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**Artists announced for Fresh and Clay Films at British Ceramics Biennial 2025**

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Today, Wednesday 6 August, British Ceramics Biennial (BCB) announces the 25 artists selected for **Fresh**, one of its flagship exhibitions and a celebration of the new wave of artists working in clay. This year’s cohort, selected from over 380 applicants, represents emerging talent from across the UK and Ireland, and reflects a wide range of perspectives and ceramic practices.

Also launching as part of BCB is **Clay Films**, a new strand showcasing the work of six international Global Majority artists working in film and clay. Together, **Fresh** and **Clay Films** signal BCB’s continued commitment to supporting diverse, innovative voices in contemporary ceramics. Both exhibitions will be presented as a part of the 2025 British Ceramics Biennial, taking place at Spode Works, Stoke-on-Trent, from 6 September to 19 October.

**Fresh: New voices in contemporary ceramics**

**Fresh** brings critical attention to artists from all over the UK and Ireland at a pivotal moment in their careers. With works ranging from hand-built figurative forms to architectural structures, this year’s emerging talents are united by their ambition to explore ideas, innovate ceramics practice and connect with the physicality of their material.

The 2025 Fresh artists are:Nibras Al-Salman, Ekta Bagri, Camille Biddell, David Bothwell, Laura Bragger, Alan Braidford, Katherine Breaks, Tom Buchanan, Kaytea Budd-Brophy, Grace Carter, Alessandra Centorbi, Hanna Fastrich, Catalin Filip, Nadire Gökmen, Yimou Huang, Fan Ji, Miae Kim, Bahareh Khomeiry, Biba Klico, Myrna Mitchell, Elliot Mountain, Kate O'Neill, Kate Sampson, Ceri Shaw and Olga Siruk.

Selected by a panel of advocates for contemporary art and making, the 25 artists will be eligible for **Fresh Talent Prizes**, which will be awarded to four artists during the Biennial. The Fresh Talent Prizes include a range of residency opportunities in partnership with the University of Staffordshire, Guldagergaard International Ceramics Research Center and Grymsdyke Farm. The Fresh Talent Prize recipients will be invited to develop new work and exhibit at BCB 2027. For this year's Biennial Fresh is presented in partnership with Ceramic Review.

**Clay Films: Clay through the lens of moving image**

In its inaugural edition, **Clay Films** showcases the work of six Global Majority artists of African and Caribbean heritage from all over the world. Selected via international open call, they are: **Majid Asadi** (Iran) for ***Brother’s Horn***; **Gibrán Furlán** (Mexico) for ***Hearth***; **Ilias Khlifat** (Morocco) for ***Liquid*; Valentina Alvarado Matos** (Spain) for ***arrojalatierra* (throwtheground)**; **Marius van Rensburg**, in collaboration with **Southern Guild Gallery (South Africa)** for***iThongo***featuring **Andile Dyalvane**; and **Tomisin Sarumi** (USA) for ***Departing***.

With work ranging from stop motion animation to moving image, **Clay Films** reflects the rich and expanding ways that artists are exploring clay through film. The programme gives a rare platform for a practice that sits at the intersection of ceramics and film, and which to date has received limited exposure. The final selection was made by a panel of sector experts.

**Fresh** and **Clay Films** are part of this year’s British Ceramics Biennial, a major celebration of clay and ceramics. Six weeks of exhibitions, installations, special events and hands-on experiences will take place at Spode Works in Stoke-on-Trent from 6 September to 19 October.

[www.britishceramicsbiennial.com](http://www.britishceramicsbiennial.com/)

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**Press preview: 3 September 2025**

**Ends**

Further press information/images: Iliana Taliotis mail@ilianataliotis.com or +44 (0)7931 341 112

**Notes to editors:**

*Image captions (left to right):*

*Alan Braidford, Stack, 2023*

*Kaytea Budd-Brophy, untitled, 2025*

*Camille Biddell, Basket Bowl, 2025*

*Olga Siruk, Incantation, 2025*

**Fresh 2025 selection panel:**

Fresh exhibitors are selected by a panel of leading professionals who are advocates for contemporary art and making, and who bring a variety of perspectives to the decision-making process. For 2025 they were: Fernanda Cortes, artist; Kevin Milward, Director of Clay College and artist; Glen Stoker, artist and curator; Grainne Watts, artist; and ten year-8 students from St Peter’s CofE Academy, Stoke-on-Trent, who represented their class as the Fresh Youth Panel.

**Clay Films selection panel:**

Sophia Musa, LUX Distribution Manager; Basil Olton, Artist, Curator and Researcher; Victoria Thomas, Filmmaker, Producer and Founder of *Republic of Story*; Anderson West, Producer, Director and Writer.

**About British Ceramics Biennial:**

British Ceramics Biennial (BCB) is an arts organisation based in Stoke-on-Trent with a vision of making change through clay.

BCB develops, sustains and expands innovative ceramics practice and improves lives together with artists and creative communities. This is done by delivering an engaging year-round programme of artist commissions, learning and community projects. These feed into a contemporary ceramics biennial that takes place in Stoke-on-Trent.

Initiated in 2009, BCB has grown to be the single largest contemporary ceramics event in the UK. The Biennial presents artworks from the UK’s leading ceramicists alongside work by international artists, in exhibitions and special events held across the city every two years.

BCB works in partnership with organisations and individuals in the cultural, industry, business, education, community and voluntary sectors in the development and delivery of projects with a particular focus on public engagement.

**British Ceramics Biennial funders:**

British Ceramics Biennial is proud to be an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation and is supported by the Stoke-on-Trent City Council and University of Staffordshire, alongside multiple project-based funders and sponsors.





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