

ROOT-ed Zine

January 24-February 3

Despite Liverpool's history as a significant port during the slave trade, its black population is often overlooked - which is especially true in the arts. For this exhibition, ROOT-ed Zine will programme a historical update for OUTPUT by presenting three black women artists, all of whom have featured in their publication.

Ivy Kalungi is a Ugandan and Northern Irish artist working in sculpture and installation. She has curated exhibitions, has been commissioned by SoundCity, and was selected for the Liverpool Independents Biennial last year.

Abeni Sheen, also known at Yumiaba Art, is an abstract painter with a practice that spans over a decade. Her work is now coming to OUTPUT.

Kiara Mohamed, who showed with us for OUTPUT OPEN back in November, works across form. Her work has featured in bidolito, the Independents Biennial, and she was the artistic director of 2018 film Black Flowers which was screened at Tate Liverpool and the British Museum.

Ways into thinking about the exhibition:

1. Who are ROOT-ed Zine and what do they do?
2. How did ROOT-ed select the artists for this exhibition?
3. What do you think art institutions in Merseyside should be doing to support BME artists?

OUTPUT is a gallery working exclusively with creatives from or based in Merseyside. The programme is supported using public funding by Arts Council England.

@outputgallery | thekazimier.co.uk/output | output@thekazimier.co.uk

OUTPUT gallery, 32 Seel St, Liverpool, L1 4BE
OPEN 11-6 DAILY



Thoughts from ROOT-ed:

1. Who are ROOT-ed Zine and what do they do?

ROOT-ed Zine (Revolution of our time) is a self-published magazine and social platform that aims to promote, support and inspire creative people of colour within the North West of England. The zine is co-founded and edited by artists Amber Akaunu and Fauziya Johnson. The two saw a lack of representation in university, media, galleries and museums and felt the need to create this platform to represent the underrepresented by allowing creatives to showcase their talents and skills and voice their thoughts and ideas. ROOT-ed Zine publishes bi-monthly and produces ongoing content across YouTube, Twitter, Instagram and on their website; rootedzine.co.uk.

2. How did ROOT-ed select the artists for this exhibition?

We selected artists that we have previously shown in the zine that we felt would bring something unique to the exhibition. The artists are all women from such different backgrounds yet united by the fact they are Black Women in Liverpool. Their work is all on different subjects and in various mediums.

3. What do you think art institutions in Merseyside should be doing to support BME artists?

We truly believe that art institutions should consider the difficulties BME artists face just to get to certain spaces and positions and support us. There should be dedicated services, programmes, spaces etc that aim to get more BME artists into the art world. We also want to see art institutions give roles to BME people because having that insight and knowledge on let's say the education team will just help to make the education programme more accommodating and interesting to more people.

<https://www.rootedzine.co.uk>

@kiaramohamed

@ivykalungiart

Yumiaba Art