

PRESS RELEASE

THE ROBERTS INSTITUTE OF ART AND SOUTH LONDON GALLERY ANNOUNCE VALERIE ASIIMWE AMANI TO BE THEIR NEW PERFORMANCE ARTIST IN RESIDENCE FOR SPRING 2022



- Tanzanian artist and writer, Valerie Asiimwe Amani is announced as the new Performance Artist in Residence at the South London Gallery in partnership with the Roberts Institute of Art
- The five-week residency will culminate in a live performance at the SLG from 10-12 June 2022, exploring how the home structure speaks to our understanding of navigating communal space and a sense of belonging

In May 2022, the Roberts Institute of Art (RIA), in partnership with the South London Gallery (SLG), will welcome Valerie Asiimwe Amani to begin a five-week residency at the SLG, which will culminate in a live performance taking place from 10-12 June 2022.

The work will be an intimate look into how the home structure speaks to our understanding of navigating communal space and a sense of belonging - reflecting on the hybridity of traditions and ways in which we remember, share history and play.

Valerie Asiimwe Amani (born 1991) is a Tanzanian artist and writer working across performative video, text, textile and installation. Amani studied at Ruskin School of Art and has exhibited internationally including at The GRASSI Museum (Leipzig); Rele Gallery (Lagos) and The Zeitz Museum of Contemporary African Art (Cape Town).

The selection process for the performance residency was rooted in a collaborative approach in which external, UK-wide nominators put forward a selection of artists who have had limited exposure in London, for consideration by a panel. The panel was composed of representatives from RIA and the South London Gallery, and Korean-Canadian artist, Zadie Xa.

Valerie Asiimwe Amani said of her residency:

"I am looking forward to fully immersing myself in the residency and taking the opportunity to further develop an interdisciplinary art practice that incorporates community, care and cross-cultural curiosity."

Harold Offeh, artist, tutor and Valerie's nominator said:

"I was delighted to nominate Valerie Amani for the SLG and RIA Performance Residency. Her practice and process encompass an extraordinary range of references. She presents beautifully composed visual and sonic poems that provide insights into rich characters and reflect the spirituality and politics of human experiences. This residency will provide Valerie with a hugely supportive platform from which to evolve and expand her practice."

Kate Davies, RIA Director and Margot Heller, SLG Director said:

"We are thrilled to be collaborating on this inaugural residency to support artists with a performance practice. Our organisations have championed performance art for over a decade and we want to find new ways to provide a platform for live work. Our partnership comes from a shared commitment to engage audiences in a cross-section of contemporary performance. It is exciting to start making plans with Valerie on how we can best support her to develop her practice as part of this residency."

ENDS

For further press information, images and interviews please contact Rebecca Butler at Sutton: rebecca@suttoncomms.com | +44 (0)20 7183 3577

NOTES TO EDITORS

Address and Opening Hours

South London Gallery, Main Building
65–67 Peckham Road, London, SE5 8UH

South London Gallery, Fire Station
82 Peckham Road, London, SE15 5LQ

The gallery is open Tuesday – Sunday.
www.southlondongallery.org

Social Media

Twitter: [@SLG_artupdates](https://twitter.com/SLG_artupdates) [@RobertsInstArt](https://twitter.com/RobertsInstArt)
Instagram: [@southlondongallery](https://www.instagram.com/southlondongallery) [@therobertsinstituteofart](https://www.instagram.com/therobertsinstituteofart)
Facebook: [South London Gallery](https://www.facebook.com/SouthLondonGallery) [The Roberts Institute of Art](https://www.facebook.com/TheRobertsInstituteofArt)

About the Roberts Institute of Art

RIA is a non-profit contemporary arts organisation. RIA commissions pioneering performance art, collaborates with national partners on exhibitions and works to research and share the David and Indrè Roberts Collection. For over a decade the organisation has championed diverse performance work through commissions and innovative programming.

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About the South London Gallery

The South London Gallery (SLG) was founded in the 19th century by philanthropist William Rossiter to 'bring art to the people of south London'. Today the gallery comprises its original site at 65 Peckham Road; the Fire Station which opened to the public in 2018; Art Block, a space for local children and families on Sceaux Gardens Estate and two permanent gardens.

The SLG has an international reputation for its' contemporary art exhibitions by established, mid-career and younger artists and programme of film and performance events. It's highly regarded, free education programme includes a peer-led young people's forum; family workshops; artist-led projects and commissions on local housing estates; and a BBC Children in Need-funded programme for looked after children.