

AUTOGRAPH

**LEARNING &
PARTICIPATION
PROGRAMME**

Project Examples



Learning & Participation at Autograph

For 30 years Autograph has engaged with diverse groups and communities to explore issues of identity, representation, social justice and human rights through photography and film.

Our learning and participation programme creates welcoming spaces, in the gallery and the community, for people to share experiences, make artwork and become inspired by contemporary photographers and our unique photography collection.

We offer a range of tailored learning activities including tours, workshops and long-term engagement projects. Our work with primary and secondary schools, FE colleges and universities gives students and teachers access to diverse, visual resources to meet and enrich the curriculum.

We work with a wide range of community groups including youth clubs, seniors, adult social care providers, heritage and photography groups, refugee and asylum seekers, young carers and young people in care. We have developed a specialist programme of monthly creative workshops for families with SEND children in LB Hackney and beyond, as well as partnering with other organisations supporting disabled people to access creative opportunities.

Our programme offers hands-on workshops led directly by artists exploring important social issues. These can be half day or day long sessions focused on exploring and responding to our current exhibitions and diverse photographic archive. Or we develop longer

term, bespoke activities in partnership with community groups to meet the specific needs and interests of their participants, which can run over a week to several months.

Examples of recent local community partners with whom we have delivered creative projects include:

Headway East London - a local charity supporting people affected by brain injury.

Mouth That Roars – a youth media organisation training young people in film production

You Make it - offers a creative and inspiring programme for young women

The Garden School - offering education to 4-16 year olds with highly specialised provisions for learners with autism

Hackney Museum - a pop-up archive exhibition at the local history museum

LB Hackney Council - Windrush Day Celebrations 2018 and 2019

For more information about Autograph please visit www.autograph.org.uk

CANVAS(S)

2017

Canvas(s) is a project exploring access to cultural spaces with young people from Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan. We worked with photographer Aida Silvestri to produce a series of portraits with the young people, creating positive images and representation of their identities. The young people who participated in the project were all refugees and asylum seekers to the UK.







ALBUM

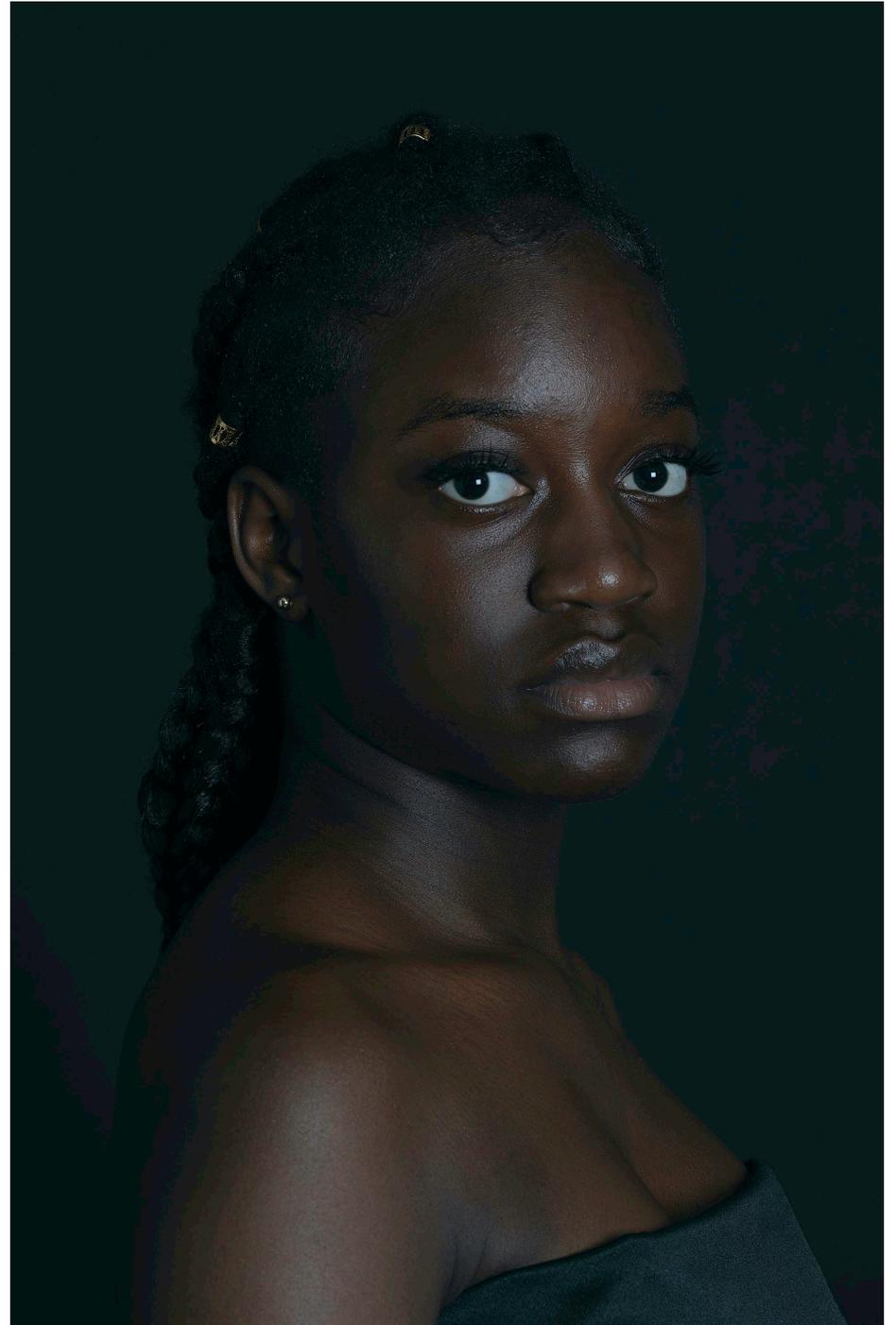
2020

ALBUM is a long term outreach partnership between Autograph, London and University of the Arts London's Insights Programme. It provides students from schools and sixth form colleges across London access to professional artists, curators and mentors, as well as Autograph's archive - supporting a new generation of photographers interrogating their own stories and identities.

Common Ground was the sixth annual exhibition featuring new work by 16 – 19 year-old artists exploring notions of family, home, belonging, community, memory and social and cultural identity.



T'Shan Barnes, Music on the Mind, 2019-20



Benedicte Lungwa-Loussi, from Golden, 2019-20



#THINK

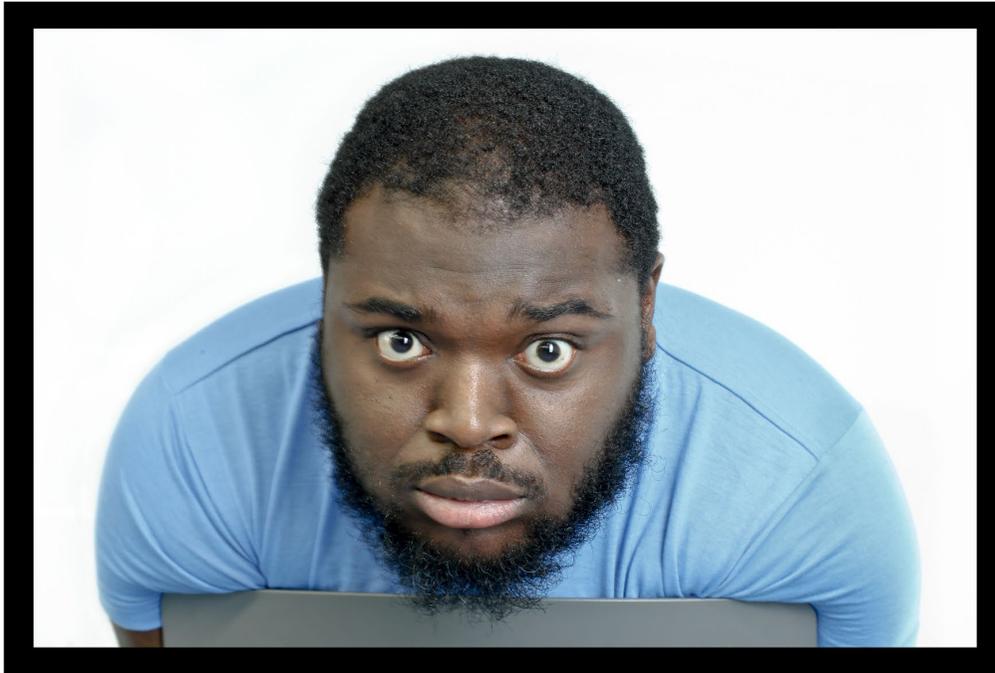
2019

"It's not our differences that divide us, it's our inability to recognise, accept and celebrate those differences."

Audre Lorde

Mouth That Roars and Autograph presents #THINK, a display of new photography made by young people. The works shared were produced over a few months of creative media workshops, with young people working alongside established photographer Aida Silvestri to explore complex issues of identity and human rights. Each diptyche portrait compares how the young people think they are seen by others (l) and then represents how they want to be seen (r).

Although media is form with which many young people feel familiar, in the age of 'fake news' many believe it misrepresents them and re-inforces prejudice, stigma and stereotype. By making their own film and photography work, the young people have challenged these representations by telling stories and creating images that show how they want to be seen in the world.





#THINK, I'm not assimilating / This is me, Photograph: Sheila



#THINK, Stay Away / Eritrean and Proud, Photograph: Nahom



#THINK, *The girl people see / The girl I am*, Photograph: Djamilia

BLACK CHRONICLES / THE MISSING CHAPTER “AFTER DARK” IMAGE PROJECTIONS

Between 2014 and 2016, as part of a Heritage Lottery-supported archive research programme & outreach initiative, Autograph projected large-scale images from our unique collection of 19th century photography evidencing black presences in Victorian Britain across different community sites in Hackney including Dalston, Stoke Newington and Hoxton.

The aim of this innovative public engagement project was to bring this visual archive and heritage in direct contact with diverse communities to make our collection accessible to all beyond the gallery / museum context. Site-specific curation of slide shows and still images spoke to the history of each location, as well as the communities it serves... where possible, local residents were involved in the selection of images.

The image projection campaign was delivered in tandem with participatory on and off site portrait workshops and Exhibition In A Box as a mobile pop-up display offered free of charge to libraries, community centres, schools and colleges.





New Unity, Newington Green, November 2016.