

KISSING DOESN'T KILL: GREED AND INDIFFERENCE DO.



CORPORATE GREED, GOVERNMENT INACTION, AND PUBLIC INDIFFERENCE MAKE AIDS A POLITICAL CRISIS.





Jim C. Nedd, *Fiesta En Guacherna*, Auto Italia, 2020

## About Auto Italia

Auto Italia is a non-profit contemporary art institution dedicated to researching, producing and exhibiting work on the intersections of queer studies and social change.

We support artists to develop critical discourse, active research and experimental projects through major new commissions and process driven participation projects.

This work is presented through exhibitions, performance and live work, artist-led participation events, international touring projects and creative learning activities for children and young people.

## Our role within the visual arts

Over the past seven years, Auto Italia has been driven into a new phase of its history: departing from its origin as a grassroots, artist-led project space, it has been transformed into a successful and resilient institution with an international track record for championing new, global discourses in contemporary art.

Our programme is issues-led. We champion artists work that is deeply political in both content and form with a focus on queer-feminist practices, and global political perspectives arising through grassroots activism and community organising. This programming has secured international recognition as a bellwether for influential trends and ideas in visual art, and in fostering the early expansion and dissemination of radical ideas before they enter the mainstream.

Learning and research underpins all of our activities. We provide a unique context for artists and audiences to explore expanded ideas of community, identity and belonging, and play a sector leadership role in an international network of organisations foregrounding new approaches to artist-led institution building.

We are situated at the heart of a residential neighbourhood in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and are committed to developing our civic role. We are active in facilitating local networks and partnerships that create new ways for audiences to engage with visual art and which support young people to take active empowered roles investigating contemporary issues on identity.

Auto Italia has been a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England since 2012, and has renewed this status until 2026.





Ingrid Pollard, *Poems by Maya Angelou*, Auto Italia, 2020

## History of Auto Italia

Auto Italia was founded in 2007 by a group of artists who were living, working and commissioning exhibitions from a squatted car garage in Peckham, South London.

During its first ten years, the gallery operated from a series of donated buildings across the city – large-scale warehouses, industrial buildings and commercial units – using the sites to produce major commissions with a generation of early-career artists, activists and researchers who have gone onto become household names in art and academia.

Developed against the backdrop of government austerity, this work foregrounded innovative new research on digital culture, group work, self-organisation and community activism.

Its early collaborators include Ed Atkins, Franco 'Bifo' Berardi, James Bridle, Hannah Black, Frederico Campagna, Benedict Drew, Mark Fisher, April Greiman, Huw Lemmey, Dean Kissick, Kathy Knoble, Yuri Pattison, Eddie Peake, Heather Phillipson, Ben Vickers, and others.

This daring, experimental ethos continues to lead Auto Italia today. Over the past seven years, our programme has supported early-career artists to produce headline new commissions exploring innovative identity discourses, and survey exhibitions by under-represented mid-career artists whose archives trace key conflicts in culture and society.

Collaborators include CFGNY, Elysia Crampton Chuquimia, Gran Fury, Invernemuto and Jim C. Nedd, Ashley Holmes, Tarek Lakrissi, Metahaven, Shaun Motsi, Sands Murray-Wassink, NTU (Nolan Oswald Dennis, Tabita Rezaire, Bogosi Sekhukhuni), Christelle Oyiri, Ingrid Pollard, Josiane M.H. Pozi, Jill Posener, Sin Wai Kin, Terre Thaemlitz, Natasha Tontey, and others.

## Partnership working

Resource sharing and partnership working with local, national and international partners is central to all of our activities.

Our exhibitions are often co-produced with museums and institutions. Recent and upcoming collaborators include Haus der Kunst, Munich; Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève; Cemeti Institute for Art and Society, Yogyakarta; Stroom Den Haag, The Hague; If I Can't Dance, Amsterdam; Edinburgh Arts Festival; Western Front, Vancouver; Firstdraft in Sydney and Nubuke Foundation in Accra, and others.

Our learning activities are produced through co-design partnership networks with local education stakeholders, including local government, third and voluntary sector organisations and secondary schools.





CFGNY, *Collecting Dissonance*, Auto Italia, 2021

## Job description

Following the appointment of Chair of the Board, Eleanor Pinfield, in 2023 and Director, Dr. Maggie Matić, in 2024, Auto Italia is seeking to expand our Board of Trustees to support the organisation's vision and mission. We wish to maintain and grow Auto Italia's position at the forefront of critical discourses at the intersections of art, activism, queer studies and social change. We are looking for individuals who share this vision and want to support Auto Italia in this exciting next stage of its development.

At present, Auto Italia is seeking Trustees with expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Marketing, PR and Communications
- International Partnerships and Co-commissioning
- Higher Education and Research Partnerships
- Public and Participation Programming
- Social Justice Organising
- Fundraising and Development

We are looking for applicants with the skills, knowledge and experience required to support the organisation, ensuring effective governance and oversight of Auto Italia's activities, acting as an advocate for the charity, sharing your networks, ideas and creative thinking with the organisation, encouraging new relationships and ways of working, supporting the staff team and encouraging sustainable growth and new opportunities.

Trustees are appointed for a term of three years, with term extensions considered through discussions with the Chair, Eleanor Pinfield.

<b>Role title:</b>	Trustee
<b>Employer:</b>	Auto Italia, 44 Bonner Road, London E2 9JS
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Chair of the Board of Trustees



## Diversity and inclusion

Auto Italia is committed to reflecting the diversity of our artists and audiences throughout our organisation and its workforce. We actively encourage applications from candidates from all backgrounds, and are dedicated to having a team bringing together individuals with diverse skills, experiences and abilities. We particularly welcome and will actively prioritise applications from candidates from Global Majority, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI), and Disabled groups that are currently underrepresented within senior leadership roles in the arts and culture sector..

## How to apply

If you are interested in being considered for the role and would like more information, please email [jobs@autoitaliasoutheast.org](mailto:jobs@autoitaliasoutheast.org) and a member of the Board of Trustees will be in contact to arrange an informal discussion prior to the application deadline.

To make an application for the post please send us a summary biography or CV and a statement outlining the reasons for your interest in the role and what you would bring to the organisation to [jobs@autoitaliasoutheast.org](mailto:jobs@autoitaliasoutheast.org) by 16 December 2024.

You will also be required to complete the [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#) linked in this document.

Trustee interviews will be arranged following the review of applications.





# The Guardian

## Where have all the art punks gone?

Every generation of artists has defined itself by rebellion. So where are the Generation Y revolutionaries? Our writer enters a world of corporate hijacks, Instagram breakdowns and fake frat parties

# TimeOut

## Here and queer

# FRIEZE

## Make AIDS Visible: Gran Fury's Provoking Billboards

An exhibition at Auto Italia, London, shows the artist group's belief in the potential of visual language to infiltrate public discourse



# ARTFORUM

FILM

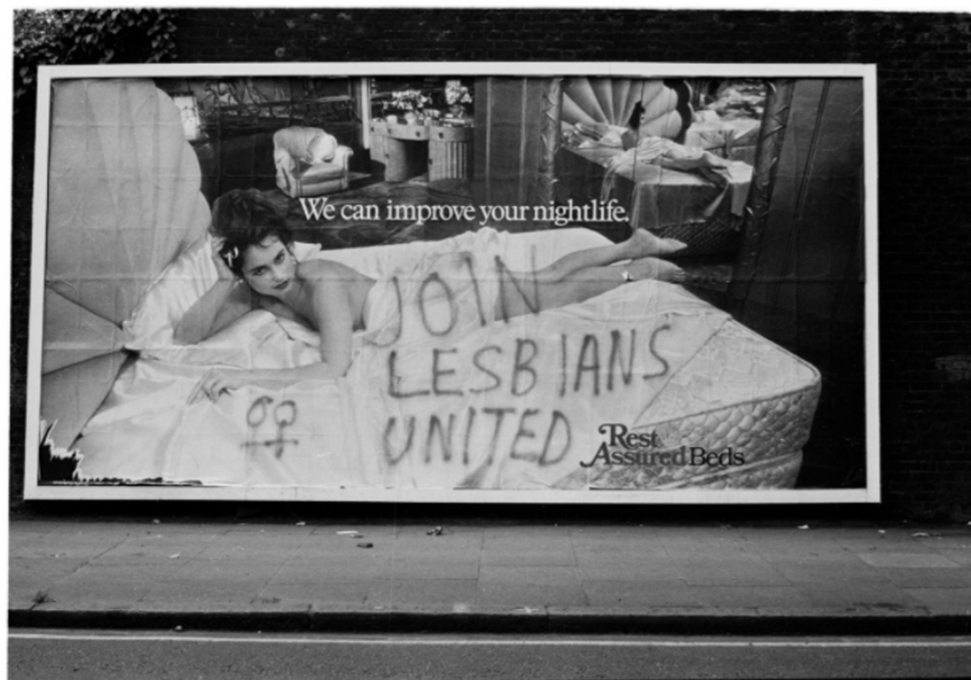
## BABY DON'T HURT ME

Eliel Jones on Alexa Karolinski and Ingo Niermann's Army of Love

# i-D

## Hot Moment is the lesbian photography exhibition you need to see

Exhibiting the work of Tessa Boffin, Ingrid Pollard and Jill Posener, Auto Italia's new show proves that queer identity is as political as it is personal.



# ART Monthly

# LOVE AIDS RIOTS

## CHRIS MCCORMACK ON ART, ACTIVISM AND AIDS

The recent surge of interest in 1980s AIDS activists, such as ACT UP, General Idea and Gran Fury, shows how art can effect real change. Looking back also reveals how narrow current definitions of healthcare are and encourages us to agitate for a more diverse future.

# ARTFORUM

## CRITICS' PICKS

"PICÓ: Un parlante de Africa en America"

AUTO ITALIA

# FRIEZE

## Behind the Scenes of Colombia's Street Parties

At Auto Italia, London, a film by Invernemuto and Jim C. Nedd traces the history of Afro-Colombian sound systems



## Who we are

Auto Italia's activities are led by a diverse, growing workforce who are supported by a dedicated Board of Trustees composed of specialists working in artistic, financial, management and communications roles.

### Board of Trustees:

Amida Deen (Youth Member), Undergraduate Student, UCL

Bo Escritt (Vice Chair), Partner, Counterculture LLP

Sunil Gupta, Artist

Matt Leitch (Treasurer), Group Financial Controller, VIA Outlets

Beatrice Pembroke, Director of Culture, Kings College London

Eleanor Pinfield (Chair), Head of Art on the Underground, TFL

Ben Vickers, Technologist, writer and publisher

### Staff team:

Bediah Al-Fadly, Front of House Assistant

Milda Batakyte, Curator: Exhibitions and Events

Moa Jegnell, Front of House Assistant

Maggie Matić, Director

Khadija Cecile Niang, Front of House Assistant

Rachel Routledge, Curator: Community and Engagement

Sylke van der Heiden, Front of House Assistant

Tze Yan Clara Wong, Curatorial Assistant

### Contact information:

For general queries please contact us via email at [info@autoitaliasoutheast.org](mailto:info@autoitaliasoutheast.org).

