

How to make the most of art season in the capital

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Our pick of London's best exhibitions this October, at Frieze and beyond

By [Frances Hedges](#)

8 Oct 2022



'The palmwine tapper and ayo game' (1969–70) by Nike Davies-Okundaye. Courtesy of the artist and Kó Gallery. Photo: Kazeem Adewolu

There's no better time than October for a cultural tour of London, whether you're devoting a full day to perusing the displays at Frieze and Frieze Masters, visiting the blockbuster gallery shows or taking the opportunity to explore some of the city's thriving commercial galleries.

Here, we round up a selection of our favourite female-led exhibitions...

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1 Frieze and Frieze Masters



'Party Triptych 1' (2022) by Sahara Longe. Courtesy of the artist and Timothy Taylor

There's a host of extraordinary art to choose from in Regent's Park this year. Our top booths include Timothy Taylor gallery, which will present a selection of oil-on-linen works by the British-Sierra Leonean artist Sahara Longe, known for creating vivid, Old Master-inspired portraits of Black subjects that subvert the artistic canon. Then there's Anthea Hamilton's takeover of the Thomas Dane Gallery booth, featuring some of her famous *Giant Pumpkin* sculptures, alongside works she has curated by artists who inspire her. Also worth a visit is Gagosian's display dedicated to Jadé Fadojutimi, who is presenting a series of her dynamic, colourful paintings that draw inspiration from a multiplicity of cultures. Finally, over at Frieze Masters, discover the work of the Nigerian artist Nike Davies-Okundaye, who owns a gallery in Lagos and is known as the 'mother of the art world' in her home country.

Frieze and Frieze Masters run from 12 to 16 October

2 Frieze Sculpture

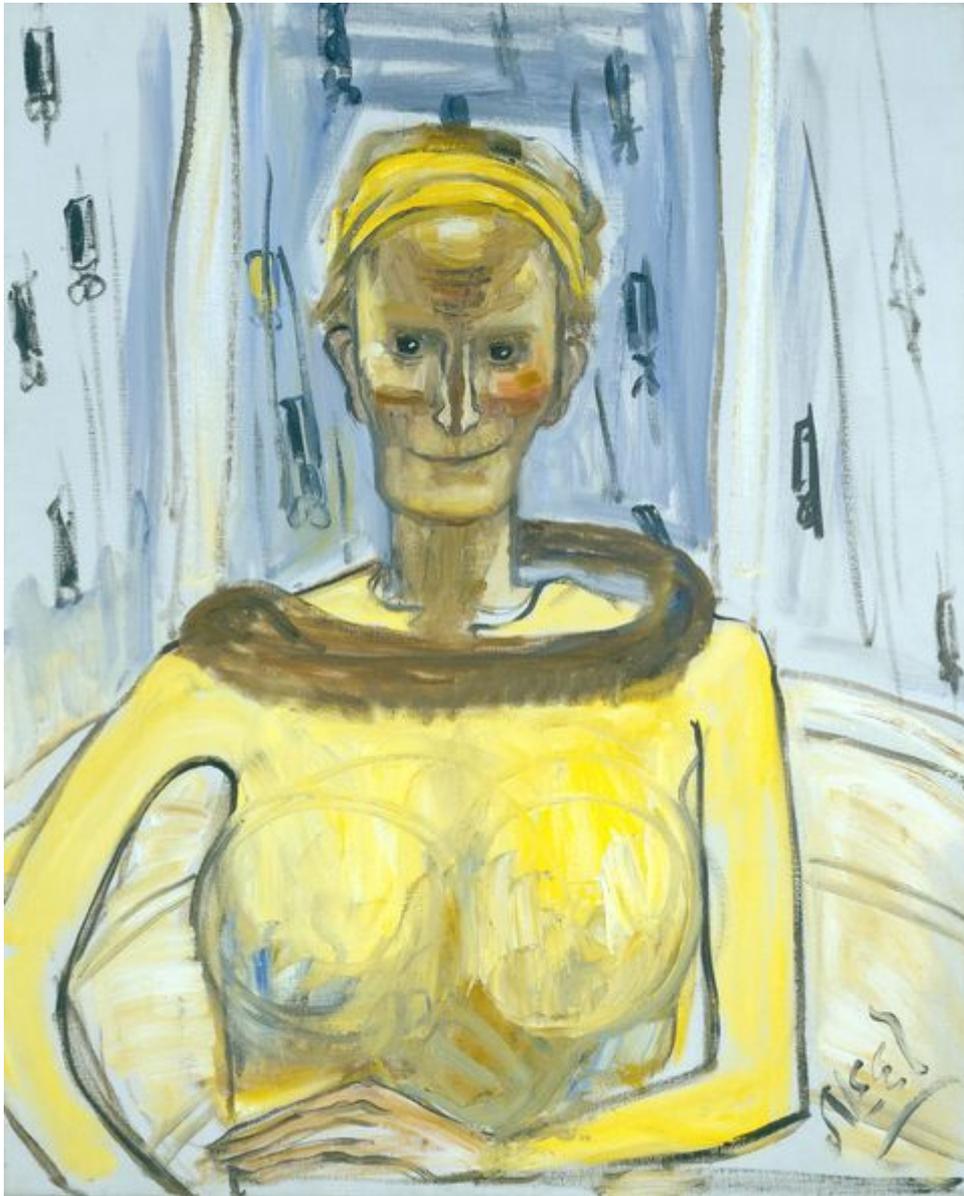


'Péju Alatise Sim and the Yellow Glass Birds' (2022), presented by kó Art Space. Frieze Sculpture 2022

If you haven't already had a chance to marvel at the glorious sculptures that have sprung up across Regent's Park, now is your chance. Highlights of this year's installation include the Nigerian artist Péju Alatise's four-panelled tableau *Sim & The Glass Birds*, with its symbolism of female emancipation, Beverley Pepper's elegantly designed *Curvae in Curvae* and the former Dior collaborator Marinella Senatore's *Bodies in Alliance*, designed as a podium for public self-expression.

Frieze Sculpture runs until 13 November

3 Alice Neel at Victoria Miro



'Ellie Poindexter' (1962) by Alice Neel. Copyright the Estate of Alice Neel, courtesy the Estate of Alice Neel and Victoria Miro

"If I hadn't been an artist, I could have been a psychiatrist," Alice Neel (1900–1984) once said. This exhibition, which pairs portraits of the same sitter made at different stages of Neel's career, illustrates her extraordinary insight into her subjects.

'Alice Neel: There's Still Another I See' is at [Victoria Miro](#) from 11 October to 12 November

4 Ilhwa Kim at HOFA Gallery



'White Portrait' (2022) by Ilhwa Kim. Courtesy of the artist and HOFA

This South Korean mixed-media artist uses *hanji* (traditional Korean paper) to mould tens of thousands of miniature, seed-like shapes, which she uses to create intricate, hand-dyed artworks that tread the boundary between paintings and sculptures.

'Ilhwa Kim: Real Life Architecture' is at HOFA Gallery from 6 to 20 October

5 Soheila Sokhanvari at Barbican Curve



'Wild at Heart (Portrait of Pouran Shapoori)' (2019) by Soheila Sokhanvari. Copyright Soheila Sokhanvari. Courtesy of the artist and Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery

The 90-metre gallery will be transformed into a devotional space dedicated to feminist histories by the Iranian artist Soheila Sokhanvari, who is hanging 27 miniature portraits of female icons from pre-revolutionary Iran against a hand-painted mural featuring Islamic-influenced geometric motifs.

'Soheila Sokhanvari: Rebel Rebel' is at the Curve, Barbican Centre, from 7 October until 26 February 2023

6 Kamala Ibrahim Ishag at Serpentine South

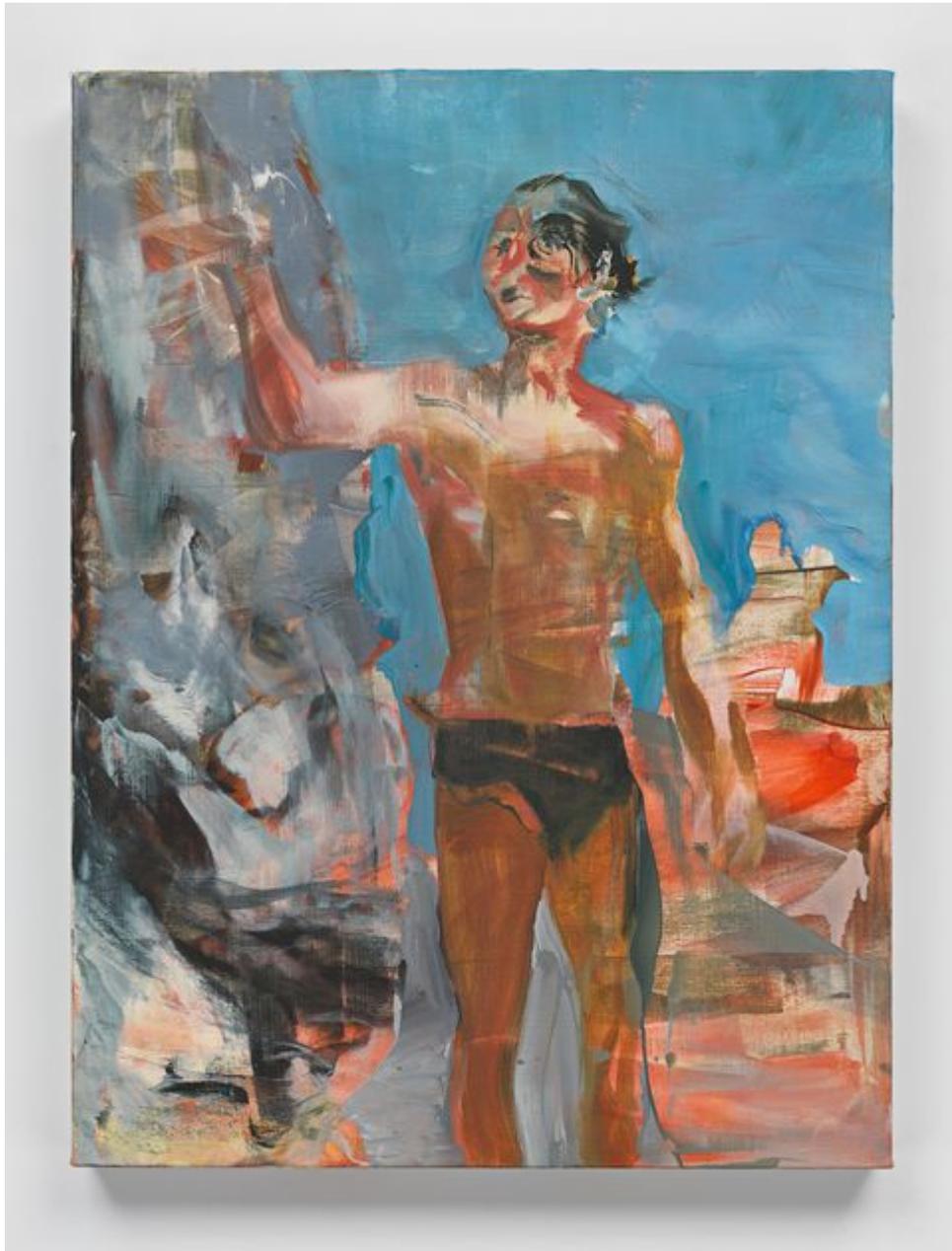


'Blues for the Martyrs' (2022). Courtesy the artist. © Kamala Ibrahim Ishag. Photo: Mohamed Noureldin Abdallah Ahmed

The practice of this groundbreaking Sudanese artist spans the earthly and the spiritual, featuring motifs from mothers and grandmothers to plants and ancient rituals. Her solo exhibition will introduce visitors to her expansive vision and deep knowledge of Sudanese visual culture past and present.

'Kamala Ibrahim Ishag' is at Serpentine South from 7 October until 29 January 2023

7 Cecily Brown at Thomas Dane Gallery



'Untitled' (2016) by Cecily Brown. Copyright Cecily Brown, courtesy the artist and Thomas Dane Gallery

In recent years, Cecily Brown has expanded the scale of her works to fill ambitious spaces such as Blenheim Palace, but this show celebrates the beauty of small things, with a display of 40 of her perfectly formed paintings.

'Cecily Brown: Studio Pictures' is at Thomas Dane Gallery from 11 October to 17 December

8 Anne Rothenstein at Stephen Friedman Gallery



'Unknown Territory 1' (2022) by Anne Rothenstein. Copyright Anne Rothenstein. Courtesy the artist and Stephen Friedman Gallery, London. Photo: Todd White Art Photography

Known for her otherworldly landscapes and interiors populated by enigmatic figures, the British artist presents her debut solo show at Stephen Friedman, showcasing her talent for experimenting with scale, shape and texture.

'Anne Rothenstein' is at [Stephen Friedman Gallery](#) until 5 November

9 Raine Storey at the Arx



'Elgin Marbles' (2022) by Raine Storey. Courtesy of the artist and the Arx

The Canadian artist Raine Storey will present a set of 34 framed sketches inspired by the style of art found in Parisian cafés at the turn of the 20th century. Demonstrating her strong draughtsmanship, the lively scenes will transport you straight back to Montparnasse in the heyday of Surrealism.

'Exquisite Corpse' is at the Arx from 6 October to 29 November

10 Helen Saunders at the Courtauld



'Vorticist Composition Yellow and Green', formerly 'Gulliver in Lilliput' (c.1915) by Helen Saunders. Courtesy of the Courtauld, London (Samuel Courtauld Trust) and the estate of Helen Saunders

A talented colourist and skilled draughtswoman who experimented with both abstraction and figuration, Helen Saunders (1885–1963) played a crucial role in the evolution of British Modernist art that has, until now, gone unrecognised.

'Helen Saunders: Modernist Rebel' is at the Courtauld from 14 October to 29 January 2023

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