

PRESS RELEASE

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***URGENCIES (2023)* OPENS AT CCA DERRY~LONDONDERRY**

CCA Derry~Londonderry opens our biennial exhibition, *URGENCIES (2023)* on Saturday 21 January 2023, 7-9pm. The exhibition has a pre-launch performance by artist Husk Bennett on Monday 16 January 2023, 1-4pm, and runs until Saturday 18 March 2023.

[URGENCIES \(2023\)](#) is the third outing of CCA Derry~Londonderry's biennial exhibition selected from an open call. The exhibition seeks to present a snapshot of just some of the many preoccupations of early-career artists working today with a connection to our region.

The work in *URGENCIES (2023)* ranges in media from painting to textile, print, mixed media, film, text and site-specific drawing and installation. The artists respond to the world in which we find ourselves with heartfelt and sometimes wry work considering the energy and climate crises ([Yasmin Robinson](#), [Sarah Diver Lang](#)), reflections on the peace process ([Richard Magee](#)), gentrification ([Silvia Mandic](#)), identity and language ([Miach Malachy](#), [Chloe Austin](#)), mental health ([DreamBean](#)), loss, isolation and survival as an artist ([Daniel Coleman](#), [Julie Lovett](#)).

[Husk Bennett](#) is creating new work responding to the news headlines on 'Blue Monday', the 'most depressing day of the year'. On Monday 16 January 2023, 1–4pm CCA is opening its doors during the install for visitors to see Husk making the new work. The work looks at the trivialisation of humanity by the media and capitalism and will remain on display throughout the exhibition. *URGENCIES (2023)* will launch in full on Saturday 21 January 2023, 7–9pm.

The artists in *URGENCIES (2023)* were selected by Artist Joy Gerrard and CCA Director Catherine Hemelryk and the project is presented both in CCA and offsite. Keep an eye on CCA's social media ([@CCADLD](#)) and this [page](#) for full details of full events and locations.

Supported by the National Lottery through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

Image: Chloe Austin, *To the hands that held me before*, 2022.

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Centre for Contemporary Art Derry~Londonderry

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Opening times: Tuesday–Saturday noon–6pm. Free admission

About CCA Derry~Londonderry:

The Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) is a publicly funded space within the historic city walls of Derry~Londonderry. CCA creates opportunities for audiences to experience ambitious, experimental and engaging art and for emerging artists to develop successful careers. CCA fosters a wide range of artistic, curatorial and critical practices through five programme streams: research and production, exhibition-making, public programmes, publishing and residencies.

CCA was a Finalist in Art Fund Museum of the Year 2021, the largest museum prize in the

world. CCA was recognised for its resilience and adaptability throughout the pandemic, and their continued effort to support audiences and artists including creating paid opportunities for artists and freelancers when they needed it most.

CCA is a member of Plus Tate: Plus Tate is a network, which comprises 35 cultural institutions – including the Tate galleries – that have strong artistic vision, a focus on contemporary art, outstanding public programming and a commitment to local community engagement through art. Plus Tate aims to support the development of the visual arts across the UK.

Safety: CCA has a range of safety measures to ensure staff and visitors can enjoy exhibitions with the knowledge that every precaution is taken. This includes hand sanitisers at entrances and exits and heightened cleaning schedules. All who are able to wear a mask are invited to do so and a dedicated isolation room is available in the event of the onset of symptoms.

For media enquiries:

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