

**OPEN
EYE
GALLERY**

A STAY AT HOME PHOTOGRAPHY TOOLKIT 3

Creative Workshops and Activities
for families and young people to do
at home.

We hope you are all okay, keeping well and safe at home at this time. We thought we'd send you some creative photography activities to have a go at using any camera you can access — whether this is a digital camera, iPad or a smart phone.

You can share your images with us by tagging @openeyegallery on instagram, email andy@openeye.org.uk or simply keep for yourself.

Enjoy!

TODAY

Ocean Farini

COLOUR BUBBLE

Suzanne St Clare

THE COLOUR SWATCH CHALLENGE

Liz Wewiora

LETTER P

Andy Yates

AN ALTERNATE SELF PORTRAIT

Bella Okuya

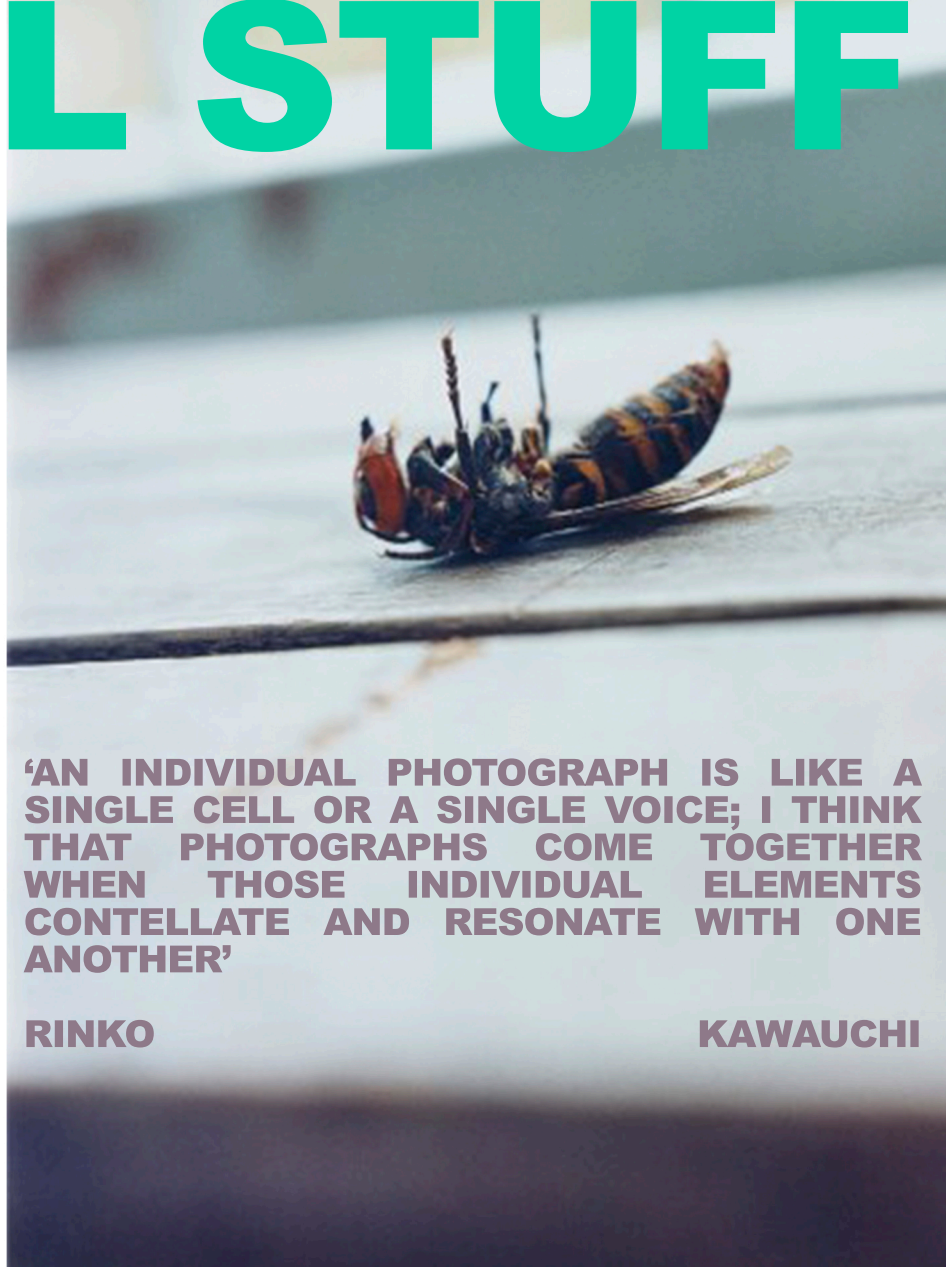
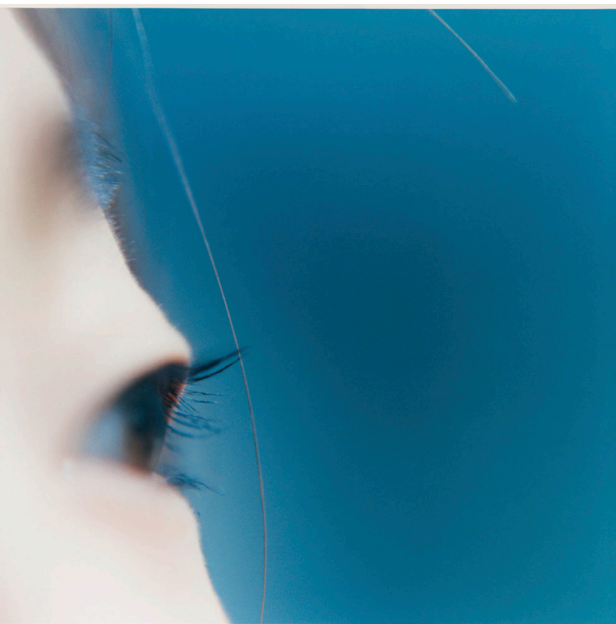
LAST SUMMER & NO PERSPECTIVE EXPERIMENT

Tingyu Liu

A LOCKDOWN REFLECTION

Sara Sarf

SMALL STUFF



‘AN INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPH IS LIKE A SINGLE CELL OR A SINGLE VOICE; I THINK THAT PHOTOGRAPHS COME TOGETHER WHEN THOSE INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS CONTELLATE AND RESONATE WITH ONE ANOTHER’

RINKO

KAWAUCHI

**WHAT DOES
TODAY LOOK
LIKE ?**

LOOK AT ‘TODAY’.

**IS YOUR ‘TODAY’ INSIDE YOUR HOUSE, INSIDE YOUR HEAD
OR HOW THE WORLD FEELS?
IS IT MADE UP OF THINGS OR OF ACTIONS?
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE IN 5 PHOTOGRAPHS?
IS IT IN SEQUENCE OR IS DOES IT BOUNCE AROUND?**

**BIG
MAKES
STUFF**

T O D A Y

TO DO

**USE YOUR PHONE OR
CAMERA TO MAKE 5
PHOTOGRAPHS OF
' T O D A Y '**

TRY -

**- MOVING IN REALLY CLOSE
TO THE SUBJECT/OBJECT**

**- ZOOMING IN FROM FAR
A W A Y**

**- MAKING A REALLY TIGHT
CROP OF A BIGGER
I M A G E**

**- STANDING LOW DOWN AND
FAR AWAY**

**- MAKING THE OBJECT OUT
OF FOCUS**

THESE PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE OF YOU, OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS, OF SOMETHING YOU OWN THAT MEANS A LOT, OF A COLOUR ON A SCREEN, OF A HALF FINISHED DRINK, OF AN INSECT TRAPPED, OF THE SOLE OF YOUR SHOE, OF YOUR FINGER NAIL OR OF THE BACK OF YOUR DAD'S HEAD.



THEY MIGHT BE ABSTRACT AND HARD TO TELL WHAT THEY ARE.

THEY MIGHT ALL BE OF THE SAME THING OR OF STUFF THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO FIT TOGETHER.

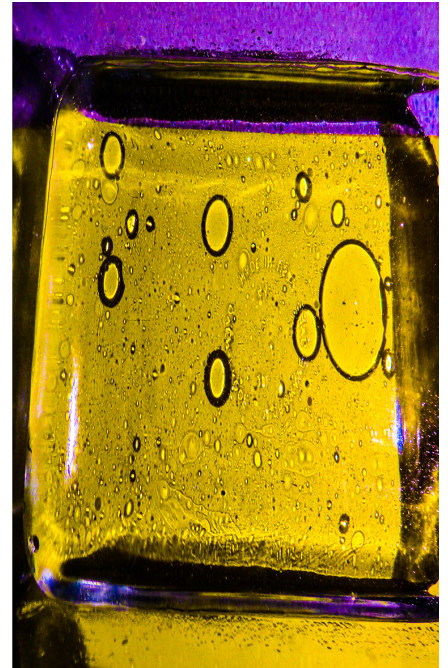
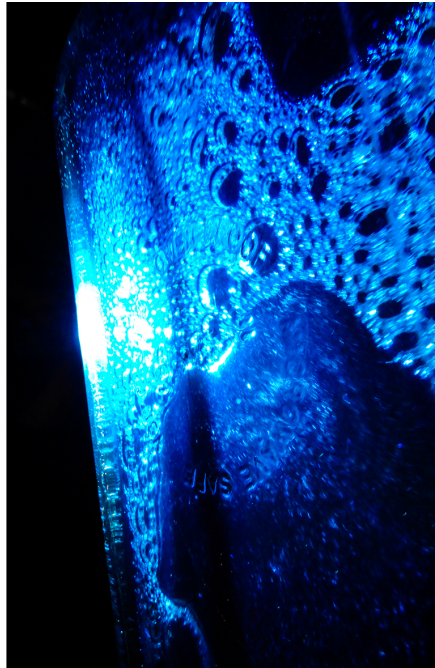
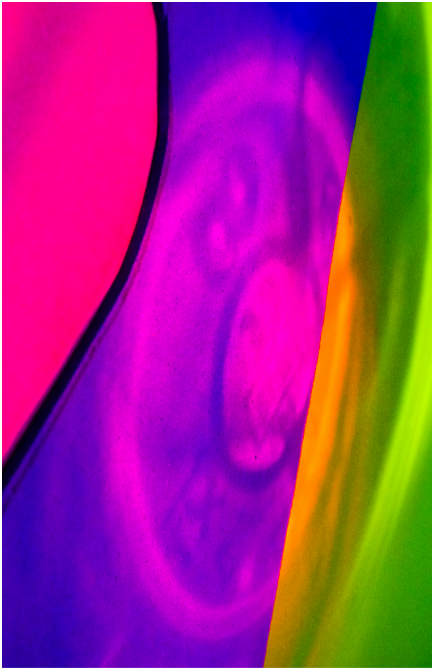
**NOW - LOOK AT THEM
TOGETHER.
DO THEY BUILD A
DIFFERENT STORY OR
FEELING TOGETHER,
THAN THEY DO ALONE?**

**WHAT DO THEY SAY
ABOUT YOUR 'TODAY'?**



COLOUR BUBBLE

Suzanne St Clare



You will need

Glass bowl or dish
Torch
Water
Oil
Books
Colourful things to put under glass e.g magazines, coloured card, place mats.

Try lots of different things you have around you

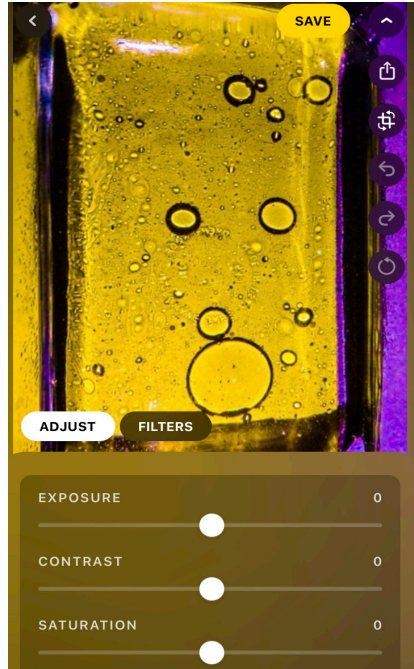
Extras:
Washing up liquid
A Straw

Method

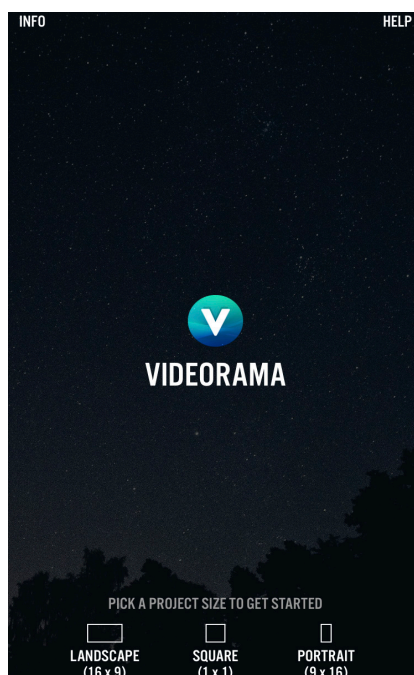
- Fill the dish with a small amount of water
- Place it on top of the books so you have enough room to shine a light underneath
- Put different coloured items under the glass dish. You can have one colour or try lots
- Add some blobs of oil
- Photograph it!
- Try blowing the oil around with a straw
- Now add a few drops of washing up liquid and blow it with a straw or stir it quickly
- Play around with it. You are creating an abstract image and it is up to you what it looks like. You can photograph in daylight or in a dark room

OPTIONAL DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Now it's time to make your photographs pop. You can download LENSEA app and boost up the colours, contrast and brightness. Be bold and have fun!



Now let's turn your images into a short film using VIDEORAMA app or similar. Add music or sound effects that you think suit your photographs



THE COLOUR SWATCH CHALLENGE

Liz Wewiora

A colour swatch is a large variety of colours shown with all their various tints, gradients, and or patterns together. There are so many shades of one colour and this challenge asks you to hunt out a colour swatch from objects found around your house and / or garden.

But don't forget once you have hunted them out, to put them all back afterwards

Layout the objects based on their colours, maybe from darkest to lightest, or brightest to the most pale of shades. Then you are ready to take your picture and capture your colour swatch.

Here is a blue and pink swatch found around my house.



CAN YOU FIND:

YELLOW

GREEN

RED

WHITE

COLOUR SWATCH HAIKU

How about a colour swatch Haiku?

Write down all of the objects you found for each of your colours. Now can you try and make a Haiku poem from some or all of the words you have listed?

A Haiku is a Japanese poem of seventeen syllables, in three lines of five, seven, and five.

Here is one I made earlier:

PINK

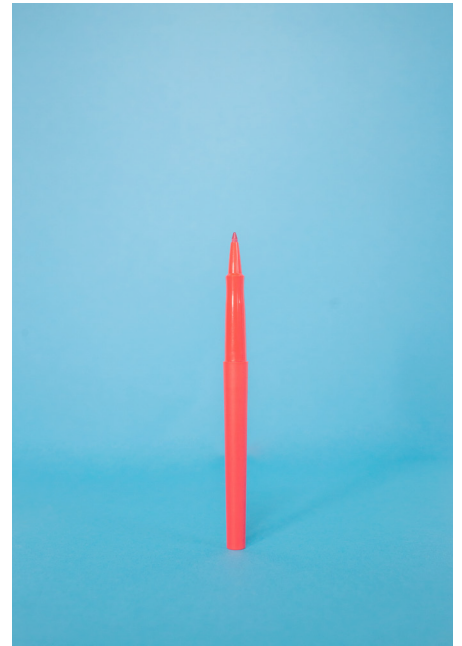
Washing up - oh no

I have a rubix to solve

Pink is not for me

LETTER P

Andy Yates



Find as many objects as you can in your home that begin with the letter P.

Photograph the objects in their found environment or create a fun background

Photograph the objects from different angles, close up and far away.

Once you've photographed all your objects turn them into a collage. You can download the PIXLR app for free which gives you some fun templates to use.

If you have access to a printer, print out your images, cut them out and turn them into a letter P collage.

If you don't have access to a printer or the PIXLR app you can cut out pictures that are similar to the ones you have taken from magazines and newspapers and use them for your letter P collage.

You can repeat this activity with all of the letters of the alphabet.

AN ALTERNATIVE SELF PORTRAIT

Bella Okuya

I have ten questions for you to answer, the twist is that you can only answer with photos! Try thinking outside the box in your creations, be as imaginative as you want when taking the images and most of all just have fun.



Create ten photos that answer the following:

1. What did you look like as a baby?
2. How old are you?
3. What is the first thing you do in the morning?
4. What's the last thing you do before you go to sleep?
5. Where did you grow up?
6. When is your favourite time of the day?
7. How do you feel about 2020 so far?
8. If you could be anything in the future what would it be?
9. What's in your pocket or bag?
10. What's important to you?

Top tip! Unless you have awesome ideas straight away, try spending a few days writing/sketching/researching some ideas for above before taking the actual photos.

LAST SUMMER

Tingyu Liu

There is no doubt that the summer of 2020 is different from previous years.

Open your phone album or family album or any social media and try to find the traces of last summer. If you can, you can make a time capsule!

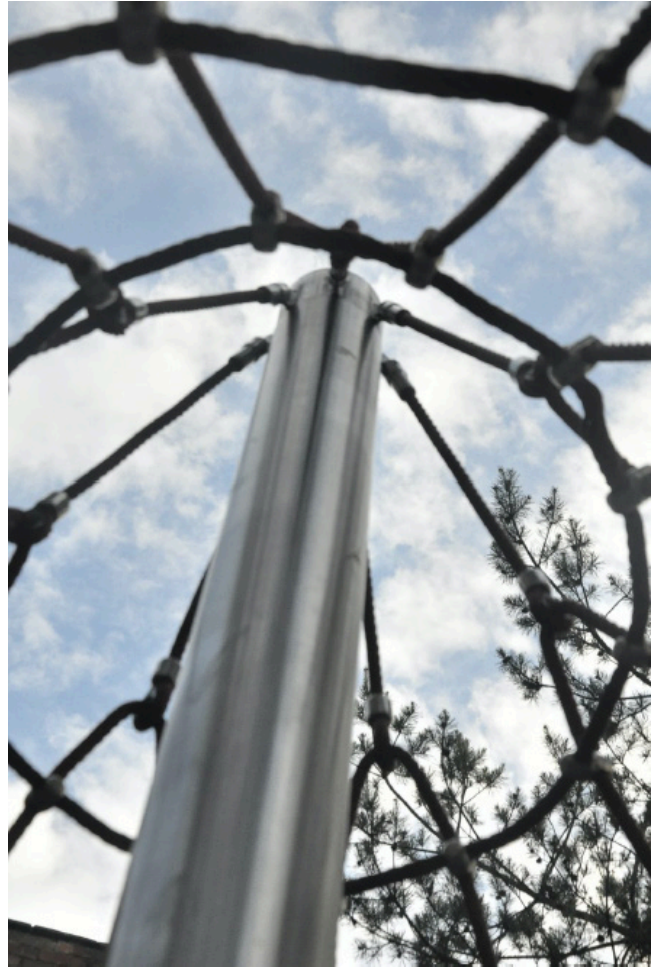
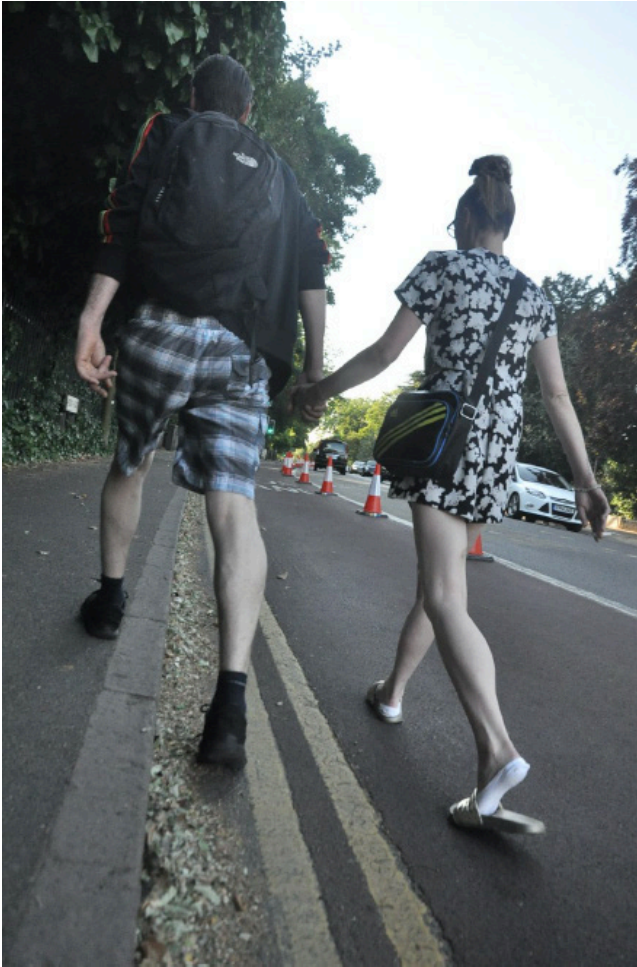
Pair this years and last years images and let photography evoke your memories by making time comparison photos!

You can pair your images using the PIXLR app templates.



NO PERSPECTIVE EXPERIMENT

Tingyu Liu



When you take a photograph, you think about composition, aperture, exposure, shutter speed and other issues before pressing the shutter.

Let us do a set of experiments together.

Pick up your camera or mobile phone, don't look into the viewfinder frame, just look at the object you want to shoot and press the shutter directly!

You could try photographing your friends, pets, favourite places, plants or anything that captures your attention.

I believe you will be pleasantly surprised, and I hope you can see perspectives that you don't normally see in this experiment.

A LOCKDOWN REFLECTION

Sara Sarf

2020 has been a year full of surprises and global challenges. COVID-19 and lockdown in the UK was a new and shocking challenge that permanently impacted our lives. Lockdown has changed our routines and mindsets and created a 'new normal', what we live at the moment. As we are slowly (and hopefully steady) coming out of lockdown, people need to adapt to new things as well as try to find the positive of their lockdown, which these tasks aim to help with to reflect back and to notice the new.



I have always enjoyed baking, however, during lockdown I have tried so many different new recipes and techniques. It has kept me sane throughout my dissertation writing and zoom calls. (Pizza, gingerbread biscuits, garlic bread skewers, cinnamon twists, strudel, pancake stack, chocolate banana bread, doughnuts, chimney cakes) (Sara)

WORKSHOP 1

Many people have started new hobbies or learned new things during lockdown. We have seen people cooking and baking more, to exercising in their homes, to spending more time together virtually and to colouring their hair into beautiful bright colours.

In this task show us a new skill or an activity you started during lockdown. Share photos with a story that explains what activity made you happy or sane during this time.



My Neighbour's Cat - 'One of the things that made my day happier during quarantine was seeing my neighbour's cat. Instead of checking social media and stressing about the virus, I'd drink my coffee while looking at Mr. Whiskers. I don't know if he like (Lilia)

WORKSHOP 2

This year celebrations changed drastically. Birthday parties and holiday celebrations on video calls, wedding ceremonies streamed live and having more time to prepare for holidays gave us all new experiences.

How did you celebrate occasions in an alternative way? Try to find a photo of a celebration during the lockdown or try to recreate one that you could photograph.



'Shifting lifestyles made me look back to traditions, like colouring eggs for Easter or making wreaths for the summer solstice' (Lukne)

WORKSHOP 3

As we are in phase 3 of lockdown, we are slowly moving forward and creating a 'new normal' for our lives. Have a look and try to capture things that you see changed or things that are part of this new normal - post lockdown.



Red Peony - 'Smelling flowers was both fun and therapeutic for me. It helped me stay in the present and practice mindfulness. I went out for a walk after the morning rain and there it was, this red peony. It reminded me that difficult times help us grow (Lilia)

You can use this space to write and draw your own reflections of this time:

ARTIST BIO

Ocean's practice works in and around themes of class, value, home and humour. Through a mash-up of photographs, clothes & collage, she seeks to question and offer an alternative to mainstream representations of 'normal'; exploring ground-up ideas of identity, success and happiness. You can find out more about Ocean's work via www.oceanfarini.com

Suzanne St Clare's photography follows the Japanese ideology of wabi-sabi, seeking out the imperfect, impermanent and incomplete. Using film and digital, beauty is found through observing life, in the detail of macro photography and the humour and style of graffiti from different cities throughout Europe and the UK. You can find out more about Suzanne's work via suzannestclare.co.uk

Liz Wewiora is our Head of Social Practice here at Open Eye Gallery, supporting photographers to work with a range of community groups across the city region. She also works as an artist and educator in Manchester. She is currently working with an Over60s group, the Many Hands Craft Collective, who have helped shape the ideas for her activity as the group also try them out each week. You can find out more about Liz's work via www.elizabeth-wewiora.com

Bella Okuya is a London born and based educator, with a socially engaged poetic documentary approach and a curious portraiture practice. Most of her work presents ongoing personal projects within her community and close relationships, which she returns to regularly. Bella also runs a documentary community photography collective called Red, Rolled and Seen in south east London, bringing members of the local community together through a shared love of photography. You can find out more about Bella's work via www.bellaokuya.com

Tingyu Liu is an art worker whose work engages with the experimental curatorial practice and politics of images; her practice is rooted in interdisciplinary research and exhibition-making.

Sara Sarf is an emerging museum professional with degrees in Anthropology, History and Museum Studies; who is passionate about the social history, every day objects and experiences represented in museums and who can not wait to actually work in the museum field.

