

Primeval

3rd - 25th February 2023

Private view: 2nd February, 6 - 9 pm

COLLECTIVE EAST

Unit 1 Gallery | Workshop



LONDON, White City:

Unit 1 Gallery | Workshop is delighted to announce that **Collective East** founders Borbala Komjathy and Anya Kashina are the winners of the 2023 Exhibition Open Call for Curators with their group show *Primeval*.

Borrowing its title from the novel *Primeval and Other Times* by the Nobel Prize recipient Polish author **Olga Tokarczuk**, *Primeval* brings together eight women and LBGQTQI+ artists, with a special focus on practitioners of Eastern European heritage.

Tokarczuk's novel is populated with anthropomorphic creatures, angels, ghosts and old gods that dwell in the ancient forest of its rural Poland, while the habitants of the neighbouring sheltered village are struggling to upkeep as modernity and the outside world seeps into their lives. In this peculiar microcosm myth and modernism, old and new religions, human and non-human exist on a non-linear chronology where time seems to cyclically collapse and be reborn.

The exhibition features a mix of media, including ceramics, glass, painting and clay, from artists whose diverse practice also interrogates questions of cosmogonies, and challenges our traditional understandings of existing systems of hierarchies.

Exhibited artists:

Bartłomiej Hajduk, Jean-François Krebs, Katia Kesic, Karolina Dworska, Milda Lembertaitė, Rosie McLachlan, Simona Orentaitė, Sophie Birch.

Curated by:

Borbala Komjathy & Anya Kashina (Collective East)

Unit 1 Gallery | Workshop

Unit 1, 1 Bard Road

London W10 6TP

Nearest stations:

Latimer Road and Shepherd's Bush

About Unit 1 Gallery | Workshop

Unit 1 Gallery | Workshop is an exhibition and residency space in London and unique in its approach to bringing artists and their practices to the public. They support a diverse range of emerging and mid-career contemporary artists by providing them with space and time to develop their practice, network within our growing community, be mentored by team members and crucially be introduced to their expansive network of collectors, art educators, professionals and visitors.

Through their residency programmes and exhibitions, they give artists, curators and theorists a platform to present work and share ideas as well as creating an environment for freethinking and exchange. They have now organised more than 40 exhibitions with over 120 artists and curators, with 10 exhibitions and 25 artists in residence a year, drawing in international audiences and participants, as well as being a local landmark in the community of Kensington and Chelsea and its surrounds. Unit 1 Gallery | Workshop was founded in 2015 by artist Stacie McCormick in a former builder's merchant.

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Instagram: [@unit1galleryworkshop](https://www.instagram.com/unit1galleryworkshop)

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About Collective East

Collective East is an independent project promoting the work of artists from the Central and Eastern European region. Founded in London in 2021 by artist Anya Kashina (b.1993, Yaroslavl, Russia) and independent curator & writer Borbala Komjathy (b.1993, Budapest, Hungary), C.E. was born out of a desire for more connection, collaboration and support between creatives of Central and Eastern European background based in the U.K.

"The United Kingdom is home to a large population of Eastern European residents, yet there are few outlets to support artists from our geographical region. Our aim is to provide a platform and facilitate dialogues between those artists and their peers and institutions, both in the U.K. and abroad. Post - Brexit, it is even more important to strengthen our already established relationships and networks, and to promote our communities." - Collective East

For media enquiries contact Collective East:

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[#collectiveeast](https://www.instagram.com/collectiveeast)
[#primeval](https://www.instagram.com/collectiveeast)



Katia Kesic, *Let me tell you what happens next*, 2019, underglaze on stoneware, chains, glass eye, 34 x 33 cm