUND FLOOR
18.45-19.15 and 20.15-20.35

Immerse yourselves in the music of Khabat Abas, who is an experimental, improvisational cellist and composer from Kurdistan, Iraq. In this musical performance, she amplifies voiceless story and uses diverse materials to protest against oppressions rooted in social and political systems. The colliding sounds explore what is out of bounds and raise the possibilities of sounds that contrast with traditional musical values.

The Three Body Problem

ROOM 33 | GROUND FLOOR
19.35-20.00

As part of the UK-wide Blake-themed student curatorial exhibition, Casper Dillen (Choreographer and Performer), Dann Xiao (Assistant Director and Performer), Yi Wang, Qibai Ting, Yujie Duan (Performers), Haedong Lee (Sound), and Roberts Jansens (Technical Support) from the Royal College of Art explore the destructive power of war in the arts in this curated moving piece.

The *three body problem* is the name for a scientific riddle of Newtonian physics that deals with the motion of bodies that are simultaneously attracted to one another. This is a dance performance on the staircase of the Fitzwilliam museum, where four dancers march up and down the stairs. In aesthetic and tactical formations. They march, crawl, until they can't any longer.

TALKS

Academic Perspectives on Blake with Dr Sarah Haggarty – 'Albion, dancing'

EXHIBITION AREA | UPPER FLOOR
19.00-19.10 and 20.00-20.10

Walk through the brand-new 'William Blake's Universe' exhibition and gain some academic perspectives on Blake's Albion Rose (1793-6) with Dr Sarah Haggarty, Associate Professor in English at the University of Cambridge and Fellow of Queen's College.

Academic Perspectives on Blake with Rebecca Marks – 'Blake's relationship with Old Master prints'

EXHIBITION AREA | UPPER FLOOR
19.30-19.40 and 20.30-20.40

Join Rebecca Marks, final-year PhD student who researches the influence of Italian Renaissance artist and poet Michelangelo on Blake at the Faculty of English, University of Cambridge, and learn about Blake's intertwining relationships with Old Master prints as she shares her insights into Joseph of Arimathea.

Reimagining the Colonial, Imperial and Gendered Space of the Fitzwilliam Museum

ROOM 26 | GROUND FLOOR
19.30-19.45

Extending from our UK-wide Blake-themed student exhibition, Cambridge-based second-year architecture students share their curatorial insights into how the displayed architectural models reflect on the Fitzwilliam Museum through war. The talk looks at the colonial past of the Museum's collection and architecture, as well as the representation of female art in the museum and the current inclusion of art in a space that was designed to host male art.

The Regenerative Power of War in Arts

ROOM 26 | GROUND FLOOR
19.55- 20.10

Listen to our student curators, Jane Lee, Luis López, and Pon Chanarat from the Royal College of Art, discuss how they and the student artists gain inspiration from Blake's seminal works, *The Book of Urizen*, *All Religions are One*, and David V. Erdman's *Blake: Prophet Against Empire*. They share how their curatorial unveils the intricate interplay between tradition and modernity, and reflects the complexities inherent in reconciling values diverged from the war and belief systems within both individual and collective societal frameworks.



The Destructive Power of War in Arts

ROOM 26 | GROUND FLOOR
20.20 - 20.35

Come and join Dahee Min, Sunjoo Jung, Soyeon Jung, and Victoria Stepanets, our student curators from the Royal College of Art, as they discuss how their curation at our student exhibition explores the destructive aspect of war and how it is represented in different forms of arts, including performances, moving images, installations, linocuts, sculptures, paintings and photographs.



EXHIBITIONS AND DISPLAYS

Student Exhibition: Blake's Conflicting Artistic Visions

COURTYARD ENTRANCE, ROOM 27, ROOM 31, ROOM 33, COURTYARD CAFE AND LOWER FLOOR | GROUND FLOOR AND LOWER FLOOR
All night

Explore the museum and look at the student artworks curated by Cambridge's very own architecture students as well as Jane Lee, Luis López, Pon Chanarat, Dahee Min, Sunjoo Jung, Soyeon Jung, and Victoria Stepanets from the Royal College of Art to dig deep into our Blake-inspired sub-themes of imperialism and continental artistic exchange, feminine and masculine romanticism, and the destructive and regenerative power of art in a time of war. Don't forget to take a leaflet from our volunteers wearing ivy leaves to learn more about the works!

Poetry Prints and Art in the Blue Room

ROOM 17 | UPPER FLOOR
18.30 - 21.00

Read Mary Jean Chan's found poem 'Fractal/Flood' on print and see Audrey Chan's two oil paintings 'Forbidden City' and 'Water Serpent in the Calla Lily', while indulging in the blue atmosphere set by the Fitzwilliam Museum and Spencer Boya's original music. Take a free printed postcard that features the said poem and 'Serpent' painting from the transparent box!

For the 'Gram': Romantic Photobooth

ROOM 31 | GROUND FLOOR
18.30 - 21.00

Show off your romantic #OOTD and snap a few pics at our photo booth! It features an original backdrop by student artist Jackson Owen, and beautiful gowns by student designer Ge Yu. Capture the culture collisions between the east and west, feminine and masculine. Get featured on our Instagram stories by tagging @fitzmuseum_soc and @thesocialcanvasprojects! Please note that you must not use flashlights.

The wall will be a bold, abstracted amalgamation of reference to William Blake's romantic notions of masculinity and femininity. The thesis of the work will consider how these notions are malleable, and on a spectrum, and less governed by a strict rule of thumb in today's society. Orange will be the primarily used color, to complement the dresses.

WORKSHOPS

Relief Etching Printmaking Workshop: Blake's Vision of Greek and Roman Statues

EDUCATION STUDIO | LOWER FLOOR
18.30-19.30

Ticketed at the Courtyard Entrance

Blake was at the forefront of modern relief etching printmaking, using copper plates to construct beautifully detailed engravings. Inspired by these pieces, we'll be creating our own etchings on Tetra Pak. This workshop is a great opportunity to channel the sculptural works that inspired Blake's own intrigue with Greek and Roman statues. This brief introduction to print processes is great for all skill levels.

Lino Cutting Workshop: Revealing the Visionary Image

EDUCATION STUDIO | LOWER FLOOR
19.45-20.45

Ticketed at the Courtyard Entrance

Blake had a long-lasting commitment in engravings and printmaking, which allowed him to push boundaries in art. A huge focus was centred around ancient figures and sculptures and how they could be translated into prints and methods he took to subvert them. This workshop encourages you to make your own prints using lino and point, implementing different colours and layering techniques to create works on par with Blake himself!



Societies and Zine Fairs

SEMINAR ROOM | LOWER FLOOR
All night

Come join the Cambridge-based societies and check out a variety of creative zines!

