



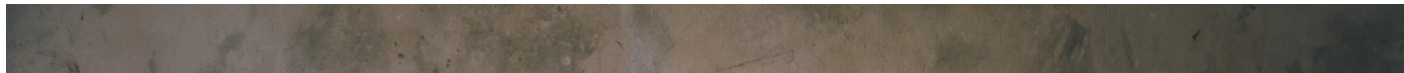
Crafts Council / What's on

Gaining Ground exhibition

13 April – 25 June

Crafts Council Gallery, London
Free

This exhibition has now ended.





Kilbukila
- Jess
Kilubu's
Crafting
Futures
project
with
artisan
weavers
and
linguists
in the
Democratic
Republic
of
Congo

Gaining Ground at the Crafts Council Gallery explored craft as a form of living knowledge that shapes global cultures and our relationship to nature.



Curated by Ligaya Salazar, *Gaining Ground* highlighted global craft practices that value soil, biodiversity, local materials and production systems. Nine making projects were featured in this exhibition through a display of films, photography, audio, handbooks, raw materials, and craft objects.

The exhibition drew on the British Council's Crafting Futures programme and included work by artisans and researchers from countries across the globe, including Bangladesh, the Philippines, the Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Argentina, Nicaragua, Guyana, Brazil, Indonesia and the United Kingdom.

The Crafts Council Gallery was transformed into a site for learning, where visitors can engage with craft processes from across the globe. In particular, the exhibition drew attention

to territories where colonialism and extractive capitalist processes have disrupted craft knowledge being passed on to future generations. Each project, although geographically and socially distinct, questioned what we can learn from craft to inform climate action and in our quest to build a more sustainable future.

The Seawall Pottery in the Rupununi, Guyana is supported by Wabbani, an Indigenous-led craft social enterprise promoting sustainable

Artisan Voices: Dialogues for Sustainable Practices. Artisans Bernarda Martínez, Lucrecia Cruz and Sabina Cruz from Tejedores Andinos.

artisan-
based
livelihoods.
Photograph:
Jay
Mistry

Photo:
Celeste
Valero

Making
Nature -
Willow
weaver
Annemarie
O'Sullivan

Making
Nature -
An
Indonesian
artisan
making a
traditional
broom
(sapu
ijuk)

Curated by Ligaya Salazar

Ligaya Salazar is a curator who focuses on contemporary interdisciplinary practice at the intersection of design, fashion, art and graphics. Her approach is shaped by an interest in how audiences can be positioned at the heart of

curatorial practice, enabling a human-centred take on storytelling. Ligaya is one of the 2021 Stanley Picker Fellows.

About Crafting Futures

Crafting Futures is a global initiative supporting research for a sustainable future through making and collaboration. The programme provides education and training opportunities, connects artisans from rural communities with international designers, creates international partnerships and increases access to new markets and audiences.

Kuba
textiles
from the
Kilubukila
Crafting
Futures
project.

Untitled,
Jay
Mistry,
terracotta
and
collected
wild

Photo:
Ben
Deakin

London
clay.
Displayed
as part of
'Promoting
Indigenous
identity
through
pottery'.
Photo:
Ben
Deakin

About the British Council

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We build connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education, and the English language. In 2019-2020 we reached over 75 million people directly and 758 million people overall including online broadcasts and publications. Founded in 1934 we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter

and a UK public body. We receive a 14.5 per cent core funding grant from the UK government.

Gaining
Ground
exhibition
at the
Crafts
Council
Gallery.
Photo:
Ben
Deakin

In partnership with

—

Read more

← →
————— —————



Stories

New exhibition Gaining Ground showcases craft in harmony with nature, says curator Ligaya Salazar

Stories

‘Craft skills and knowledge should be at the heart of the debate about our relationship to the planet,’ says sustainability champion Katie Treggiden

Share

[facebook ↗](#)

[twitter ↗](#)

[whatsapp ↗](#)

[email ↗](#)

[pinterest ↗](#)

[...](#)

Stay informed and inspired

Get the latest craft news in
your inbox

- Hear from the Crafts Council
- Maker newsletter
- Policy brief

ENTER YOUR EMAIL →

Follow us

[INSTAGRAM ↗](#)

[FACEBOOK ↗](#)

[TWITTER ↗](#)

[YOUTUBE ↗](#)

[PINTEREST ↗](#)

Crafts Council
44a Pentonville Road
London N1 9BY

hello@craftscouncil.org.uk
+44 (0)20 7806 2500

Reg. charity no. 280956

[Our work](#)

[Our team](#)

[Working here](#)

[Community guidelines](#)

[Privacy policy](#)