

Press Release 5 October

FRIEZE WEEK 2021 AT SERPENTINE

Exhibitions, live events, architecture and performances from Hervé Télémaque, Tosh Basco, Sophia Al-Maria, Torkwase Dyson, Revital Cohen & Tuur Van Balen, James Barnor and Sumayya Vally, Counterspace

10 – 17 October

BOOKING ESSENTIAL, FREE

For all bookings press@serpentinegalleries.org

11 October – press view 4–6pm, Revital Cohen & Tuur Van Balen: *Heavens* at The Swiss Church

16 October – Tosh Basco and Sophia Al-Maria, NO SKY x *taraxos* in the Pavilion

All week – Hervé Télémaque: *A Hopscotch of The Mind* (press view, 6 October, 9am – 2pm)

All week – James Barnor: *Accra/London – A Retrospective*

NO BOOKING REQUIRED, FREE

10 October and 17 October – Pavilion Fragments Live Event at The Tabernacle

12 October – 17 October – Revital Cohen & Tuur Van Balen: *Heavens* at The Swiss Church, Holborn

16 October – Tosh Basco and Sophia Al-Maria, NO SKY x *taraxos* day performance

Until 17 October – Serpentine Pavilion 2021, designed by Sumayya Vally, Counterspace

Until 17 October – Torkwase Dyson sound commission, Serpentine Pavilion

All week – Sophia Al-Maria: *taraxos*, Serpentine x Modern Forms Sculpture Commission



EXHIBITION | Hervé Télémaque: A Hopscotch of The Mind



Hervé Télémaque, *Inventaire, un homme d'intérieur*, 1966, Acrylic on canvas, 150 x 300 cm, © Hervé Télémaque, ADAGP, Paris and DACS, London 2021.

Serpentine South Gallery

Opening Thursday 7 October 2021, press view Wednesday 6 October 2021

Until Sunday 30 January 2022

Booking essential, press@serpentinegalleries.org

The first UK institutional show for the pioneering Haitian-French artist includes paintings, objects, collages and assemblages from the late 1950s to the present day. Télémaque's subversive practice brings together striking combinations of historical and literary references with those of consumer and popular culture, highlighting the contemporary resonances of racism, imperialism and colonialism.



EVENT | PAVILION FRAGMENTS LIVE EVENT AT THE TABERNACLE



Fragment of Serpentine Pavilion 2021 designed by Counterspace for The Tabernacle, Photo: George Darrell

Sunday 10 October and Sunday 17 October 2021

2-6PM

The Tabernacle

34-35 Powis Square, W11 2AY

Booking not required

In collaboration with Sumayya Vally of Counterspace, throughout September and October a series of live events will take place at partner venues where the Fragments of the Serpentine Pavilion 2021 are placed. The series at the Tabernacle will feature six sound systems played on selected Sundays co-programmed together with artist Alvaro Barrington and CEO of Notting Hill Carnival Matthew Phillip.



EXHIBITION | Revital Cohen & Tuur Van Balen: *Heavens* (part of *Back to Earth*)



Still from *Heavens*, 2021, by Revital Cohen & Tuur Van Balen. Courtesy the artists.

The Swiss Church, 79 Endell St, London, WC2H 9DY

Press preview: 4-6pm, Monday 11 October

VIP preview: 6-9pm, Monday 11 October

Booking required, press@serpentinegalleries.org

Public hours: 12-7pm, Tuesday 12 – Sunday 17 October

Artists in conversation: 7.30pm, Saturday 16 October

Late opening: 8.30pm – 12am, Saturday 16 October

Booking not required

This new moving image installation is part of *Back to Earth*, Serpentine's long-term multidisciplinary project dedicated to the environment and the climate crisis. Titled *Heavens*, it starts with the idea that ecology encompasses everything from the microscopic to the interplanetary.

Revital Cohen (both b. 1981) and Tuur Van Balen explore processes of production as cultural, personal and political practices. The work forms bridges between disciplines and cultural norms, linking mining with technology, gambling with emotional manipulation, and the design of non-human bodies with economic systems.

In *Heavens*, Cohen and Van Balen look to the physiology and behaviours of the octopus, which are so unique on Earth that it has been suggested they evolved from a virus originating in outer space, to form a constellation of text, sounds and images. *Heavens* follows human and non-human attempts to transgress boundaries through escape in acts of communal ritual, or through leaks and spillovers.



Heavens is a new moving-image installation, accompanied by a multi-channel soundscape by Pan Daijing, co-commissioned by Serpentine and Malevich.io as part of *Back to Earth*.

Malevich.io is a multi-disciplinary and multifaceted platform to support artists by producing works and financing exhibitions in collaboration with galleries and museums and creating a discourse around their work.



LIVE | Park Nights 2021: Tosh Basco and Sophia Al-Maria with Kelsey Lu
NO SKY x *taraxos*



© Tosh Basco

Tosh Basco and Sophia Al-Maria with Kelsey Lu
Saturday 16 October, 9am- 8pm, outside Serpentine South Gallery
Free, booking not required

Saturday 16 October, 8pm-9pm, evening performance, Serpentine Pavilion designed by Counterspace
Booking essential, press@serpentinegalleries.org

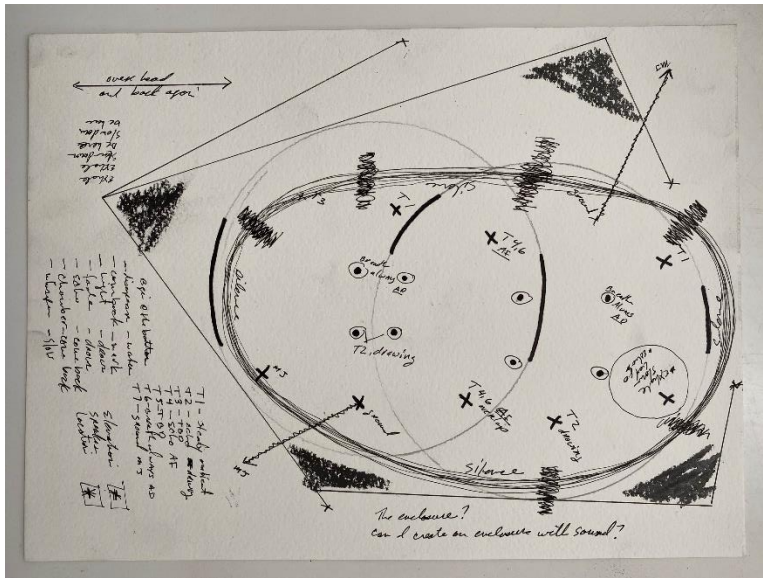
NO SKY is a new twelve-hour performance by artist Tosh Basco. Named after the poem “No Sky” by Etel Adnan from her book *TIME*, the piece uses poetry as a portal. Performed over the course of a half-day, NO SKY is a simple mediation on Time.

Much of Basco’s work quietly frames performance as ritual. NO SKY invites audiences to slow down and enter a state of heightened attention where the body is a time travel machine; it slips and spins as the hours are lost, bleeding into one another. Basco conceived this performance as a gift in response to Sophia Al-Maria’s sculpture, TARAXOS, which centres the dandelion as an emblem of freedom and resistance. Throughout No SKY simple movements scale between the macro and micro and small gestures become epic and grand events mundane.

“A dandelion seed contains the whole cosmos. A wish is a form of travel. We are all a long way from home.” – Tosh Basco



SOUND COMMISSION | Torkwase Dyson - *Breathtaking: On Black Beauty and Other Necessary Indeterminacies (Spatial Test with Drawing, _001)*, 2021



Torkwase Dyson, Notes on sound: Pavilion 2021, Mixed media on 140lb. paper, 9 inches x 12 inches, © Torkwase Dyson

Serpentine Pavilion

Until Sunday 17 October, all day, every day

Booking not required

Torkwase Dyson's sound commission is informed by her long-term thinking around the concept of liquidity, which offers a framework to explore artistic, political, economic and environmental concerns. Dyson began by editing archive recordings of experiences of embodied movement: bodies breathing in order to speak, sing and protest. She then layered sounds of her own breath and mark-making from her drawing practice. As breathing continues to be a political and spatial act, Dyson is specifically interested in the politics of black bodies and their right to breathe. This is exemplified in the protest language of black music and the constraints placed upon these rights by police brutality, COVID-19 and limited access to clean air through ongoing exposure to pollution. Dyson constructs a soundscape of refusal, improvisation and precarity that moves through the Pavilion. What she opens up through intakes of breath, textured exhalations, and suggested movement, are a myriad of potential encounters in, through and around the structure.



ARCHITECTURE | Final week: Serpentine Pavilion 2021 designed by Sumayya Vally, Counterspace



Support Structures for Support Structures 2021 recipients at the pavilion © Maria-Alejandra Huicho

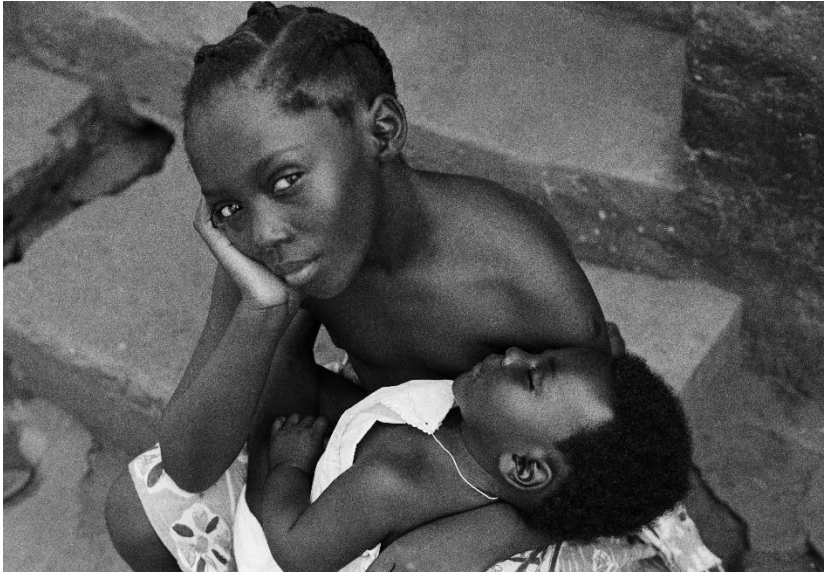
**Serpentine South Gallery Lawn
Ending Sunday 17 October 2021
Booking not required**

The 20th Serpentine Pavilion is designed by Johannesburg-based practice Counterspace, directed by Sumayya Vally. A TIME100 Next List honouree, Vally is the youngest architect to be commissioned for this internationally renowned architecture programme. Make sure to visit this highly-acclaimed architecture before it closes on 17 October.

During Frieze Week, you can listen to Torkwase Dyson's sound commission until the Pavilion closes on Sunday 17 October, and see Tosh Basco's performance, inspired by Sophia Al-Maria's *taraxos*, on Saturday 16 October at 8pm – 9pm.



EXHIBITION | Final weeks: James Barnor – Accra/London – A Retrospective



Sister holding Brother, 1979, Accra, Courtesy of Galerie Clémentine de la Féronnière

Serpentine North Gallery
Ending Sunday 24 October
Booking essential, press@serpentinegalleries.org

A major survey of British-Ghanaian photographer James Barnor, whose career as a studio portraitist, photojournalist and Black lifestyle photographer spans six decades and records major social and political changes in London and Accra.

Born in 1929 in Ghana, James Barnor established his famous Ever Young studio in Accra in the early 1950s, capturing a nation on the cusp of independence in an ambiance animated by conversation and highlife music. In 1959 he arrived in London, furthering his studies and continuing assignments for influential South African magazine Drum which reflected the spirit of the era and the experiences of London's burgeoning African diaspora. He returned to Ghana in the early 1970s to establish the country's first colour processing lab while continuing his work as a portrait photographer and embedding himself in the music scene. He returned to London in 1994.



SCULPTURE | Sumayya Vally, Counterspace, *Fragment of Serpentine Pavilion 2021* for Frieze Sculpture Park, 2021



Fragment of Serpentine Pavilion 2021 for Frieze Sculpture Park, 2021. Courtesy Linda Ny lind/Frieze, Photo: Linda Ny lind

Until Sunday 31 October
Booking not required

For the first time in the history of the Serpentine Pavilion commission, four Fragments of the Serpentine Pavilion 2021 designed by Counterspace are placed in partner organisations whose work has inspired its design. They are located in New Beacon Books in Finsbury Park, one of the first Black publishers and booksellers in the UK; a multi-purpose venue and community hub The Tabernacle in Notting Hill; arts centre the Albany in Deptford, and the new Becontree Forever Arts and Culture Hub at Valence Library in Barking and Dagenham, which was established this year to commemorate the centenary of the UK's largest council housing estate. The Fragments support the everyday operations of these organisations while enabling and honouring gatherings of local communities that they have supported for years. A gesture of decentralising architecture to include a multitude of voices, the Fragments extend out into the city the principals on which the Pavilion was designed.

One Fragment is temporarily on view in Regent's Park from 14 September to 31 October 2021 as part of Frieze Sculpture. The Fragment's design responds to the surrounding park and facilitates different types of gatherings.



PUBLIC ART | Sophia Al-Maria: *taraxos*



Sophia Al-Maria, *taraxos*, 2021 Serpentine x Modern Forms Sculpture Commission, 21 June 2021 – 24 April 2022 © Hugo Glendinning

Serpentine South Gallery, Kensington Gardens

Until Sunday 24 April 2022

Booking not required

Sophia Al-Maria considers the dandelion an emblem of freedom and resistance, as each seed has the potential to become an agent of resilience and change. Inspired by the life cycle and geometry of the dandelion (*taraxacum officinale*), the sculpture *taraxos* is a model for understanding and listening to the world.

taraxos is a meditative place for anyone to slow down time for themselves. Visitors can sit beneath and stand amongst a constellation of 12 metal achenes, which take the form of futuristic dandelion 'seeds', and listen to the sculpture. Activated by the wind, the sculpture can also be played by touching the stems which are covered in copper, a material selected for its antimicrobial qualities. This is a Serpentine x Modern Forms Sculpture Commission and Al-Maria's first public artwork.

**For press tickets and more information please contact
Laura Gosney, Press Officer, laurag@serpentinegalleries.org**