

External Liaison

Africa Olle

Student Number: 1707770

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Applying for an MA.

I know I want to carry on studying and researching as I have found a deeply need and connection to the research over the past four years and I know even when I stop university I will carry on on reading and educating myself. Research and enquiry has become a main part of my artistic practice, as well as my personal practice. The topics that have fuelled my practice and research have been those of intersection feminism, From issues of sexism, race, ableism, ageism, sexuality and identity.

Having researched for Masters that connect to my practice, the one that I connected the most after looking at the individual modules is the MA Gender sexuality and culture in Manchester university.

Other masters I have looked at are MA Art & Politics in Goldsmiths University of London.

Modules for MA Art & Politics in Goldsmiths University of London:

Compulsory modules

You will take the following compulsory modules.

Compulsory modules	Module title	Credits
	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event	30 credits
	MA Art & Politics Dissertation	60 credits

You will also take a compulsory practice-based module from a pool of options including the following, totalling either 15 or 30 credits.

Practice-based modules	Module title	Credits
	Counter-Mapping: The Politics of Space	30 credits
	Designing politics (group project)	30 credits
	Material encounters (Individual project)	15 credits

Option modules

Students make up their remaining 60 - 75 credits from the following list of options:

Module title	Credits
Comparative Political Thought	15 credits
Material encounters (Individual project)	15 credits
Islam, Revolution, and Empire	15 credits
Counter-Mapping: The Politics of Space	30 credits
Art, War, Terror	15 Credits
Memory and Justice in Post-Conflict Societies	30 credits
Decolonising Knowledge: Debates in Human Science	30 credits
Global Capitalism: Theory and History	30 credits
The United States in the World Economy	15 credits
Politics of Human Rights	15 credits
Psychopolitics	15 credits
Theories of International Relations	30 credits
The Political Economy of the Anthropocene	30 credits
Finance and Power	15 credits
Experts and Economies	15 credits
Islam, Revolution, and Empire	15 credits

The modules for the MA Gender, sexuality and culture in Manchester university:

Title	Code	Credit rating	Mandatory/optional
Dissertation (MA)	ENGL60000	60	Mandatory
Gender, Sexuality and Culture	ENGL60971	30	Mandatory
Reading the Contemporary	ENGL60081	30	Optional
Queer Cinema and Beyond	ENGL60152	30	Optional
Modernisms	ENGL60451	30	Optional
Postcolonial Literatures, Genres and Theories	ENGL60461	30	Optional
Before `Sexuality': Bodies, Desires and Discourses, 1660-1900	ENGL60882	15	Optional
Key Issues in Literary and Critical Theory	ENGL70032	30	Optional
Contemporary Fiction	ENGL71212	30	Optional
Gender, Sexuality & the Body	HIST65182	15	Optional
Religion and Gender Theory	SALC62312	15	Optional
Protest and Progress: Understanding Movements for Social and Political Change	SOCY60141	15	Optional
Sociology of Consumption	SOCY60552	15	Optional
New Developments in Theories of Gender and Sexuality	SOCY60992	15	Optional

Lately I have also found an MA called Transnational Queer Feminist Politics which I like the look of in SOAS in London.

MA called Transnational Queer Feminist Politics modules:

Dissertation

Module	Code	Credits	Term
Dissertation in gender studies	15PGNC999	60	Full Year

Taught Component

Core Modules

All students will take the following four core modules:

Module	Code	Credits	Term
Gender theory and the study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East	15PGNC002	30	Full Year
Dissertation Methods for Gender Studies	15PGNH008	15	Term 2

PLUS

Module	Code	Credits	Term
Queer Politics in Asia, Africa and the Middle East	15PGNH007	15	Term 2

OR

Module	Code	Credits	Term
Transnationalising Queer, Trans and Disability Studies	15PGNH016	15	Term 2

Guided Options

All students will take the modules to the value of 60 credits from list of modules (below)

Students may select 30 credits from SOAS online-learning modules. This is subject to approval from the programme convenor

List of modules (subject to availability)

Module	Code	Credits	Term
Queering Migrations and Diasporas	15PGNH002	15	Term 2
From Theory to Practice and Back: Work Placements in Migration Research	15PG NH010	15	
Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East	15PGNH012	15	
Genders and Sexualities in South East Asian Film	15PSEH011	15	Term 2
Gender and Development	15PDSH010	15	Term 1
Gender in the Middle East	15PGNH001	15	Term 1
Historical Perspectives on Gender in Asia, Africa and the Middle East	15PHIH029	15	Term 2
Gender, Law, and the Family in the History of Modern South Asia	15PHIH030	0.5	
Judaism and Gender	15PSRH029	15	Full Year
Gender, Sexuality and Law: Theories and Methodologies	15PLAH062	15	Term 1
Gender, Sexuality and Law: Selected Topics	15PLAH061	15	Term 2

NOTE: 15PANH024 Issues in the Anthropology of Gender is not to be combined with 15PDSH010 Gender & Development

As I don't want to move to anywhere and I want to stay in Wales, I have been looking for online courses on gender and culture and the online ones I found are not thought masters but research masters. I am hoping that if I get accepted in one of the Masters they will be adaptable as I have seen most of them are doing blended learning due to covid.

Another Masters I have found lately is another masters in Gender, sexuality and culture in the university Birkbeck in London

Gender, sexuality and culture (Birkbeck University) modules:

COMPULSORY MODULE

- [Theorising Gender](#)

INDICATIVE OPTION MODULES

- [Exhibiting the Body](#)
- [Queer Histories/Queer Cultures](#)
- [Social Studies of Childhood: Key Concepts and Issues](#)
- [The Radical Sixties](#)
- [Transcultural Memory](#)
- [Twenty-First Century Feminist Fiction and the World in Crisis](#)

MA GENDER, SEXUALITY AND CULTURE DISSERTATION

- [MA/MSc Gender Studies dissertation](#)

The university I feel the most drawn to is the Manchester University for the MA on Gender Sexuality and culture.

I am also very interested in MA called Transnational Queer Feminist Politics from SOAS University in London.

Another option is the MA on Fine art or MA in Visual communication or MA in Fine art in Swansea in UWTSD.

So far I have only applied to Manchester University but I will be applying to the other universities in the next few months.

Statement for the application on the Masters Gender, sexuality and culture and the MA on MA Transnational Queer Feminist Politics.

Africa Olle

Statement

My interest in intersectional feminism was born and has grown through the years in university.

Starting with my first piece of writing in my second year, where I created my personal art manifesto which was rooted in nonconformity with the system, activism, ecology, community and the necessity and passion to create platforms to give a voice to those who are not heard and to show the stories that are put aside.

Through this research I discovered the book *Curatorial activism* by Maura Reilly. It speaks about strategies like revisionism to find artists that were overlooked in the past because of discrimination of gender, race, sexuality, disabilities, age or class and to bring their works back and into the centre as a way to change and challenge the master narratives.

The book is a counter-hegemonic manifesto on how through art and curation we can create change. Reading it opened my eyes on how art as well as media and literature affect our perception of ourselves and others. This book, together with Shiri Eisner's *BI-notes for a bisexual revolution* as well as bell hooks' works, gave me the base for my research, the vocabulary to express those thoughts and the depth of knowledge to understand issues like the intersection of queer identities, the different agendas and needs of each group within the queer community, the ways in which white privilege is expressed in society and the critical vision of the authors who have made comprehensible works about issues like these that have enabled the rest of us to understand our biases.

Since my first essay, my writing has revolved around the potential to create change through culture by curating what we support, what we create, what we consume and through continuously educating ourselves and challenging our beliefs and questioning the world around us.

This has also been reflected through my art research, in which I have focused on artists, writers and film makers who are BAME, queer, disabled and women. Some examples being Cassils, Nuria Guell, Zanele Muholi, Patrisse Cullors, Juliana Huxtable, Cheryl Dunye, Amrou Al-kahdi, Celine Sciamma, Lana and Lilly Wachowski...

Through the research I have re-discovered a passion that I had since I was very little. A passion I had no words or knowledge to convey. An anger that I have seen mirrored and used for change through authors like the ones mentioned above and many more others.

I have discovered this to be a new part of myself. Educating myself, reading, writing and transforming this anger into writing, art and action and my intention is to continue this work for years to come and it would be an honour to make the master's *Gender, sexuality and culture* part of my journey.

Amongst the documents submitted I have included my dissertation from my third year which shows my understanding and connection to the subject and my passion for the topic.

As part of my submission I would also like to invite you to visit my website: africaolle.com

Enquiring about EU fees

Due to Brexit people who are not UK citizens might have to pay EU fees which double the price of the courses.

The Ma in Manchester is 10000 for UK citizens but it is 20000 for EU citizens.

I have rang the university and enquire about which fee would apply to me and after being sent across different departments they have asked me to send the right department an email.

Dear Africa,

Thank you for your email.

If you have been granted settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme you will be eligible for home fee status provided you have also been resident in the UK and Islands for three years before the first day of the first academic year of the course. The main purpose for your residence in the UK and Islands must not have been to receive full-time education during any part of that three-year period.

You will need to provide evidence of your settled status such as a copy of your biometric residence card or your [digital share code](#).

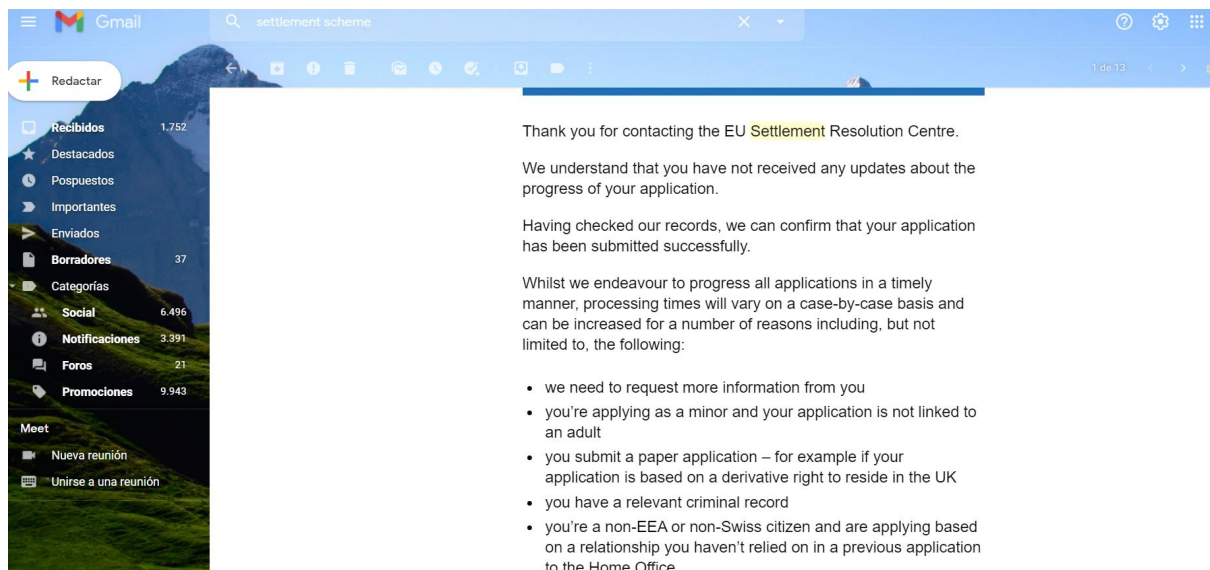
Please can you also complete the attached fee assessment form.

Many thanks in advance

Linda

They have also asked me to fill a form. My settlement status has not gone through yet which is a worry. It usually takes 5 days and it has been more than a month and I haven't received anything.

I made an enquiry about my settlement status through the portal and they sent me this email:



So far I don't know if this will get done in time. I should be entitled to the settled status as I have lived here for more than 7 years and my son was born here but because I travelled a lot and did a lot of volunteering rather than paid work my application is a bit different.

References

I have asked Sue Williams and Ryan L. Moule to be my references



Africa Olle marina (1707770)

Mon 2021-02-08 17:37

To: Sue Williams (Art & Design)



Hi Sue

I am doing the application process for the Masters and they are asking me for two references from lecturers. I was wondering if you could be one of them? If so, I will send you the link.

Also I was wondering if you could advise me on who should be the second reference?, as the masters is not in fine art, it is Gender, sexuality and culture, do you think it would be better to ask Alex or Ryan who have read my academic writing opposed to Tim who has seen my art research?

They are also asking me for some proof of the grade I might be getting for the BA. Do you know who I need to contact for that?. I assume I need an official document showing what I have got so far, or a letter from somebody? I am not sure

Thanks

Africa



Africa Olle marina (1707770)

Wed 2021-02-10 09:59

To: Ryan Moule



Hi **Ryan**

How are you? I am applying for a masters in Manchester university and I was wondering if you could be one of me references?

Let me know if that's a possibility and thank you.

Africa

Open day and application in Manchester University

I have applied for Manchester university and registered for the open day to see what the situation is with remote learning and blended learning

Thank you

Many thanks for registering for our virtual open day – we're really looking forward to you joining us.

You'll be sent an email (to the address used to complete this form) with further instructions on what to do during the day. If you don't receive this, please check your junk/spam folder.

For any further enquiries, please email pgopenday@manchester.ac.uk.



[Sign Out](#)

Submit Application: Declaration

Institution	The University of Manchester	Start Date	09 - September, 2021
Academic Career	Postgraduate Taught	Application Status	Pending
Mode of Attendance	Full-time	Last Modified	10-Mar-2021 08:40:36
Program Description	MA Gender, Sexuality and Culture		
Return to Your Postgraduate Applications			

SUBMIT APPLICATION

Please read the guidance notes before submitting your application. Once you have submitted your application, you will be not be able to make any further changes to it. Shortly afterwards, you will receive an email from us to confirm that your application was submitted successfully.

DATA PROTECTION

The information contained in this application will be used for the purpose of processing your application and, if you are admitted, will form part of your University student record. All data is held and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 and within the limits agreed with the University's Data Protection Officer. A full statement of how The University of Manchester intends to process student data will be provided prior to registration in the Registration Guide, but a copy may be obtained at any time from the [Student Services Centre](#).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

You are reminded that you are required to send the following documentation to the University in support of your on-line application:

- Copies of degree certificates and official academic transcripts of your previous study showing the subjects taken and grades obtained. If these are in languages other than English, please provide official translations.
- Two reference letters with attached [Referee Report Forms](#) 
- Copies of English Language certification, such as IELTS or TOEFL test scores (if applicable).
- A full research proposal (if applicable).

Check the web site of the School you are applying to for more details of the exact requirements.

Note: These supporting documents may either be submitted online or mailed to us. If you send paper documents to us, please do not staple or bind them as they will be scanned on receipt at the University.

DECLARATION

I certify that the information given in this application and in the supporting documents is accurate and complete. I

Final thoughts

My preferred masters is the one in Manchester University but I also like the sound of the MA Transnational Queer Feminist Politics, alternatively the masters in Birkbeck might be ok.

In order of preference

- 1 MA Gender, sexuality and culture in Manchester university
- 2 MA Transnational Queer Feminist Politics modules
- 3 MA Gender, sexuality and culture in Birkbeck University
- 4 MA Fine art or MA in Visual media in Swansea

The only reason I don't feel that drawn to the MA in Swansea is because it is based on art rather than feminism and I want to expand my knowledge in that direction.

I don't completely discard the option as I know I could carry on studying Intersectional feminism whilst doing the MA in Swansea but I really like the idea of focusing on research, rather than art.

Exhibiting artwork in the future

Whilst I would like to exhibit work in the future and perform publicly, it is not my priority to work towards that goal right now. I rather to find collaborative exhibitions that work with topics that I connect with and find them not through active looking but that I found spontaneously. I am trying to engage with social media, and I put an effort to finish my website earlier this year which I am hoping it will connect me with people and projects that I will find interesting.

I only follow artists and projects that I connect with on Instagram but I know that social media is not my forte and that I don't enjoy it much, so I don't spend too much time hoping that my engagement will build up over the years.

I have also been very busy in the creation of *On your face collective* which you will find later on, on this document. I have been engaging much more with social media for that project than for my own. Whilst Ellie Day has been uploading the content, I have been actively looking for queer welsh artists, following them and contacting them.

I feel more drawn to promote others than myself and that is something to consider and reflect upon. My art practice is very important to me but I don't feel I have a necessity to promote myself, perhaps it would be easier if I found somebody else to promote me but I rather to create a platform to showcase other people and create events than to focus on my own practice. I have always been very interested in giving people a platform for their voice to be heard so perhaps this new side is a new part of my artistic practice.

Artfest. Submitting work for an exhibition.



This year's exhibition is curated by the theme:
"The Future in Our Hands".

Poverty. Immigration. Inequality. Climate Change. These are just some of the problems our current generation is facing.

I have been asked to submit work for an exhibition in Germany. After doing a research on the event I decided to submit work and emailed them about my concerns about sending the original footage.

As the exhibition will be online I know there is no need for them to have my original footage because they will be embedding the link of the video in their website. I have uploaded the work in Vimeo and send them the link only. One of the main organizers who I spoke to, told me to put her as reference in order to submit the work only through the link.

ArtFest 2021 - Submission

The ArtFest 2021 team would like to thank you for your interest in participating in our art exhibition this year. Please note this form only accepts digital submissions for our online exhibition that will be launched on April 16th. Our submissions period is from Jan.20th - Mar.7th 23:59 CET.

Before filling out the form, please note the following:

- * Our exhibition is open to all artists worldwide. Original works are appropriate in all media carried out in various techniques, including painting, sculpture, graphic prints, drawings, photographs, photo manipulations, assemblages, textiles, installations, ceramics, video, documentaries and other.
- * To be featured you have to attach a link or post of your artwork that we can use to reshare on our website. For example, if you have an art account on social media we will feature the artwork posts you submit in our form. If your artwork is not posted online (i.e. social media or artistic website) we are unable to showcase it. Nonetheless, we still accept artworks that are in progress and therefore are still not posted online by you yet. If that is the case, please write on the "Artwork Link" field "Work in progress."
- * All artwork must be original and done only by you.

* It is possible to submit multiple pieces, however please submit each artwork in a separate

Website, Instagram and other platforms.

ON YOUR FACE @

Africa Olle

PERFORMANCE SCULPTURE INSTALLATION



My website: africaolle.com

I have written new work to go with the performances on the website as I prefer not to show my performances in it. I rather to keep the performances private with the hope that in some point I will find a gallery and exhibition to show my work.

I instead created a promotional video which can be found on the main page where you can see snippets of my performances and get a sense of my work.



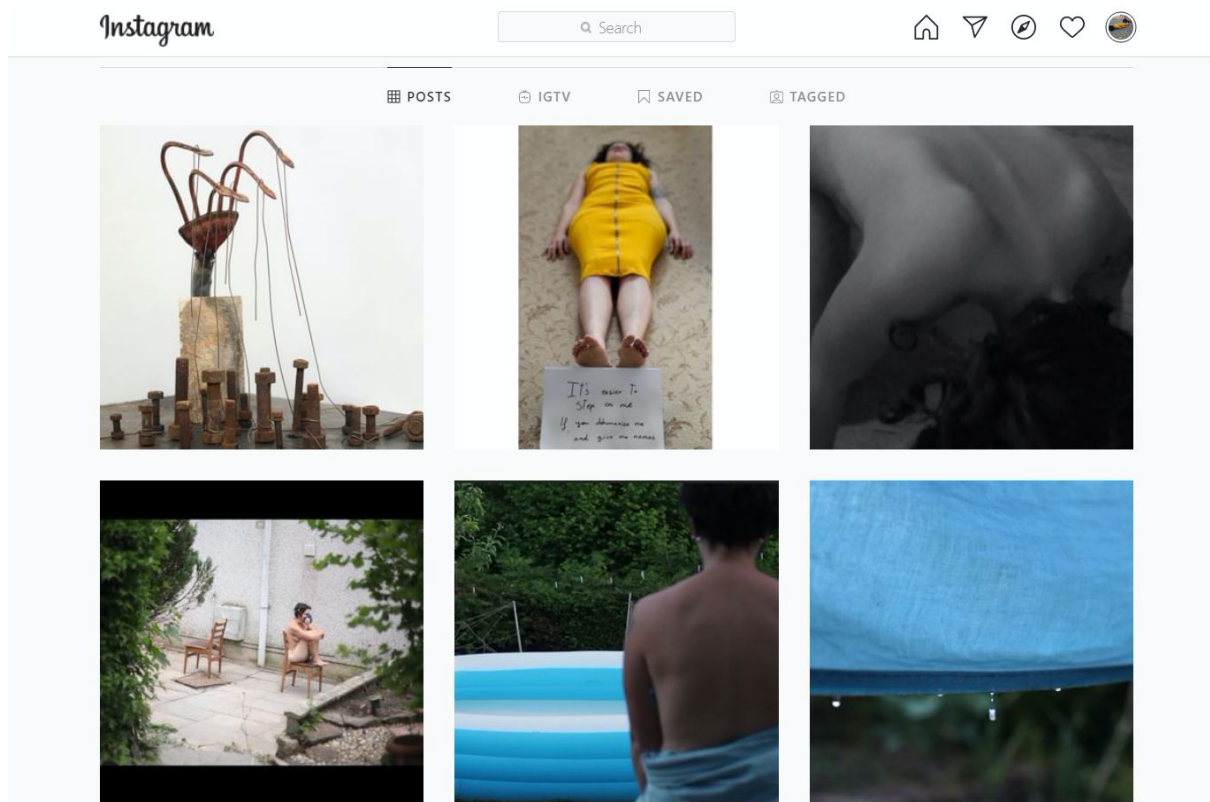
The writing is a blend of old writings, new writings and text adapted to the performances, the topic of enquiry. The intention of these texts is to Evoke the spirit of the performance and to work as a substitute, as well as a companion.

Social media

I am updating old profiles that I created in the past as a graphic designer.

Domestika, behance and linkedin

I am also currently uploading work to my Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/africa.olle>



Looking and applying for jobs.

Knowing that the funding I can get through student finance Wales is 17.000 maximum and the course in Manchester is 10000 if the fees I pay are as Uk citizen that would only leave me with 7000 pounds to live for more than a year which is not sufficient to cover my rent and living costs.

As I home school my son I know my best option is to start working now or during summer, rather than doing a full time masters, as well as having and part time job and home schooling my son, as it doesn't seem viable.

As I was looking for job opportunities, I have found a job opportunity which seem very connected to my personal, art and social practice:

Youth Leader. Canolfan Maerdy

[Find a job](#) > [Search results](#) > [Job details](#) > Apply

Youth Leaser (Maerdy Youth)

Posting date:

Salary: £10.50 per hour

Additional salary information: From £10.50p/h depending on qualifications and experience

Hours: Part time

Closing date:

Location: SA18 1UP

Company: Canolfan Maerdy

Job type: Contract

Job reference:

[Application sent](#)

Information about Canolfan Maerdy

Maerdy Youth

Maerdy Youth Group was established in January 2015 and meets at and is managed by Canolfan Maerdy in Taigwaith. However, it is an independently constituted group and has over 270 registered members aged between 11 and 18. The youth meet weekly on Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 5.30 and 8pm and Saturday mornings. As well as coming together to discuss and 'have a voice' on various matters affecting them, the group also enjoy lots of fun activities, including:

- Indoor and outdoor sports
- Cooking
- Arts and crafts sessions
- Music and dance
- Visiting speakers
- Residential activity trips
- Youth Forum

They also have a tuck shop, and in the lighter evenings, use is made of the outside space by helping maintain Canolfan Maerdy's community garden, having barbecues and playing outdoor games.

September 2018's weekly Programme is as follows:

MAERDY YOUTH MONTHLY PROGRAMME OF SESSIONS: AUGUST 2018					
DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LEADER	NOTES	
Wednesday	05/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Comedian Jenny Jones Jenny Jones	Artery Office	These sessions are for young people who are struggling with mental health issues and are looking for support and advice. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Thursday	06/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Back to school Jenny Jones	Artery Office	Offering support to young people who are returning to school after a break. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Wednesday	13/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Artery Office	Artery Office	A workshop session on how to manage your emotions and how to deal with stress. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Thursday	14/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Emotional Wellness Jenny Jones	Artery Office	A fun activity to help young people manage their emotions and how to deal with stress. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Friday	15/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Wellness Café	Artery Office	Providing support to young people who are struggling with mental health issues and are looking for support and advice. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Wednesday	19/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Basic Skills Jenny Jones	Artery Office	Teaching young people basic skills to help them in their future. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Thursday	20/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Basic Skills Jenny Jones	Artery Office	Teaching young people basic skills to help them in their future. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Wednesday	26/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Basic Skills Jenny Jones	Artery Office	Teaching young people basic skills to help them in their future. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Thursday	27/08/2018	5.30-8pm	Basic Skills Jenny Jones	Artery Office	Teaching young people basic skills to help them in their future. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Friday	28/08/2018	11am-2pm	Wellness Café	Artery Office	Providing support to young people who are struggling with mental health issues and are looking for support and advice. The sessions are held at the Artery Office in Taigwaith.
Wednesday	01/09/2018	5.30-8pm	YMA	Artery Office	Children's commission for Wales exploring how to become community ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

Maerdy Youth also works with a range of partner organisations including YMCA Swansea, Neath Port Talbot PASS, Banwen, University of Wales Trinity St David, Street Games and Whitehead Ross to provide lots of different experiences and opportunities that the group would otherwise not be able to enjoy.

The group are proud holders of Street Games' Street Mark – enabling them to support Street Games mission to change sport, change communities and change lives by helping to take sport to the doorstep in disadvantaged communities.



A 'drop in' Youth Wellness Café is held every other Saturday morning between 10am and 2pm which provides qualified support to young people who are suffering with anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, stress and other emotional health problems. Young people can receive 1:1 or group support or use arts therapy through and with our facilitators to help them improve their wellbeing.

Information about the job offer

Posted: 16 February

Offer description

Background:

Through its Youth Group 'Maerdy Youth', Canolfan Maerdy works with like minded organisations in seeking to engage the disengaged, raise ambitions and aspirations, facilitate and celebrate achievement, promote respect, responsibility and care for their community. We hope to support young people, working with them in their environment and supporting them to become effective citizens through involving them in all aspects of activity plus linking them into decision-making within the organisation and the communities in which they live. Our Canolfan Maerdy team is hard working, fun, collaborative, responsible and passionate about 'making a difference' in a respectful way to the lives of young people, their families and the local community in the area. We are very much committed to being a good employer and investing in our team.

Conditions:

The post will be based at Canolfan Maerdy in Tairgwaith but the role will involve working in other locations where appropriate to promote engagement and partnership. Timing will be flexible according to needs of the role and the post-holders circumstance. It is for an initial 6-month period and the post holder will be work with the Trustee Board and Senior Management Team to identify further funding opportunities to extend and expand the role. Please note that all posts are subject to an enhanced DBS Check.

Core Purpose of the Role:

The core purpose of the position is to work with other community organisations as appropriate, to identify and contact local young people who find themselves isolated and disengaged as a result of the pandemic. This role also involves the development and delivery of activities with the existing Maerdy Youth group working closely with the current part time youth worker. The Post Holder will work closely with all staff and youth volunteers/apprentices based at Canolfan Maerdy. They will keep in contact with youth provision partners and supervise those volunteers involved with the youth activities. We are keen to develop young people's confidence building to enable young people with protective characteristics to gain the confidence and skills to exercise their rights and make informed choices, helping to combat isolation and contributing to wider project objectives.

Principal Responsibilities are to:

- engage appropriately with currently disengaged young people, working with volunteers to promote trust and develop confidence;
- promote awareness & understanding so that young people can cope with issues they face such as emotional ill-health, drug & substance misuse, abuse and gender identity;
- co-ordinate programmes that will help young people to improve their wellbeing and lifestyle choices;
- develop life skills that can assist young people to overcome social exclusion and broaden perspectives;
- advise members of Canolfan Maerdy Board in developing and finding resources for appropriate community supported youth provision through working in partnership across our communities;
- mentor the volunteer youth workers in their work with young people and aid their development as they undergo training;

continuation and possible additional hours if further funding is available. The hourly rate is from £10.50/hr but can increase depending on qualifications. Pension is available with employer contribution if desired. It will be located at Canolfan Maerdy, Tairgwaith, SA18 1UP. Times of work to be negotiated and may vary according to the requirements of the work involved.

Cover letter

Your application for the role of [Youth Leaser \(Maerdy Youth\)](#) has been successfully sent to the employer

Message from applicant

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am interested in the position for youth leader at Canolfan Maerdy advertised through [findajob.dwp.gov.uk/](#).

I am currently finishing my third year of fine art in Swansea and I am looking for a part-time job to put my skills to work, as well as to support myself and my son through next year as I will be studying my masters on Gender, sexuality and culture.

My main passion and interests are community, inclusivity and representation. Through my degree's research I have focused on gender, class, sexuality, age, disabilities, race, ethnicity and the intersections of those identities. This topic grew on me through my interest in discovering my own biases and my passion to want to be an ally to others, as well as my willingness to want to change things.

I believe I could be an asset to Canolfan Maerdy through my experience and understanding of youth's challenges, as I experienced bullying myself in my youth and depression and anxiety through my teenage years and all the way to my late twenties.

I am very passionate to create community and spaces to support people, especially for those who are considered from marginalized groups.

I consider myself a queer woman, genderfluid person which puts me in a privileged position in terms of understanding and supporting young people as they come to terms with their sexual and gender identity. Through my research on ableism, racism and ageism I have also acquired knowledge that not many people might have as it takes educating oneself to understand those issues as well as potential discrimination that people suffer and the way biases can cause us to treat others differently to their detriment.

I have also had previous experience working with youth and managing volunteers, as I worked in an organization called Tir Eithin Farm in Carmarthenshire for a length of two years. There, I recruited and looked after the welfare of volunteers and instructed them to do the tasks at hand. As a live-in position, I also spent a lot of time with people who lived there who had disabilities as well as a youngster with a troubled past.

Having lived in ecological communities I have also learned non-violent communication, which I have practiced over the last 5 years. Not only have I learned to apply it in professional and personal environments, but I have also come to understand its limitations, problematics and potential misuses that can occur through power dynamics and hierarchies within environments.

The importance to have community, a safe space and support through the multiple changes, challenges and discoveries that puberty and becoming an adult bring is incalculable, even more so in times of Covid-19 when mental health problems can be amplified but are also more likely to go undetected.

I would be honoured to be considered for this position and potentially be part of the team, creating activities, spaces and projects to support and empower local young people.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information or queries.

Best Regards

Africa Olle

Applicant details

Name: Africa Olle Marina

Email: africa.olle@gmail.com

CV: (see attached)

[View job](#)

CV

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First name: Àfrica **Surname:** Ollé Marina
Address: 35 Newtown, Ammanford. SA18 3TE
Contact: africa.olle@gmail.com / 07379599552
Date of birth 17 Dec 91

EDUCATION&TRAINING

Sep 17 - June 21 **BA Fine art.** UWTSD (Swansea)

Sep 10 - Jun 12 **CFGS Image (photography, cinema and sound) (HNC, Level 3 and 4)**
 EMAV , Escola de Mitjans Audiovisuals, Barcelona (Spain)
 Lighting Cinema, filming, video editing (Final Cut, Avid, Adobe Premier), photo editing (photoshop), photography, sound (Pro Tools), filmmaking, production.

Sep 09 - Jun 10 **PPA (1 Year Training to Access to CFGS)**
 IES Joan Oró, Lleida (Spain)

Sep 07 - Jun 09 **CFGM Pre-printing, Design and Photography (NVQ, Level 1 and 2)**
 IES Joan Oró, Lleida (Spain)
 I studied Photography, layouting (Adobe Indesign, QuarkXpress..), design (Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw, Adobe Photoshop..), printing (Manual Preps, printer working, color treatment, materials..)

COMPUTER SKILLS**Mac OS and windows**

Photo Editing, design - Adobe photoshop
Design - Adobe illustrator/Corel draw
Layouting - Adobe Indesign/QuarkXpress
Grading (color edition) - Magic Bullet
Video Editing - Adobe Premiere, FinalCut, Avid
Arrangement to print - Preps/ manual
Sound - Protools
Animation, Web Design - Basic Flash
Web Design - Basic Dreameaver
Programming - Basic CSS3, HTTP5, JavaScript
Microsoft office word, powerpoint, publisher.



WORK EXPERIENCE

- Sept 18- March 19 **Gardener**
This was a live-in position doing general gardening and maintenance.
- April 17- July 18 **Trainee horticulturalist, Editor & volunteer organiser in Banc Organics**
Tir' Eithin Farm charity, Bancffosfelen.
Live-in position for a charity in Carmarthenshire, taking care of underprivileged adults, running an organic vegetable box scheme and general help with the farm and animals.
Part of my role consisted in recruiting volunteers, coordinating them as well as looking after their welfare.
- June 15- October 16 **Gardener**
Heartwood Community

Live-in position. Attending the vegetable garden, general help around the community and farm.
- 2013- until now **Designer, photographer, filmmaker and video editor**
Volunteer work for charities and small businesses.

Self-employed work designing logos, leaflets, posters, as well as creating promotional videos and photography for small charities and small businesses that were starting up or need rebumping.
- 20 Sep 12 - 10 Nov 12 **Designer and teacher (Volunteer)**
Kilele Junior Foundation NGO, Nairobi (Kenya)

Rebumping the website, taking photographs, designing flyers and pamphlets...

Fundraising and teaching Spanish in the school.
- 1 Sep 11 - 31 Apr 12 **Administrative secretary**
IMMALEX ASSESSORS JURIDICS D'EMPRESA SL , Barcelona (Spain)

Answering the phone and general customer service.
Doing the accountancy books and checking the annual and quaterly sums.
- 1 May 11 - 31 Aug 11 **Designer and photographer**
ESDEMARCA 2007 SL, Barcelona (Spain)

Training job
Editing photographs and uploading content to their website.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES

2020- Because we felt like it. UWTSD Swansea College of Art. Co-curator and participant
2019- Public performance. Plymouth Street. Swansea, United kingdom
2019- Public performance. UWTSD Swansea College of Art. Open Swansea
2019- 'Swansea Open 2019'. Glynn Vivian Art Gallery
2019- 'What a world' UWTSD Swansea College of Art. Open Swansea
2018- 'Subtitles please' UWTSD Swansea College of Art.
2012- Tecnofilia (Photography exhibition)-Espai Cibernarium (MediaTIC).
2012- Fisonomies (Photography exhibition)-Renoir Floridablanca cinema.
2012- I Festival Miradas de mujeres. Madrid, Spain

AWARDS AND COMPETITIONS

2012- Julius Festival. Barcelona, Spain.

I designed the magazine and the manual which appeared in **"Manual de amor"** (short film), winner of the Julius Festival.

2012- Sitges Film Festival. Barcelona, Spain.

Lighting in the short film **"Piedra, papel y madera"** which was showed in Sitges Film Festival.

2012- Madrid, Spain

Finalist - II Concurso de fotografía Mujeres con focus

LANGUAGES

Mothertongue(s) Catalan / Spanish

Otherlanguage(s)

	UNDERSTANDING	SPEAKING	WRITING
English	C2	C2	C2

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Language

On your face collective. Project

- Where the idea came from
- Collaborating. Having an inclusive teams
- Future prospects and funding
- Online events
- Lesbian, trans and nonbinary art festival
- The zine
- The podcast
- LGBTQ+ Creatives Wales
- Meetings notes
-

Where the idea came from

Having grown up in a town where the LGBTQ+ community was not visible, to later having lived in Barcelona where the LGBTQ+ Community had multiple spaces, bars, pubs, clubs and cafes and multiple events through the year. Living in a place where the queer community were out and proud, I became very aware of the importance of seeing other queer people around you but also, the importance to have spaces and events where to meet other queer people and celebrate our work and successes together.

When I moved to the UK after having lived in Barcelona, I travelled around, from Somerset, to London, Northampton and finally Carmarthenshire in Wales. I discovered that apart from London, most places lacked queer spaces and this is especially true in Wales.

For the past 3 years I have been writing and planning to create a physical space in Swansea for the queer community. A space to exhibit works of queer artists with a café space with a queer library.

With the current situation with Covid 19 the idea of a physical space seemed more trouble than what it was worth it, as we don't know for how long the space could open if at all.

Even though the idea for the physical space is something that I don't want to do for now, The need for connection and support is even greater than before. I believe Isolation can be tackled not only through physical or virtual events but also by seeing yourself represented, thus the idea of showing queer artists still made a lot of sense.

Whilst the original idea was to create a physical space to connect the queer people from South Wales, now it made sense for the project to bring together the queer creatives from all Wales rather than only South Wales

Website, Social Media and email

We have create a website called onyourfacecollective.org

The website features the artists from the collective, as well as having our contact details and information about the collective and how to apply.

www.onyourfacecollective.org



[Our creatives](#) [About](#) [Apply](#) [Contact us](#)



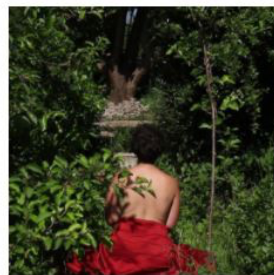
Visual artists

Graphic Designers, Illustrators, Artists, Filmmakers



Adam Charlton

"Self-portraits have been a recurring theme in the past year. When one's outer environment freezes, the ever-morphing perspective of the observer becomes the centre of attention



Àfrica Ollé

Àfrica Ollé is a multidisciplinary artist. Their practice spans a range of media including performance, sculpture, photography, installation art, poetry and essay. The main subjects Olla



Dione Jones

Dione Jones is a South Wales based mixed media artist who working predominantly with photography and self-portraiture. Jones' explores the "self" often concerning themes of gender performance



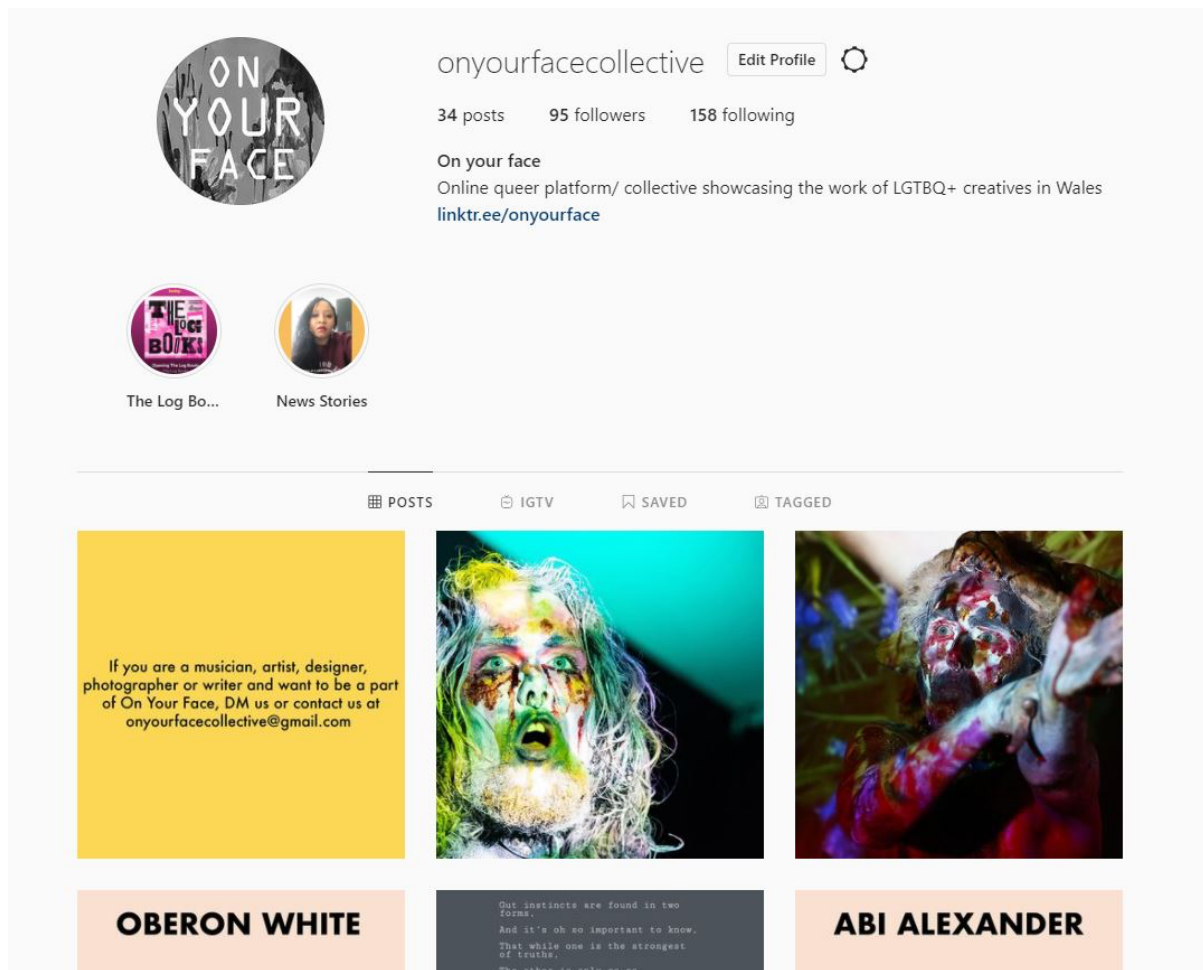
Efa Blossse-Mason

Efa Blossse-Mason is a filmmaker from Cardiff who wrote and directed a short Welsh language film 'Cwch Deilen/Leaf Boat' which is currently on BBC iplayer.

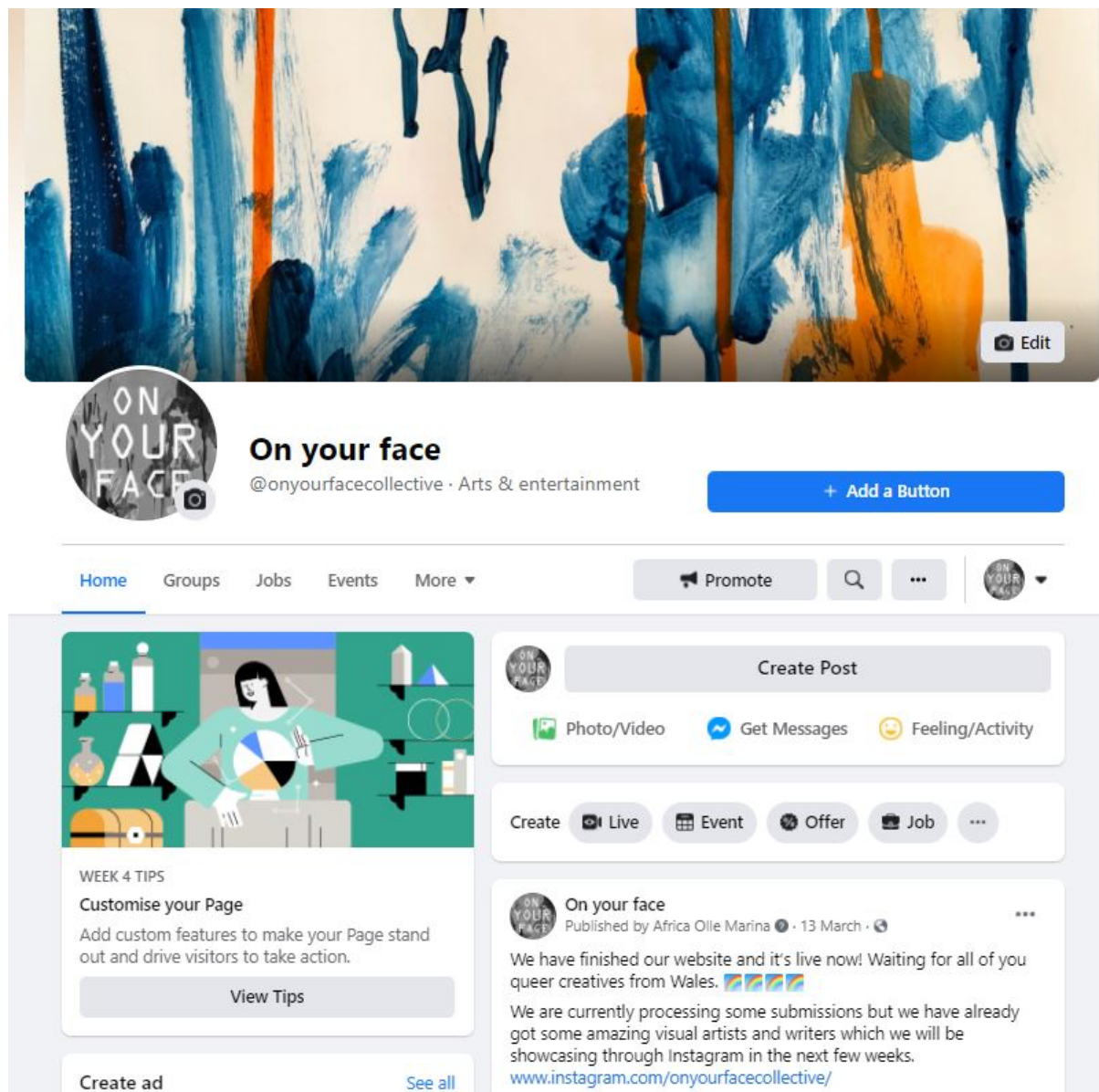
Efa went to university at



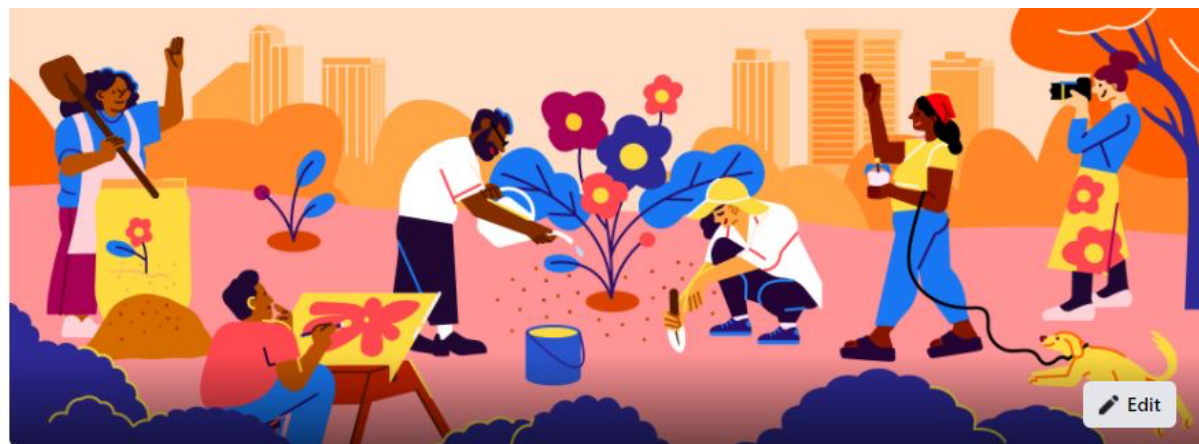
We have also created an Instagram page in which we also feature and promote the artists.
@onyourfacecollective



We have created a facebook page to reach more audience with the idea that it won't be used to promote artists but it will help to reach more people and redirect them to the website or Instagram. We are still trying to figure out how it will be best to use it without taking much time but being engaging. <https://www.facebook.com/onyourfacecollective>



We have also created a Facebook group with the plan to create online meetups as well as creating a platform for queer artists in Wales to engage with each other. The group has been created but we have not engaged with it. Once we finish university this will be one of the things we want to get on with. The group is called LGBTQ+ Creatives South Wales.



LGBTQ+ Creatives South Wales

Private group · 22 members



+ Invite

About Discussion Rooms Members Events



What's on your mind, Africa?

Live video

Photo/Video

Poll

New activity ▼

Africa Olle Marina updated the description.
Admin · 21 October 2020 · 🌐

Creative queer people are needed to create spaces, physically or digitally to bring the LGBTQ+ Community together and to amplify our voices.

The aim of LGBTQ+ Creatives South Wales is to connect queer artist, musicians, creative people from the area to do collaborations, to work together, share and create queer art events. To meet up, have fun and show the world that South Wales has a vibrant community of queer artists.

This is not only a networking space but its intention is for it to be a social platform to meet up and make new friends. [See less](#)

About

Creative queer people are needed to create spaces, physically or digitally to bring the LGBTQ+ Community together and to amplify our voices.

The aim of LGBTQ+ Creatives South Wales is to connect queer artist, musicians, creative people from the area to do collaborations, to work together, share and create queer art events. To meet up, have fun and show the world that South Wales has a vibrant community of queer artists.

This is not only a networking space but its intention is for it to be a social platform to meet up and make new friends. [See less](#)

Private

We have also created an email: onyourfacecollective@gmail.com and a linktree account to add links to Instagram.

Collaborating. Having an inclusive team

The idea about having an inclusive team sprung from my original plan of a queer art space in Swansea. To me it was clear that in order to create an inclusive gallery with as much diversity as possible there was a necessity to have a team of people that represent all across the Rainbow, The LGBTQ+, as well as people from different races and ethnicities. It was a must that half of the team should be BAME and that we should have at least 1 or 2 people with disabilities.

In an ideal world we would have more representation of people whose voices are put aside because those voices are already more difficult to hear. The idea for the gallery was to be a pioneer space in which the team is actively seeking those voices, making space and making sure the events and activities created are not only inclusive but they are also born from an unbiased space, a decolonized environment.

As an starter point I have asked Ellie Day from my class to join in the creation of the project as I knew it would be much better to start the project straight away with somebody else, rather than by myself.

Claudia Rubio Sasaki who is my current partner has also asked to join as a core member and Ellie and I decided it was a brilliant idea as she has a degree on translation which makes her a really good editor and she is also very knowledgeable on art, music and literature making her a great asset in finding creatives and curating. She also ticks the box of BAME which is perfect on terms of representation.

For the rest of team, it is advertised on the website that we are looking for:

‘a diverse team in order to have a variety of events that are inclusive and accessible and to make sure we represent a diversity of creatives.

‘two more members who are from a Black and Minority Ethnicity and identify as queer, trans, gay and or non-binary’.

‘two disabled queer people’

The idea is to find at least one representative of the trans community and a gay man who are BAME and two more queer people who have disabilities. All of this bearing in mind that the team should have a higher proportion of BAME and POC than white people and more women, non binary, gender fluid people than men.

Online Events

The idea is for the collective to create regular events, some for all the queer community and others for specific groups within the community.

Some ideas would be:

Lesbian, non binary and trans event for all creatives in Wales

BAME Lesbian, non binary and trans event for all creatives in Wales

BAME Queer event for all creatives in Wales

Trans, queer and non-binary event for all creatives in Wales

There could also be specific events within those groups/ events above, but we could focus on one of the subjects, for example we could do an event for writers, poetry, music, film, design or art...

I am hoping as the team grows, each member of the group will ensure to organize or suggest events that will benefit the groups they represent.

Whilst I imagine the creating and organizing the event to be a communal project in which we all work towards organizing it. I imagine that each member will lead an ensure the creation of each event.

For example, I, as a queer woman/ gender fluid/ non binary, I am particularly interested in creating events for queer women, non binary people and trans people.

The idea would be that I would for example suggest an event like this and lead it and the rest of the team support it in organizing it and advice in order to make it inclusive

The zine

Ellie was very interested in creating a Zine so she brought the idea to the table so she will be leading that department but I would like to participate on the creation of it and support her.

The podcast

I came up with the idea of the podcast as I have been looking for queer art podcast for myself and there wasn't much out there. I thought the creation of a podcast would work very well with the collective.

It would be another way of creating visibility and expanding the work of the creatives and we could also invite creatives from other part of the UK or the world to have conversations with the creatives from *On your face*.

Lesbian, trans and nonbinary art festival

A festival like this has been on my mind for a few years, specially after finding out about the festival in Catalunya called *Visibles, festival de cultures lesbiens visibles*. This art festival is for women, trans, genderfluid and nonbinary people. Whilst I have never been to it, after researching it, it seemed to me that they put a great effort on inclusivity and they have a broad range of intersecting art, from performers, to writers, comedians.

<https://labonne.org/projectes/visibles/>

Discovering this event was very important to me, because it made me long for not only an event like this, but also a space.

That is why I would like one of the first events to organise to be focused on this part of the queer community.

Having seen some of the funding available which I will be talking about later on the document, I have thought this could be one of the ways in which the funding could be used for,

I am hoping the event could be created physically, rather than virtually, creating hundreds of jobs for the duration of the festival.

I envision artists talks, workshops, performances, readings of poetry and books, comedians, live music, exhibitions, chill areas, food and much more.

It is quite interesting that I found this event after researching the artist Denys Blacker, fellow artist and friend of Sarah Tombs who put me in contact with Blacker. After Researching Blacker, I found this community of artist in Catalunya and the organization La bonne which is the organizer of the festival *Lesbian visible cultures*.

Through researching Blacker, I found out that she is one of the organizer of FEM 'annual International Performance Art Festival dedicated to showcasing work by women performance artists' and GRESOL, 'Gresol is a non – profit association founded in 2002 in Madremanya by a group of people linked to contemporary art and culture with the aim of promoting an exchange of artistic, cultural and contemporary values through the organization of events, festival, meetings and residencies. Gresol organizes activities related to contemporary art practices and particularly performance art'.

I found La bonne through its collaborations with GRESOL and that is how I found the festival.

I have been very inspired by Denys Blacker whom I have tried to meet up with a couple of years ago but I didn't work out because of our schedules and then because of Covid I haven't been able to go back to Catalunya.

I am hoping to create some collaborations with Blacker as well as with GRESOL, La Bonne and the festival of Lesbian Cultures In Catalunya.

If I ever go back to live there I would like to be an active member of those groups. The organizations are also situated in my preferred place to live in Catalunya which is in between Girona and Barcelona towards the more rural areas. The events though are organized in different places in Girona and Barcelona.

Future prospects and funding

For the first project, the physical gallery in Swansea, I was considering crowdfunding to rent the space for the first year and then Patreon or another funding website to pay for the people running it.

I also considered funding from the arts council but I was more reliant on independent funding rather than from the government.

For this project I am thinking more a combination of both Independent funding, for the general running of the project and then specific funding for events. This would probably mean that the people working and running the project would only have a salary when running events which is not necessarily bad as we would then ensure to continuously create events to have income which then in turn would benefit the rest of the queer community with more representation, as well as more jobs through paid gigs in the events

I have found this grant called: Connect and flourish

<https://arts.wales/resources/connect-and-flourish-application-help-notes>

Which would be perfect for the project. One of the problems with this grant is that you can not apply if the project has started, meaning that we could not apply to the grant to support the project but we could apply to the grant to create another project through the collective.

Another barrier the grants has is that you can not apply as a collective or as an artist, you also need an organization to partnership.

I have contacted Sian Adiccot for advice on how to approach the Glyn Vivian or GS artists gallery as an unknown artist and she has kindly message Karen MacKinnon telling her about the project and creating that connection.

The people dealing with this department in the Glyn Vivian have replied that they would be willing to partnership, in principle, as long as it doesn't clash with the other application they have for the same grant.

The last closing date was the 17th of March but there will be more one more opening for the grant later this year.

Sian Addicot has said she would support me with the application form which I will be writing during the next few months.

Meetings notes

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Meeting 27th of January

(Minutes taken by Africa)

Summary of this week:

We have revisited old ideas.

Decided on the creation of two separate platforms (one for the community and a professional one).

Decided on taking minutes and notes from each meeting

Decided which projects we will be undertaking through the professional platforms

Revisited the text from the community platform

Brainstormed to decide on a new name for the professional platform

Decided what we are doing this week

Decided next meeting agenda

Meeting:

After having had a few conversations last year of the queer online platform last semester we are today having the first official meeting to start rolling the ball.

We are starting with a brainstorm, sharing and revisiting original ideas and updating our perception and plans due to the new restrictions as well as the ideas that might have changed after putting the project aside for a couple of months.

Ellie is thinking that we should put aside any physical events, exhibitions or activities which were part of the first plan/ idea.

Africa shares her thoughts on the original ideas and new ideas that she has had.

The information shared is the next:

I am thinking on focusing on creating a platform to get together and draw queer creative people in

And then a professional platform to showcase those works. Maybe creating a collective?

To separate the community group from the professional website and platforms

On one side we will have a Facebook group for people to introduce themselves and meet and see other artist works, to create community.

On the other side we will have a Professional Website, Facebook page, Instagram page, for showcasing artist through perhaps an online exhibition or by just having a website with their information and some work on linked to their websites. The professional platforms will be to create visibility to the artists rather than creating community.

On the side of this or as a part of this I would like to do a podcast, you and me interviewing or having a chat with queer artist in South Wales (the ones from the page/ collective?) or maybe queer artists from everywhere? (but making sure south wales is well represented).

We have talked about gathering an inclusive team to be running the collective to make sure we are inclusive of people of all ethnicities, races, gender, disabilities, sexualities. I am thinking the inclusive team could be formed if we decide to do an online festival? But for now we just make sure that we are very inclusive and we get queer creatives from all classes, backgrounds, ethnicities, disabilities?

or

We could still make an open call with the vision of organizing events in the future and to open up a conversation, or maybe the collective could be the inclusive team and the team makes sure to get people from the collective they represent, so we have several people actively engaging in their circles?

Things to do this week:

Look at Patreon,

Look at platforms to do the podcasts

Create an open call for the collective/ exhibition/ virtual space

Focus on:

Decide what we want to do

Social media platforms

Open calls

Research for funding, patreon, podcast platforms

Deciding who does what, dividing work

Thoughts on:

Separating the community and professional online platforms

We agree on separating the community page and the professional page

We decide to create a different name for the professional page and to keep the community page with the same name: LGBTQ+ Creatives South Wales

Decisions on purpose/ identity of the professional platform

We agree that the community platform's purpose is to bring queer creatives together and to create a safe space for queer artists to meet up and collaborate

We need to decide which ideas we are going to pursue through the professional platforms

We know the purpose of the professional platform is to showcase and create visibility for the queer creative community in South Wales. We need to decide how.

Purpose and activities of the collective that we both agree that we want to pursue this year

Professional Website, with social media engagement

Podcast

Online exhibition or/ and promoting people's work through the website and social media

Online zine

Other ideas that we might try to pursue

Online gatherings for the community (Quite likely to happen, we might try to organize an event if the community engages but we are not putting pressure on ourselves for this, it's not a priority right now)

Physical gathering of the community if restrictions allow (Unknown)

Physical exhibition/s if restrictions allow (Less likely due to Covid)

Online or physical festival if restrictions allow (Africa would really like that to happen but might be too ambitious to plan in such short notice, as well as launching the rest of the project)

Filming people about their work + promotion (Highly likely to happen if restrictions allow)

Patreon and funding

We have talked about looking into Patreon as a way of income to support this project economically

We have talked about looking at grants as this project is based on Artist who are from South Wales, who live in South Wales or who have a connection to the area somehow. So there might be funding available from the Welsh government.

Open Calls

After the lecture with Ryan we have considered the idea of the Open Calls to find queer artist in the area. We will be doing this through the website and online platforms

Division of work

We will be dividing the work each week and deciding what each of us do

Ellie has stated that she prefers not to oversee the social side of things, as per organizing gatherings and so on. She prefers online platforms

We will be deciding each week our next actions to take

Deciding on the name for the professional platforms

We decided we need to find a different name and we do a brainstorming session to get some words going.

Africa:

Creative, inclusive, intersectional, queer, community, rainbow, artists

Feminist, welsh, south. Artist, creatives, connection, **visibility**, **on your face**

Diverse.

Ellie

The South Wales Collective

LGBTQ+

Diverse

Visibility

Community Collective

Creatives

Ellie likes the words Visibility and diverse

Africa likes the idea of using a catchy name or sentence like *On your face*.

On your face as a way to reclaim the space. Lgbtq+ BAME, people with disabilities also elders are very often pushed aside, we don't get visibility and to Africa: *On your face* means

Us the minorities together pushing through to be seen, we are no longer put aside, we are on your face.

We decided to leave the name for a couple of days and revisit on Friday 29th for a final decision, we will have an informal conversation through a private conversation through social media.

Creation of the website and online platforms

Text

Africa and Ellie revisit the community group facebook platform and take off the paragraph about the inclusive team. We decided that if we do create the inclusive team it will be for the professional platforms.

The text taken off is:

From the start of January, we will be organizing meet ups, online events and creating some other exciting opportunities for the queer creative community to shine.

Anybody in this group can post queer events in South Wales and anybody can create events.

We are also currently looking to create a diverse team in order to have a variety of events that are inclusive and accessible.

We are looking for three more members who are from a Black and Minority Ethnicity and identify as queer, trans or gay artist

We are also looking for a disabled queer artist

The core group positions are non-paid voluntary roles for now

We revisited the statement of purpose for the community group and agree that it is still adequate and that it still reflects its purpose.

The text is:

Creative queer people are needed to create spaces, physically or digitally to bring the LGBTQ+ Community together and to amplify our voices.

The aim of LGBTQ+ Creatives South Wales is to connect queer artist, musicians, creative people from the area to do collaborations, to work together, share and create queer art events. To meet up, have fun and show the world that South Wales has a vibrant community of queer artists.

This is not only a networking space, but its intention is for it to be a social platform to meet up and make new friends.

We decide we need to create a statement of purpose for the professional group. Africa will be doing this for next week's meeting.

Aesthetics

We decide we need to create the aesthetics for the community platform and the professional platform.

We agree to look into it this week once we decide on the name of the professional platform

We will make the final decisions on the texts and aesthetics next week

Decisions on the inclusive team

No decisions made yet. We will revisit next week on Wednesday 3rd of February

Sharing documents

We have decided to create shared google documents to share minutes and our progress on each task every week so we know how the process is going for each of us.

Minutes of the meeting and agenda

We decided to write the minutes of each meeting and potentially take turns to write them

Deciding on our next steps. What are we doing this week?

Africa:

Looks into how to do a podcast

Writes a statement of purpose for the professional platforms

Ellie:

Starts looking at different platforms to create the website and looks at examples for other art collective websites

Africa and Ellie need to make a final decision on the name for the professional platforms/collective

Next week's meeting agenda:

Talk about introductory video of ourselves and the project. How to? Teams? Script?

Finalize details about social platforms: Text and aesthetics and logo

What do we want from the name of the project?

Revisit what we have done the past week:

- Talking about what Africa discovered about the podcast
- Any thoughts, changes about the statement
- Ellie will be talking about website platforms and examples

Website pages and information (About, Podcast, link to group)

Zine

Inclusive team

Discussion on the creation of action plan? Timeline

Patreon and funding

Paying for a domain. Considering .org rather than other

Any other issues and ideas

To talk about trial podcast introduction

What are we doing this week coming?

Division of work

Conversations Online 29th of January

Hiya, don't worry about replying if you're busy I'm in no rush! 😊 But just thought I'd send over thoughts on name ideas. I was thinking about your suggestion of having a name that relates to standing out and no longer being pushed down or unseen. I wrote down some words that related to that such as 'emerge' 'front and centre' and thought 'Foreground Collective' might sound quite good? It also has some relation to art terminology, as well as meaning to be at the front and standing out amongst the background. Here are some photos I was playing around with just to see it visually, let me know what you think, I don't mind what we do! 😊

Ellie sent 29 January at 13:04



FOREGROUND COLLECTIVE

**FOREGROUND
COLLECTIVE**

**FOREGROUND
COLLECTIVE**

Fri 18:36

You sent 29 January at 18:36

Helloo, so I have been thinking and maybe we should take more time to chose the name? I kinda want to get everything going quite soon but at the same time, the name is quite important..., So I was thinking maybe we should come up with a few more names, create a list and show the list to a few queer friends and see what people go for? what do you think?

You sent 29 January at 18:38

Or more important than what people go for, it would be what the feeling and interpretation of each name people have 🤔

You sent 29 January at 18:39

I am not sure I dig foreground collective though but it might be that I need time. I like emergence but there is an ecology magazine called that.. as well

You sent 29 January at 18:41

I think because its just you an me and we envision the aesthetics differently we will probably have to find a happy medium and for that it will be good to have some feedback as well 😊

You sent 29 January at 18:41

what do you think?

You sent 29 January at 18:42

Maybe we need to talk about what we want from the name too and see if we can create something that fulfils both visions

Fri 21:51

Sorry! I just realised my Facebook had been logged out so I wasn't getting notifications 😂
yeah I think that's a good idea, if we take more time thinking about name ideas then, and then just let me know 😊

You sent 29 January at 21:56

No worries 😊

You sent 29 January at 21:56

Yeah, i feel like we shouldn't rush the name

You sent 29 January at 21:57

And we should meet up on wednesday anyway, cause there is plenty to do

You sent 29 January at 21:58

What do you think about asking other people for their opinion?

Ellie sent 29 January at 22:02

Yeah definitely shouldn't be rushed, okay let's see what we think Wednesday then about names and stuff. I can ask my partner what she thinks but other than that I don't really know anyone else in the LGBTQ+ community to ask

Meetings notes 1st of February

(Minutes taken by africa)

Talk about an introductory video of ourselves and the project. How to? Teams? Script?

Finalize details about social platforms: Text and aesthetics and logo

What do we want from the name of the project?

Revisit what we have done the past week:

- Talking about what Africa discovered about the podcast
- Any thoughts, changes about the statement
- Ellie will be talking about website platforms and examples

Website pages and information (About, Podcast, link to group)

Zine

Inclusive team

Discussion on the creation of action plan? Timeline

Patreon and funding

Paying for a domain. Considering .org rather than other

Any other issues and ideas

To talk about trial podcast introduction

What are we doing this week coming?

Division of work

Talk about introductory video of ourselves and the project. How to? Teams? Script?

We decided to do the video separately and then edit. We will film with our respective cameras. Africa will edit the footage.

Africa is suggesting a blend of personal introduction and On your face introduction of the text that we have already got.

Finalize details about social platforms: Text and aesthetics and logo**What do we want from the name of the project?**

As a way to decide about to decide the name we reflected upon the effect that we want the name to have.

Africa's idea: On your face is catchy

Ellie's idea: Foreground collective sounds very professional

We talked about Foreground word as a potential language barrier for people, not knowing the meaning of the word. Whilst the term is based on art vocabulary some people might not know the meaning.

On your face is catchy and accessible. It also has connotations of taking space and it has a very physical feeling.

Revisit what we have done the past week:**- Talking about what Africa discovered about the podcast**

Having reviewed a few hosting platforms for podcast and considering that we are yet to try out to see if the podcast works, I have been looking into free hosting platforms.

Non free platforms start from 5 pounds a month and upwards.

Anchor is a free hosting platform owned by Spotify and it seems the best option for a podcast that it is just starting as we don't want to have expenses, at least for the podcast.

The podcast will be co-hosted with interviews

Resources on how to make a podcast

How to record a podcast (Podcast) By the pod farm

The pod cast host. Thepodcasthost.com

What do we need

A must: Headphones one

Preferably a microphone

Good Internet connection

How to do it

Make a call from zoom and record it

Edit the sound on program audacity

Upload it into anchor

Anchor sends it to Apple podcast, Spotify and other..

- Any thoughts, changes about the statement
- Ellie will be talking about website platforms and examples

Website pages and information (About, Podcast, link to group)

Zine

Ellie is interested in doing a zine, Africa is happy to be part of it and help.

Inclusive team

We decided to have an inclusive team but later on when the website is set up and the core values and project is more settled

Discussion on the creation of action plan? Timeline

We have talked about the next steps, and the things we are aiming to achieve in the next few weeks

Website	Instagram	Podcast
Start designing	Create an Instagram page	Trial run

Description of each page	Video	Sort out internet
Artists		
Group		
Podcast		
About		
Main page		

Funding	Facebook	
Finding way of funding the project		
Patreon, crowdfunding....	Contact facebook and Instagram queer projects in Carmarthenshire, Swansea, Llanelly, ceridigion?	

Patreon and funding

We have to look into ways of funding and making the project sustainable. For next week we will be looking at different platforms or patreon

Paying for a domain. Considering .org rather than other

We decided to pay for the domain as it is more professional, specially for a project like this

Any other issues and ideas

To talk about trial podcast introduction

What are we doing this week coming?

Division of work

Meeting 3rd of February

(Minutes taken by Ellie)

Summary of this week:

- Discussed finalising the name ideas
- Decided we will record an introduction video for the website & social media platforms
- Discussed next steps needed to start designing website etc
- Revisited what we have looked at in the past week
- Decided what tasks we will be completing for our next meeting

Name ideas. On your face vs In your face

In this weeks meeting, we started by revisiting our name ideas. We decided Africa will ask a friend concerning the connotations of our two ideas 'On Your Face' and 'In Your Face' before we make a final decision.

Video. Content

We then went on to discuss the introduction video. Deciding we should aim for the video to be around 3 minutes long, we will be writing a script that involves roughly 30 words each that introduces ourselves, with the remaining time spent introducing the project. Africa has written a paragraph for the website that will be useful in using as the foundation of our introduction video. This will be sent over to enable me to edit or create any additions. We decided this video would be shared on IGTV (instagram) and the website.

Logo design

Africa is planning to ask her friend if she would be interested in designing our logo for the project. We will finalise details surrounding the aesthetics of the website after we see a logo preview. I will research the website building platform, Cargo, as this is an affordable

suggestion. It would be ideal to have a custom domain for our website. We are planning to have different tabs on the website with suggestions being: Home, About, Podcast, Zine, Our Artists.

Platforms for podcasts

Africa has researched platforms for sharing podcasts and the best ways to record them. One way of doing this would be to record our podcast on teams, edit the sound on a separate platform and finally, upload to Anchor, a free podcast sharing platform. We will have a trial run of this.

For next week

For our next meeting, I am aiming to have 30 words that introduce myself for the video, research surrounding Patreon and an action plan containing the next steps with time scales.

Meeting 10th of February

(Notes taken by Ellie)

On your face vs In your face

In today's meeting we discussed what we have researched in the past week and what our next steps are. Africa had a response from her friend regarding the name and it has been decided that we will have 'On Your Face' as our group/project/collective name. This is due to the fact that it is open to interpretation and may be considered as more inviting. Africa also had contacted people regarding the creation of a logo but is yet to here a response.

Video

We also discussed the plans for our introduction video. We have decided that we will both read the full text, then select parts from each person in the edit.

Patreon

Regarding Patreon, we spoke about how we disliked the idea of using the platform to post exclusive content. Instead, we would like to use it as a place for donations and if a donation is a certain amount, they could receive a print from one of the artists in the collective.

The action plan for the next steps was also spoke about in this meeting.

Planning next meeting on Monday as a working day

We have arranged to meet at 9am on Monday where we are planning to:

- Work on the website & social media
- Film the introduction video
- Time dependent, have a trial run of the podcast

For next week:

- Africa to ask illustration department if anyone would like to design our logo
- Read over text for introduction video and edit if needed. Send this to Africa
- Edit my personal introduction script
- Africa to look at website templates
- Record introduction video and send to Africa

22nd of February

(Notes taken by Africa)

Meeting's Agenda

1. Create Instagram page
2. On your face
3. First post
4. To expand from South Wales to Wales

Creation of the Instagram page

We have created an Instagram page as we were doing the meeting and decided the sentence to summon what the project is.

Explanation Line under the name:

Online queer platform/ collective showcasing the work of LGBTQ+ creatives in South Wales

Reviewing and final decision on South Wales vs Wales

We have talked about whether we want the platform to be for people based and/or from south wales or Wales.

We decided to create a platform for the creatives of Wales, rather than online South Wales

The website

We looked at templates in Cargo, created a selection of our favourites and decided to try:

No blinking

Ideal associates

Email, Instagram and Linktree

During the meeting we created: An Instagram, an email, a linktree for instagram

onyourfacecollective@gmail.com

Creation of a provisional logo:

Africa has contacted a Lecturer from graphic design to ask for students who might want to collaborate and create a logo and there has been no reply. She also contacted Casey from third year and asked her friend who is from Illustration to post on their facebook group to see if anybody is interested. Nobody has shown interest yet. She has also contacted a friend of hers but so far nobody has come forward to do the logo. We have decided to create a provisional logo until we get a graphic designer to create one.

We have both tried different design with one of Ellies painting on the background.

Ellie's best designs



Africa's best design



We decided to go with Africa's design. After a while Africa suggested to desaturate the design as the original logo had connotations of a traveling logo



Website and domain

We created an account with cargo to start the website.

We looked at the domain available and somebody already own onyourface.co.uk so we decided we will call the website onyourfacecollective.co.uk.

First Post

On the meeting we have spoken about the first few Posts on Instagram and we have worked on the wording:

Wording for the open call:

Open call to all LGBTQ+ creatives from South Wales

We are looking for LGBTQ+ creatives (artist, illustrator, photographer, writer, singer, musician, film maker...) to form part of On Your face.

We will be showcasing your work through online presence through social media, our upcoming website, zine, podcast, interviews, online exhibitions and much more.

Wording to Introduce On your face:

On your face aims to bring the queer creatives from south Wales to your face, through the creation of a queer space to showcase the LGBTQ+ talents of the area. This will be done through, social media, our upcoming website, zine, podcast, interviews, online exhibitions and much more.

If you are a queer creative you can also join us on our online community on Facebook:

Follow us to keep updated!

We decided that on our first post we would introduce On your face

Ellie created an Image for the post and posted it during the meeting



We decided to meet again on Wednesday 24th

Meeting 24th of February

(Notes taken by Africa)

Meeting's Agenda

- 1 set up basic website
 - 2 create image and caption for Instagram page
 - 3 Contacting organization on facebook and Instagram
 - 4 Following artist
- Think of hashtag
- Tasks to do for next week

Set up basic website:

We talked again about the different pages we should have at the start and agreed that:

We should only be putting basic information

And the pages would be:

Main page: Open call and information about the project

Artists page with all artists and a small bio with a couple of sentences about their practice

About page: With extended introduction to the project

Contact: Link to facebook with explanation and e-mail

- We also talked about potentially creating different pages for different `types of creatives as we get more people to participate. We could have a section for graphic artist, one for fine artists, one for musicians and one for writers.

For now we will only have one page called our creatives or creatives

2 create image and caption for Instagram page

We talked about the content of the second post:

Final wording for the second Post

We are looking for queer creatives based in wales to be featured in our upcoming website with the future prospect to be showcased in our zine and be part of our podcast.

DM us or email us at: onyourfacecollective@gmail.com with your expression of interest, your connection to Wales and a short statement explaining your creative practice and a link to your work.

Ellie created an image for the post and posted it during the meeting

Think About hashtags.

Africa has voiced a potential problematic with the hashtag #youngartist as potentially being exclusionary and suggested to come up with a series of hashtags that we can use every time

We brainstormed hashtag that would identify and link us to the audience we are looking for: LGBTQ+, queer and welsh people or people who live in Wales

The list is:

#onyourface #queercreatives #queerwriters #queerwales #welshqueers #lgbtqwales
#queermusicians #queerpoets #queerartist #queerperformance #queerfilmmakers

#LGBTQ #queerwales #welshartist #welshmusicians #welshwriters #welshfilmmakers

3 Contacting organization on Facebook and Instagram

We talked about contacting LGBTQ organizations in Wales to be promoting the group.

We are questioning the idea that we might need to write a more personal email for certain organizations, showing knowledge and interest of what they do as we might be able to collaborate with some of them in the future.

Africa will do some research to create a list to see which organizations are worth to write a more personal email rather than a general email, explaining what we are doing and asking them to share a post on Facebook or social media.

Some of the groups and organization that Africa is part of or groups that Africa has found lately

Bi Swansea

Carmarthen lgbt

LGBTQ WALES

LGBTQ= SOCIAL EVENTS South wales

Cardigan lgbtq

Carmarthen lgbtq

Lgbtq cardiff

4 Following artist

We talked about following artist, whether we should follow only queer people or anybody. We decided to follow anybody, that the more people we follow, the more chances we reach aour audience.

*This changed later, as Africa started to only follow queer people and she felt as though as perhaps we should try to only follow queer people for now, as it felt the right thing to do

Tasks to do for next week if Possible

Ellie is:

- Going to write message for pages and groups
- Engage with people on Instagram page
- Select images and bio for herself

Africa will:

- Engage with people on Instagram page
- Contact people to see if they want to participate
- Research groups and pages
- Start with the website

24th of February chat Online

As we started to receive emails of Interest, Africa offered to email people back. Ellie suggested that we should write a standard Email to send to everybody.

Africa wrote it and sent it to Ellie to review.

1st of March

(Minutes taken by Africa)

Agenda

Prerequisites for being part of On your face? Quality of work, prerequisites on portfolio

Contacting groups on Instagram, emailing uni.

Answering email

Keeping up with social media. Daily updates, maybe every couple of days?

- Sorting out content for next weeks: Example: Building website, looking for illustrator

How to engage with more people?

Website: Using a different platform, paying for it, finishing?

Zine: content and structure?

Africa is arranging internet today

Review of podcast class

What to do this week

Prerequisites for being part of On your face? Quality of work, prerequisites on portfolio

Do we need to have prerequisites for people to joining On your face. What if some people submit work and is not up to standards? We have talked about creating some guidelines

Contacting groups on Instagram, emailing uni.

Africa will be emailing organizations and universities to ask them to promote the work of On your face

Answering email

Africa is answering emails and Ellie is in charge of Instagram

Keeping up with social media. Daily updates, maybe every couple of days?

- **Sorting out content for next weeks: Example: Building website, looking for illustrator**

How to engage with more people?

We have talked about how to engage with more people but we didn't get any conclusion.
We need to engage with the community

Website: Using a different platform, paying for it, finishing?

Publishing a website with Cargo is 70 pounds a year and the domain around 17. We talked about whether to use a cheaper website or whether to continue with cargo as it has got more flexibility with the designs, and you can create an unlimited amount of pages for the website.

We decided to pay for the website and split costs, hoping that we will get our money back in the future and that we will find a way to make the project self-sufficient through funding or crowdfunding.

Zine: content and structure?

We talked about the potential content of the zine. Ellie was thinking about showing images of the works and artists statements. Africa suggested to have a look at art magazines and potentially focusing on topics each week

Review of podcast class**Africa attended an online queer podcast class**

Podcasters that lead the class: Mike Wooller, Shivani Dave, Alex Fuller and Suzi Ruffell

Queer podcasts to look at

C'mon come out, The log books podcast, like minded friends

Topics in the class**1. Finding your format**

In our case it would be an interview format

2. What makes a good queer podcast.

Doing a lot of research about the guests. Covering that hard stuff and the easy stuff

What makes a good queer podcast

- Having a passion for the subject, research and knowledge
- Passion and skill of the host

- Having an understanding of what the podcast is, what you are trying to archive
- Having an identity as a podcast. Consistency for the audience
- Releasing podcast weekly at the same day
- Figure out what you want to say
- Find out your niche
- Interview format? Chose format

3. Finding your voice

4. Podcasting from home

- Covering hard surfaces with blankets or cushions
- Editing:
- Shiveni Dave explained that their way of editing podcasts is to listen to the interview while they do something else and the next day, they write down what they can remember and that's what they keep.
- While recording: Keep an eye on the levels, double check that you are recording record with an USB mic
- They also suggest having a microphone stand
- To safe the recording in several sd cards
- Record through quick time, both people record locally
- Turn video off if you depend on band with for better sound
- Put headphones on.
- Record on the phone and on zoom at the same time.

5. Interviews:

As a directed conversation

Start with a strict set of questions, do a pre-chat, to see what they want to talk about and what they don't want to talk about, to know the boundaries of the guests.

How: directed conversation, taking notes through the interview and ask later, to be in the moment having that conversation with that person.

Do enough research. Very important

Chit chat first, use the first 10 minutes to feel relaxed, also record from the start

6. Finding your audience

- Social media, spread it through your friends. The idea to be consistent and finally you get an audience
- Using hashtags, going to other podcasts, inviting other podcasters into yours
- Telling friends to listen, getting people to rate and review the podcasts, crosspollination
- Twitter
- Bold simple and easy to read
- Clear title
- Description, use key facts for each episode
- Engage:
- Consistency is key, regularity in release
- Engage in communities online by sharing.....
- Length of the podcast: Remembering attention span of people.

What to do this week

Africa will carry on creating the website

Ellie will post on Instagram. We will both review and talk about the text and content to share.

1st of March

(Taken by Ellie)

Points covered in todays meeting:

- Saying a point about having an up to date cohesive Instagram profile on the email.
- Add a how to apply section on the website.
- Answer email submissions.
- I will manage the Instagram side of the project and Africa will be managing the email side of the project and contacting organisations.
- I will look for more pages to contact.
- Post on Instagram to update followers for example: we are building a website post, we are looking for a graphic designer post, post news etc..
- Pay monthly for Cargo website.
- Look at Cargo site and make notes to confirm with Africa.
- Look into structure of art magazines for references to zine. Look at including news etc..
- Listen to some art podcasts.
- Write list of Instagram post ideas. Put on Teams chat.
- Write post for Friday to say keep an eye out for our post next week introducing our organisers. Include tagged names.
- Send artist statement, bio and images to africa.olle@gmail.com.
- Look at creative colleges around Wales.

Notes on website:

- Capital letters for tab names.
- On the home page, could the text be worded: 'This will be done through our website, social media, zine, podcast and interviews.'
- Contact Us page: add Instagram link and Facebook page link.
- About page: No space between the slash and collective. Change South Wales to just Wales. Change the end of that first paragraph to match the one on the home page. Change 'creative queer' to 'queer creative.' I edited some punctuation and slight word changes on the About page.
- On the Our Creatives page, should each label of creatives have a capital letter?
- How comes I can see two Africa Olle pages?
- Do we need to delete that 'info' page?

Instagram post ideas:

- Sharing news articles.
- Looking for graphic designer for logo.
- Update on website.
- Sharing our creatives work.
- Share stories.

Today we could post an image like the one above with the caption:

Hi everyone,

Just to give you an update, we are currently working on the final touches of our website and we'll be posting the link as soon as it's accessible. We have received expressions of interest from some amazing creatives so far, keep them coming in! You can do this by sending us a DM or emailing us at: onyourfacecollective@gmail.com with your expression of interest, your connection to Wales and a short statement explaining your creative practice and a link to your work.

[#onyourface](#)[#queercreatives](#)[#queerwriters](#)[#queerwales](#)[#welsh](#)[#queer](#)[#lgbtq](#)[#lgbtqwales](#)[#queerartist](#)[s](#)[#queerfilmmakers](#)[#queerperformers](#)[#lgbtqmusicians](#)[#lgbtqperformers](#)[#lgbtqartists](#)[#swansea](#)[#finear](#)[t](#)[#art](#)[#cardiff](#)[#camarthenshire](#)[#queerwales](#)[#welshartists](#)[#welshmusicians](#)[#welshwriters](#)[#welshfilmma](#)[kers](#)

8th of March

(Minutes Taken by Ellie)

In this weeks meeting we have:

- Discussed what we have looked at in the past week
- Africa has messaged artists that she feel may be interested in participating
- Africa has replied to emails of people showing interest
- Updated the website
- Africa has wrote some ideas for future posts:
- Looking for LGBTQ+ Musicians, graphic designers, illustrators, artists, film-makers, writers... who are from Wales or based in Wales
- Would you like to your work to be showcased on On your face?

Dm us or Email us at: onyourfacecollective@gmail.com with your expression of interest, your connection to Wales, a short statement explaining your creative practice and a link to your work.

- Next week we will be spending time arranging the notes and documents
- Africa has found a grant that we could apply for - <https://arts.wales/funding/get-started/organisations/connect-and-flourish>
- Today I will post my introduction to our social media including: 3 photos of my work with artist statement
- Africa will be doing the same on Wednesday
- Friday we will post a row of 3 photos to say that next week we will be introducing our new artists
- Next Monday we will be posting 3 posts introducing Efa
- Next Wednesday we will be doing the same with Adam
- On Friday we will post a story to say that our website is live

Post for Friday:

We have had some great submissions so far. Keep an eye on our social media as next week we will begin to introduce some of our creatives.

Work on this week:

- Create posts for Fridays Instagram
- Today post introduction to myself
- Send Africa big crit powerpoint to begin thinking about podcast
- On Wednesday meet up to confirm website before it goes live

8TH of March

(Taken by Africa)

Agenda 8th of March

- Talking about what we have done the past week
- How to reply to people who are not being professional over email?
- Ideas for posts:
- Introducing conflict/ feedback strategies: to make sure there is no conflict and that we are all happy. Questions like: Are you feeling heard? Are you happy with the process? Is there anything that it is not working? Do we need to change any strategy? How are you feeling about it all? How are you feeling about the workload? How are you feeling about the work distribution? Is there anything that need changing?
- Next week off to sort out notes and documents for commune module
- Sorting out next week posts and this weeks'
- Grant
- Guidelines.
- 8 this week
- How do we envision
- Talk art podcast (Listen to

Talking about what we have done the past week

How to reply to people who are not being professional over email?

Africa is concern about people who are not showing interest in a professional manner. She is wondering what the best option is for replying to people like this.

We have agreed to send the original post requesting the details to people who are not sending the information that we require.

Ideas for posts:

Africa has thought of a couple of ideas for future posts on Instagram

-Looking for LGBTQ+ Musicians, graphic designers, illustrators, artists, film-makers, writers... who are from Wales or based in Wales

-Would you like to your work to be showcased on On your face?

Dm us or Email us at: onyourfacecollective@gmail.com with your expression of interest, your connection to Wales, a short statement explaining your creative practice and a link to your work.

Introducing conflict/ feedback strategies: to make sure there is no conflict and that we are all happy. Questions like: Are you feeling heard? Are you happy with the process? Is there anything that it is not working? Do we need to change any strategy? How are you feeling

about it all? How are you feeling about the workload? How are you feeling about the work distribution? Is there anything that need changing?

Africa wanted to make sure that we were both happy and that we were satisfied with the way that the project is going. She was also worried about herself not listening enough. She wanted to make sure that Ellie was feeling heard

1. Next week off to sort out notes and documents for commune module

Next week we are starting to showcase artists but we are taking the week of to sort out the information for this module and to sort out the meetings notes.

2. Sorting out next week posts and this weeks

We talked about posting about the website being live and an introductory post to next week.

3. Grant.

Africa is going to message Sian Addicot for advice on how to approach organizations as an unknown artist.

4. Guidelines.

We talked about potentially create some guidelines or values for the project to make sure we showcase work that is not ableist, sexist, ageist or that discriminates against others. Guidelines and values that reflect the aims of the project.

10th of March Online Conversation

We have finalized details about the posts

Claudia has shown interest in participating in On your face and being part of the core group. She ticks the requisits of being LGBTQ+ and BAME. She is a great asset as she has a degree in translation, being proficient in grammar and writing and is very knowledgeable about art and music.

Ellie and Africa agree that it would be great to have more people on board.

We talked about changing the post and dedicating one post to Claudia, one post to the website being live and one post to introduce an update on next week as we are starting to showcase creative on Instagram.

Africa is finishing the website on Thursday and purchasing a domain and will have everything ready for Friday

23rd of March

(Minutes taken by Africa)

Summary

Division of Roles

What do we want to do next

Zine

Future

Division of Roles

We have talked about Ellie taking responsibility over Instagram. Africa doesn't want to engage with it. Africa is happy to share stories to spread events but does not want to do posts.

Ellie is going to have the full responsibility and ownership from posting on Instagram. This means she will be posting the work of the artists on *On your face*. We have also agreed to post promotional post every so often, reminding people to join in and spreading the word.

Claudia can support Elli on the Instagram if she needs help or wants somebody to edit or look over a text.

Africa will carry on emailing artists, replying emails, and uploading their work on the website.

Claudia will be emailing organization and groups on Facebook from now an on. Africa might still do some of the emailing, but Claudia will take most of the weight of the emailing and asking organizations to promote us. As stated, before Claudia will also support Ellie when she needs help with content with Instagram.

What do we want to do next

We have talk about deadlines and work and we both agree that we need some time to do work for the other module, we might try to do the zine in two weeks but we will review then to see if we have enough time and energy to do it.

We know we want to do the Podcast, but we might leave it after we finish university. We will review whether we want to do the podcast before the academic year ends in 4 weeks

Zine

We have talk in depth about how much time we need and what work would entitle to create the zine. We have talk about creating a theme for the zine, for example *Queer and nature*.

Future

Africa has talked about potential funding through the arts council with the support of the Glyn Vivian and the potential to create an art event with the funding.

Africa has talked about the Glyn Vivian being happy in principle to support our application.

Podcast Class

I have attended an online class by A class to learn more about podcasting. I really liked the idea of a class directed to people who wants to create podcasts to make queer voices heard.

As I have been contemplating the idea to create a podcast for *On your face*, I have been researching the technicalities of it as well as how to create content and engage with the audience. I came across this free online class for queer people on Instagram and I joined the event on Zoom.



Webinar Registration



Topic	Aclass: Queer Voices
Description	Aclass: Queer Voices is a free workshop for new and aspiring podcasters in the LGBTQ+ community, happening on Thursday February 25th from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. GMT. Hosted by podcast company Acast, Queer Voices is the latest in the company's Aclass event series, created to celebrate and amplify voices from underrepresented communities in podcasting, and inspire the next generation of podcasters.
Time	Feb 25, 2021 06:30 PM in London



Podcasters that lead the class: Mike Wooller, Shivani Dave, Alex Fuller and Suzi Ruffell

Queer podcasts to look at

C'mon come out, The log books podcast, like minded friends

Topics in the class

7. Finding your format

In our case it would be an interview format

8. What makes a good queer podcast.

Doing a lot of research about the guests. Covering thar hard stuff and the easy stuff

What makes a good queer podcast

- Having a passion for the subject, research and knowledge

- Passion and skill of the host
- Having an understanding of what the podcast is, what you are trying to archive
- Having an identity as a podcast. Consistency for the audience
- Releasing podcast weekly at the same day
- Figure out what you want to say
- Find out your niche
- Interview format? Chose format
-

9. Finding your voice

10. Podcasting from home

- Covering hard surfaces with blankets or cushions
- Editing:
- Shiveni Dave explained that their way of editing podcasts is to listen to the interview while they do something else and the next day they write down what they can remember and that's what they keep.
- While recording: Keep an eye on the levels, double check that you are recording record with an usb mic
- They also suggest to have a microphone stand
- To save the recording in several sd cards
- Record through quick time, both people record locally
- Turn video off, if you depend on bandwidth for better sound
- Put headphones on.
- Record on the phone and on zoom at the same time.

11. Interviews:

As a directed conversation

Start with a strict set of questions, do a pre-chat, to see what they want to talk about and what they don't want to talk about, to know the boundaries of the guests.

How: directed conversation, taking notes through the interview and ask later, to be in the moment having that conversation with that person.

Do enough research. Very important

Chit chat first, use the first 10 minutes to feel relaxed, also record from the start

12. Finding your audience

- Social media, spread it through your friends. The idea to be consistent and finally you get an audience
- Using hashtags, going to other podcasts, inviting other podcasters into yours
- Telling friends to listen, getting people to rate and review the podcasts, crosspollination
- Twitter
- Bold simple and easy to read
- Clear title
- Description, use key facts for each episode
- Engage:
- Consistency is key, regularity in release
- Engage in online communities
- Length of the podcast: Remembering attention span of people.

The future

Social practice and social change are two pillars of my personal and artistic practice.

The ways in which I see myself using my skills and knowledge through those two pillars are:

Workshops, teaching, creating events and creating content (that could be through writing and podcast)

Workshops

Art has been very beneficial to me in terms of finding focus, improving mental health, finding connections between my personal struggles and the bigger picture.

I would like to teach children and teenagers my way of experiencing and producing art.

In my practice I use personal experiences to enquire about the world. I investigate how my personal experiences are link to bigger topics like social hierarchies, sexism, ableism, ageism, homophobia....

I believe a workshop encouraging children/ teenagers to look at their struggles will encourage them to have critical thinking, as well as empathy and willingness to create change. The idea would be to ask them to enquire about what makes them sad, what makes them angry and then take those things to not only create art but to investigate those issues to see where they come from in terms of societal structures.

An example of how a teenager might engage with this would be:

I feel angry because I can't do what I want, my parents don't give me freedom to go with my friends when I want.

With this topic we could explore topics of oppression and control in society

Enquiring about *why* through the use of empathy

We could think about the parents being scared about the teenager getting into trouble

That could relate to lack of trust, not only to the teenager but to the world

We could enquire about those feelings using Non-Violent communication skills with the basic questions of How do I feel, what is making me feel like this, what do I need

The teenager could say, I feel angry because I can't go out, I want freedom

Then we could enquire, what is the meaning of freedom, who does have freedom, who doesn't?

We could explore issues from slavery, to the capitalist world in which we entangle ourselves with 9 to 5 jobs, we could explore the lack of freedom of elders through infantilization of elderly people from society, the lack of Freedom of Black people because of institutionalised racism and racism through society...

This could turn into the question of - How can one find freedom in a world where freedom is lacking? How can we find freedom through art? How can we express these things we have inside through art practice? How can art help us to find a voice and actually change things within the world and within our personal situation?

Through this series of questions and encouraging teenagers to research into the topics themselves, the students can then create a piece that reflects their topic of enquiry, in this case it would be freedom.

In this hypothetical case, the student might want to explore lack of freedom, how does lack of freedom express through the body, through society, through the psyche.

The student will be encouraged to choose one or more mediums to express those thoughts and feelings. This could be expressed through painting, performance, a poem, an installation...

Through the workshop we would be looking at different examples of different artists who use various mediums.

From Louise Bourgeois Installations, sculptures, and paintings to Cassils performances, Juliana Huxtable's paintings and music.

The idea would be to showcase a great diversity of artists of different backgrounds, sexualities, ethnicities, bringing together a portfolio showcasing works that explore different topics through different issues and visions allowing the student to think beyond the literal and to think beyond painting and beyond what we think art is.

Artistic practice can enhance personal growth. We can use art to understand ourselves and the world better and to find solutions.

At the moment I am quite busy with *On your face* but this is a project/ workshop for schools that I have been thinking about for the last couple of years. I am aiming to create a proposal when time allows and to contact some high schools to see if they would be interested in it. I am not quite sure how to go about it yet. I know in the past there was opportunities through the university for some funding to do workshops with some schools in Swansea but I haven't heard anything about it since Covid 19 started.

I will further look into this in the future.

Teaching

One of the reasons to do the masters is because I would like to teach in University. I have found that there are still lecturers who are not very inclusive in terms of representation. I have felt so frustrated over the years every time I had a full cis white male lecture, that an interest in teaching has grown into me.

I think the contrast between lecturers who are feminist and use intersectional feminism as a way to teach a variety of subjects is much more engaging than a lecturer who focuses on the cis white male narratives.

I personally have felt so inspired by some lecturers who applied intersectional feminism within their lectures that I felt I didn't and couldn't engage with other lectures that didn't follow those parameters or ethos. Why should we conform with biased lectures and lecturers when we can have inclusive decolonized ones? I would like to be part of that change. I would love to teach art in its all grandiosity, beyond the white masters. To show the amazing artists that are out there that we don't see because they are put aside. To teach art through the understanding of history and the world we live in.

Creating events

Organizing events and creating opportunities for others is something I feel very passionate about. This shows through the project *On your face*, there is nothing that makes me happier than helping other people to have their voices heard, specially those who like me, are in the margins.

Events for queer people, women, elders, refugees, BAME... People who needed the most, who are craving for contact and community.

I want this to be a part of my life because organizing events to bring people together creates change, organizing events to put people on the spot forces the master narratives to change.

Creating content.

Very link to creating events, for me creating content is a way to give other people a platform. I think of magazines, zines, podcasts, books as a way to create an archive and showcase other people perspectives, lives and art.

As well as creating those types of content for others, I also very much enjoy writing myself. I love researching and writing and if there is something, I can bring into life that will open people up to other possibilities, other visions and to more critical thinking, I would like to make it happen.

I know there are many voices out there and as a cis white person, there are enough narratives coming from cis white people so I am not so sure I can write something that will be useful, something that will bring different perspectives together. I would like to carry on writing and maybe one day I will write something worth to be published, something worth to be read.

External correspondence

I have emailed artist who I know are based in Wales and who are queer.

Last year I went into the activist week and attended a talk by Fox Irving and I met a few creative queer people whom I have emailed.

I emailed Kelly Grinter to ask for *On your face* to be promoted across the universities and attached the information on the email.

Through the promotion of *On your face* on Instagram and through university we got a few people interested on the first month.

☐	☆	Nerys, me 6	need to be uploaded in ...	Getting Involved - Hi Africa I would like to be involved with the zine and promoted on Instagram M...	19 Mar
☐	☆	Oberon, me 4		Queer artist focus - Hi Rhys, Thank you for submitting your statement and images. Your information will be uploaded to th...	18 Mar
☐	☆	me, Abi 7	Complete	On your face. - Hi Africa! That is great thank you so much! I would love to take part in both of those things if yo...	11 Mar
☐	☆	rachel, me 6	Complete	artist statements and work - Hi again, Sorry about that, the piece is now converted to a JPEG so it should be fin...	10 Mar
☐	☆	me, Isaac 5	Complete	On your face. LGBTQ collective - Hi Isaac Thank you for submitting your statement and images. You will be feat...	10 Mar
☐	☆	Dione, me 7	Complete	Open Call - Hey, Thank you! I look forward being a part of this	10 Mar
☐	☆	Lucy, me 5	Complete	On Your Face - Open Call - Hi Africa, Fantastic – thank you I'm happy to contribute content for the zine. Thanks	9 Mar
☐	☆	Adam, me 7	Complete	Queer Artists - Okay, thank you:) I hope i didn't send too many images? From: Africa Olle <onyourfacecollective...	8 Mar
☐	★	Luke Roberts		Your Open Call - Hey! Just emailing quickly to respond to your current open call. I am a Cardiff based (and North Wales bo...	6 Mar
☐	☆	Fen, me 2	haven't sent info	Open call - Hi Fen This is Africa and Welcome to On your face. I believe we met last year in Fox Irving's tal...	3 Mar
☐	☆	Efa, me 5	Complete	LGBTQ+ creatives in Wales - Hi Efa, Thank you for submitting your statement and images. You will be featured ...	2 Mar
☐	☆	Scott, me 2		Hello - Hi Scott, We are looking for queer creatives based in Wales to be featured in our upcoming website with the future ...	2 Mar
☐	☆	rachel, me 2	Complete	open call submission - Hi Rachel Welcome to On your face. We already know your work and we are very excited ...	24 Feb

Claudia Rubio Sasaki showed interest in being on of the core members as stated before so we have been keeping communication to decided in which tasks and roles she could take on.

Ellie and I have been having weekly meetings to make joined decisions from January to the end of March. Those meetings are recorded on the meetings notes.

From the end of March we have been keeping the conversation going more informally through messaging to make small decisions. This hasn't been included in the notes.

As I have been taking the role of replying emails, as well as promoting through contacting people and organizations and discovered that in fact it is not my forte to email people. Whilst I can do a good job of it, I don't enjoy it and it takes me far too much time, Claudia has offered to take on the PR from now. I will only be in charge of replying emails related to applicants, Claudia will be in charge of contacting organizations and Ellie will carry on with social media.

I have also contacted Sian Addicot in regards my doubts about contacting the Glyn Vivian and GS galleries as a student or as somebody who is not known as an artist. This was due to the need of finding an organization to collaborate with to apply for the Connect and flourish funding when the applications open next time.

Sian has put me in contact with them and they said that in principal they are happy to support the application if it doesn't clash with their other funding applications.

Sian has also offered us to give a talk this year in the activist week which we have accepted. They will pay us a £150 pound fee which will cover all the costs of the website this year (hosting and domain) which was around 90 pounds. We are thinking of using the extra money to print posters to put up around venues in Wales.

As Claudia has only joined *On your face* she doesn't feel as though as she should be giving the talk. Ellie is also not available on the 30th and doesn't like the idea of giving the talk by herself. Whilst we have considered doing a joined talk, because of the length of the talk which we have been as to do a 20 minutes, and because Ellie will not be available, I will be giving the talk. I have written it and I will be sending it to Claudia and Ellie to see if there is anything they want to add. I have spoken to them both to gather what they think we should talk about, and finally written it. A transcript of the talk can be found on the annex of the document.

I have also emailed a lecturer from the Illustration department to ask for students who might want to collaborate to create a logo for *On your face*, I had no response.

I contacted a student from my class who has got friends in Illustration and ask them to spread the word and I gave them the information but nobody contacted us so far.

Together with Claudia we went through all the organizations and projects in Wales that she is going to email to ask them to promote us. We created a list of organizations that we want them to promote us and a list of organizations that as well as promoting us we might want to collaborate with.

The organizations we want to collaborate with we will be contacting with a more personalized email in which we will show interested and understanding of what they do and show interest in the possibility of doing something together in the future.

SPREAD	COLLABORATE
uswlgbtsoc	lgbtpridecymru
transaidcymru	glittercymru
vivalgbtplus	queerclub_uk
__shareyourstories__	transcreativeuk
stonewallcymru	queerlittlefamily *ask if they wanna join
queerresistance_	glittersisint
welsh.art	mythsntits
celcymruarts	aberrationcymru
queercymru	
irisprize	
genderswap_	
newportlgbtqyouth	
lgbtqymru	
balaclava.q	
Llanelli LGBTQ Plus FB + IG	
Bangor.lgbt FB + IG	
West Wales lgbtq+ FB	
support_lgbtq_businesses IG	
Swansea uni lgbtq+ society FB	
Bi Swansea FB	
Carmarthen Lgbtq+	

Uwtsd lgbtq	
Lgbtq youth Wales and west England	
Cardigan lgbtq	
Lgbtq Wales	
Lgbtq Cardiff	

I have also attended an event for queer creatives led by a theatre welsh student, based in London. The event was online and promoted through Volcano theatre in Swansea. The artist was Gabe Reynolds and there was other artists who participated too, thus making the event a perfect networking opportunity and connect with other queer creatives.

I have also attended A Talk by Glen Stoker & Rachel Dobbs organized by GS Artists where we got introduced to A-N (Artists information company) and their project Make change project.

This organization and project might be interesting to approach and collaborate with.

In addition during the talk, Helena Turgel introduced Wales cultural allowance project and gave us emails to contact them too. This might also be a good organization to partner with.

Annex

Talk for the activist week

Hi, First of all I wanted to thank Sian and UWTSD for this opportunity. It's just great to get to speak in an event like this.

My name is Africa Olle and I am one of the creators and core members of on your face collective along with Ellie Day and our latest addition Claudia Rubio Sasaki. Today I am here to introduce the project so I will be explaining what it is, where the idea came from and where we are at.

On your face is a queer platform/collective aiming to bring the queer creatives from Wales to the forefront, or as the name states to your face, through the creation of an online queer space to showcase the LGBTQ+ musicians, designers, writers, artists and photographers based in Wales or from Wales. This is currently done through the website and social media.

The original idea for this project was to have a physical space in Swansea and it was going to be aimed at LGBTQ+ creatives from South Wales rather than Wales. Of course, with covid it didn't make much sense to create a physical space for now, so we decided to focus on an online platform with the idea of organising physical events in the future. We started to run the project this January and having experienced the pandemic for almost a year and realizing not only the limitations of the situation but also the opportunities and the needs that have emerged from Covid, we realized that we don't have to bound ourselves to South Wales, so we decided to aim the collective at all of Wales instead.

We knew that even though not everybody has access to the internet or computers, those who have are probably used to engaging in online events due to the pandemic. That makes it the perfect moment in time to start a project like this, especially because it is at times like

these when we need community the most and when we are actively looking/wanting to connect somehow.

We decided to look at the situation as an opportunity to lay the bases of the project through online means with the idea that one day in a post covid era we would be able to create physical events and reach those who were unable to join because of technological and or economic barriers.

Using Intersectional feminism to create a project

The foundations of a project. The people who run it

Right now, the team and core group are formed by myself, Ellie Day and Claudia Rubio Sasaki. Our aim is for the team to have a representative of each community within the queer community so we would have a representative of the lesbian community, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer.

As we are looking for core members another requirement we set ourselves to fulfil is that we want the team to be very diverse thus we want more than half of the team to be queer people of colour and we want more women, trans and nonbinary people than men.

We are also looking for a minimum of two queer disabled people.

These requirements we have set ourselves to achieve we believe are the key for an inclusive project and inclusive events. A way to counteract the system we live in and create spaces and projects with the ethos we want to see in the world.

Manifesto. Guidelines.

After some of the submissions we received, we realized the need for guidelines in order to promote artists and works that not only represent the queer community but also comply with intersectional feminist values.

We want to make sure that we don't promote works that are sexist, racist, ageist, ableist or discriminatory against any sector of the lgbtq+ Community or society and that the works are not created through cis white supremacist patriarchal lenses. We want creatives to question their works understanding how art has a great influence in the ways in which people see the world. We want to spread work that is not only beneficial to the queer community but also to society.

When I am referring to art, I am also referring to music and everything that is encapsulated within creative practice.

So this is one of our many next steps

The future

In the next few months we have planned to contact a series of organizations which we will be asking to collaborate with us and to help spread the word. We will also be starting our new podcast where we will interview queer artists and we are also planning to create a zine (zin).

Lately, we have been looking into funding and one of the grants we are currently looking at is *Flourish and connect* by the arts council of Wales.

Flourish and connect is a grant for projects that are artist led, participant focused that engage and connect to the public. They are looking to fund initiatives that aim to create change and counteract discrimination. Making the project On your face the perfect candidate.

Once the applications open at the end of the year we will be applying for it but we are also looking into other grants and alternative funding like crowdfunding.

With the funding we want to create yearly queer art festivals and regular events for the queer community.

Having an inclusive team, each member would ensure not only to find artists whose intersections of identities they represent, but also to create specific events for those groups, as well as supporting other projects run by the other members, guaranteeing inclusivity in all the events we create.

Some ideas for events are:

Queer Women, non binary and trans people arts festival

Queer people of colour arts festival

And more specific events covering other identities and specific practices. For example, a queer music festival or queer writing workshops...

We are hoping through the creation of these events will be paying the salaries of the core members, as well as creating a lot of jobs for all those queer artists who we are showcasing and whom we will represent.

Our creatives

The creatives we have so far, range from film makers, performers, graphic designers, photographers, writers, fine artists and students from different creative courses. Just to introduce a couple of them, who have already submitted their portfolio we have:

Efa Bloss-Mason

An animator and filmmaker from Cardiff.

Known for her short film called 'Earthly Delights' which won her The Royal Television Society award for best student animation in 2019. '

She is also the winner of the Ffilm Cymru Wales' Beacons funding scheme with which she made 'Cwch Deilen/Leaf Boat', a Welsh language film about a lesbian couple and the anxieties of falling in love

Just to quote one of my favourite scenes in this film

One of the characters says to the other:

'What is really bothering you?'

to what she replies 'I am worried that you will get tired of me and leave me in an unfamiliar place, and I'll lose myself again'

Efa's works are so layered, queer but not always and certainly feminist... I totally recommend looking at her work

Oberon White

They are a Welsh multidisciplinary performance artist, music maker, cultural worker, cabaret performer and host born in Newport and who grew up in Cwmbra. Their work has been shown in the UK and internationally.

Their most recent feature-length solo performance winegod was developed with the support of Arts Council England, Roundhouse & The Glory and was presented to audiences across the UK

Right now is mostly Artist from South Wales but as we start to focus on PR we are hoping to get artists from all over Wales

Before we finish, I would like introduce myself as a way to contextualize where the idea for On your face collective came from, which I think will be relatable to those here who identify as queer. The need for a space and community.

As most of you can tell by my accent I am not from Wales or the UK. I am originally from Lleida which is a city in Catalunya and I have lived in the UK for the past 8 years.

Growing up in Lleida I didn't see many queer people, in fact I have no recollection of seeing anybody from the LGBTQ+ community in Lleida until a few years ago when I went to visit my family and I saw two women holding hands in public. This was almost a shock. I was like I have never seen this before in this context!

I also lived in Barcelona when I was 19 for about three years. It was a revelation to see so many queer people and to have so many pubs, cafes, queer events. It was brilliant. For the first time I felt at home as a queer person.

Then I moved to the uk and finally settled in Wales after moving around and to my disappointment I realized that there was no queer scene, at least in South Wales.

I remember a few years ago going to Swansea all excited to go to a queer club (which is now Elysium bar) to find out that they were doing their closing party and I was gutted. Luckily a nice project has taken over but It is not a queer space, since that day I did go to a queer event in Carmarthen In the parrot pub and it was brilliant but that was it. There have probably been more queer events around the area, but not a consistent event, or space and I think the consistency aspect is very important in order to build a community.

For the 7/ 8 years that I have lived in the UK I've been longing for a queer space, for queer people, for a community...

And I know I don't need to explain why we created this because I think we are all longing for community and a space to meet other queer folks but we don't talk about it enough and we don't do things to make it happen because it seems like an unattainable task for some of us to create spaces, events, collectives. It seems an unattainable task for me too.

We are only at the start and just to think of the prospect of what this might become and you know it's scary and exciting too but, I am doing so much admin and I hate admin, looking into funding sending emails. It is not my cup of tea, it gives me full on anxiety but then I look

into the artists who showed interest and their work and I feel so happy. I remember every time I have seen a queer artists giving a talk, every time I have meet a queer creative and have seen their work... and how happy I felt. I felt as though I connected to that person, as well as connecting to myself more deeply as if a little part of myself was missing and through that meeting or through seeing their work and finding about them made me more complete.

Slides back on

The importance for our stories to be told, to see ourselves represented, it is incalculable. From decades of oppression and suppressed stories, our identities erased or shamed upon. We have come a long way thanks to all those queer people who fought for equality but we are yet to retrieve many of those stories, at the same time we have to make sure the current ones are written down, painted, enacted. We must take the space and make sure we are the ones to tell our stories. No more distorted interpretations of our experiences written by the other.

It is the momentum in which more queer stories are coming up on the screens, these time stories written by us. From *The watermelon woman* by Cheryl Dunye (1996) to *Portrait of a Lady on fire* by Celine Sciamma in 2019, or more recently the podcast *The Logbooks* by Tash Walker, Adam Zmith and Shivani Dave and the many more in between and after.

We must make sure we are seen, we are heard and that we continue the work that the queer community have been doing for centuries.

From the subtleties of counteracting master narratives by just being oneself, allowing oneself to experience the love and attraction one feels to defying laws that put queer people in prison for just existing out of the paradigm of heterosexuality.

I also want to acknowledge that even though in the UK we, queer people are free to be, to love, to exist and express ourselves, there are still over 70 countries where being homosexual is illegal, corrective rapes are still happening across the world, conversion therapies are still legal in the UK and it was only in 2019 when the International Statistical Classification of Diseases- changed the status of transgender people so transgender would not constitute a mental disorder but instead would go under the category of sexual health. Let's not forget that it was only in 2003 that section 28, a law that prohibited the "promotion of homosexuality" was ended.

This was not that long ago

To finish on a happy note and to help us think of what the future could look like, especially for us queer people of Wales.

I wanted to talk about Gertrude Stein, for those who have read the autobiography of Alice B Toklas and for those who will go and get a copy after the activist week finishes. In her book Toklas describes her life together with Gertrude Stein in **27 rue de Fleurus** in Paris, organizing parties with artists and writers. I used to imagine how wonderful this would be with queer artists. And then last year I discovered the story of Natalie Clifford-Barney who created a literary salon for lesbian women, a space to discuss literature, art and music.

The people before us who created spaces like these like Clifford Barney who did it in the 19th century are an inspiration and a trigger of thought for how things could be.

So let us imagine

What would it be like if we had parties or events in which queer creatives got together, imagine the work we would end up producing out of those encounters, the feeling, the excitement, the fullness of that possibility? How much would we change, what would we become if we had such spaces? What collaborations might occur?

Now it's our turn. Let's make it happen.

www.onyourfacecollective.org

@onyourfacecollective

LGBTQ+ creatives Wales

How can you help?

Follow us on Social media and tell your queer friends about us.

PowerPoint slides for the talk

