

Women in Revolt! **Art and Activism in the UK 1970-1990**

National Galleries of Scotland: Modern Two
25 May 2024 – 26 January 2025

Total visitor numbers:
27,679



Selected visitor comments

‘Made me feel empowered and proud to be a woman.’

‘Just thank you for recording women's history which all too often disappears.’

‘I am still thinking about my own place as a woman artist, provoked by the exhibition.’

‘I felt inspired by the exhibition to try using different media myself.’

‘The extent of women's protest art was a revelation.’

‘Enjoyed the chance to relive political activism from my student days.’

‘Loved many of the seeing red workshop posters. Poly Styrene's mixed media work was a revelation and overall enjoyed the show and its links to women's, black and LGBTIQ rights.’

“Women in Revolt” exhibition is amazing. So many emotions reading/watching/feeling all the stories. Beautiful, enraging and impactful. It has been a month since I've visited, and I still think about some of the pieces a lot’ (visitor comment)



Selected visitor comments continued

‘Absolutely loved the women in revolt exhibition. An important time in social history and I remember being a part of it all. Brought back so many memories both happy and sad.’

‘Experience overall was so moving and really well put together.’

‘Fantastic exhibition – really inspiring, empowering, educational.’

‘Hidden women being championed!’

‘Important exhibition to be reminded of what women today owe to the women and activists of previous decades.’

‘Excellent opportunity to educate my daughters about the possibility of what art can achieve and how art can take on relevant issues in numerous forms.’

‘The exhibition covered an important part of my life, from the age of fifteen. It was quite emotional to revisit the events relating to the reawakening of women’s realisation of their value and importance to society and the world.’

‘It was a very interesting piece of social history. A trip down memory lane. Important to be reminded of how restricted women's rights were, how much had changed and how much remained to be done.’ (visitor comment)



‘Just a brilliant show. Superb collection of objects, beautifully curated.’



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Visitor feedback: Instagram



asnow66 • [Follow](#)

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art



asnow66 Today I visited the Women in Revolt exhibition at Modern Two @natgalleriessco Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. It covered the period 1970-1990 which coincided with my early childhood, adolescence and early adulthood, a period of incredible change in women's lives and opportunities. Yet my memories are of 'women's libbers' being referred to pejoratively, and news reporting of the Greenham women not giving the whole story, portraying them as a hindrance to progress.

We owe these early feminist activists a debt of gratitude. Their efforts gave us to the right to equal pay as well as access to contraception and abortion.

Much has changed but not all the battles are won. Whilst children are still being killed in conflict, we must continue to stand up for what is right.



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alanyajourno • Follow
Modern Two

alanyajourno This summer I got to visit the 'Women of Revolt! Art & Activism in the UK 1970-1990' exhibit from @tate and @natgalleriessco in Edinburgh, a phenomenal exploration of feminism, anti-racism, punk and environmental movements in history. It was truly exceptional and is the type of arts and culture journalism which inspires me and I want to be a part of. Here's a selection of some of my favourite work!

7 w

♡ 💬 📌

14 likes
14 November 2024

😊 Add a comment...



It provoked really interesting & relevant conversations.

contemporaryartetc
The Slits • Typical Girls

contemporaryartetc #contemporaryart #contemporaryartetc #capetc #cap #hndcontemporaryartpractice #edinburghcollege #edinburghcollegeart

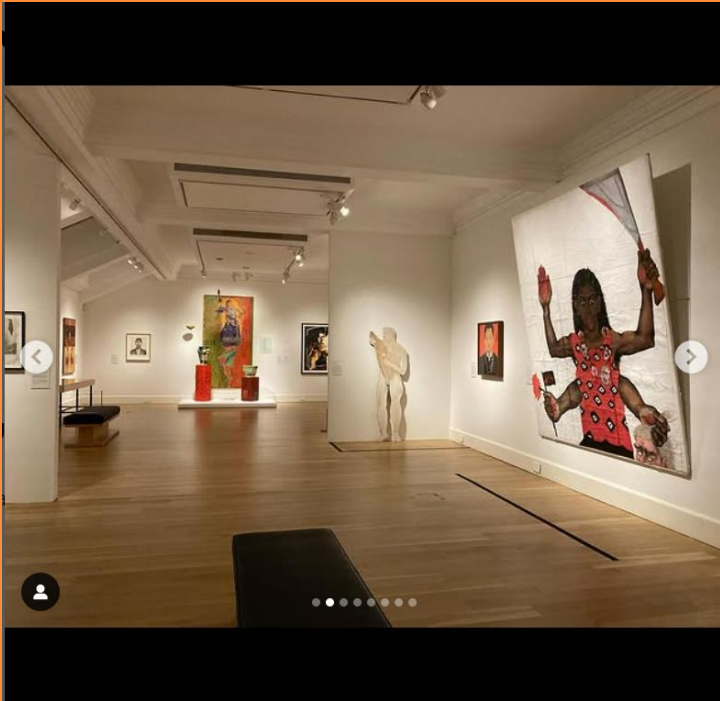
14 w See Translation

ab_zcollection And we have the catalogue in the library for those who want to re-visit! :)

14 w Reply

♡ 💬 📌

👤 Liked by angushood1 and 25 others
28 September 2024



naokomabon • Follow

naokomabon How fruitful you can make your 5 hours in Edinburgh?

“Women In Revolt!” at @natgalleriessco (Modern Two) with a kind ticket from @laurenswillis 🙏🙏; El Anatsui @talbotricegallery; Ibrahim Mahama @fruitmarketgallery; aaaaand last but the most lovely catch up with @genevieveyap_ - only after the install of works by @katayamari at @tate last autumn with the team MKS @kazue_naka!

🍷🦋🙏

Edited · 17 w

kaethefunk Tシャツかわゆ♡

17 w · 1 like · Reply · See Translation

🍷🦋🙏

Liked by moirajeffrey and 99 others

6 September 2024

Add a comment...



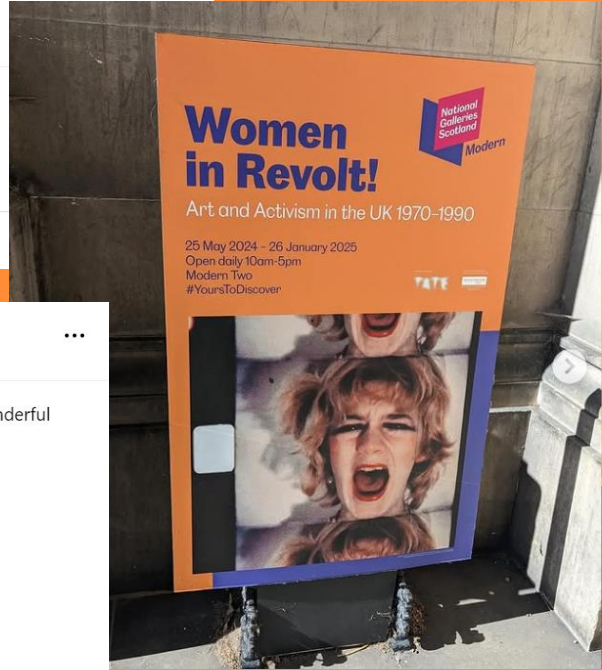
janice.mcnab
Edinburgh, United Kingdom

janice.mcnab Re-visiting the Greenham fence at the wonderful ‘Women in Revolt,’ @natgalleriessco, curated by @_____ly.

25 w

Liked by catto_amanda and 30 others

16 July 2024



amblinganth • Follow

amblinganth Fabulous Edinburgh day. Began with a visit to Modern Two and the amazing Women in Revolt exhibition - an absolute must see, linked in well with book I've just read - brilliant on women confined by domesticity but breaking out to walk - inspired the author @susannahwalkerwriter to found @make_space_for_girls - look it up, really important. Also reminded me of themes in my own Boots and Roots - still available from me and @ledburybooks . Usual Elston route march along the gorgeous waters of Leith, passing a T20 international on the way, and in the evening very happy dinner @ting_thai with @hannahreilly.cba and Ross - and the treat of a walk with Otis afterwards - a very good day!

17 w

hannahreilly.cba Lovely to see you ❤️

7 likes

5 September 2024

Learning & engagement events

Total attendance at L&E events: 1820

Opening talk: Adele Patrick in conversation with Linsey Young, Friday 24 May. Watch now at <https://www.nationalgalleries.org/exhibition/women-revolt-art-and-activism-uk-1970-1990>

Creative Educators' Network: Activism in Art, Saturday 1 June, Modern Two

The Drawing Room, Wednesday 12 June, Modern Two

Visually Impaired Programme, Wednesday 19 June, Online

Spin visit, Thursday 25 July, Modern Two.



Learning & engagement events

Women in Revolt! Representing South Asian Women in Britain

12.30-1.30pm Tuesday 13 August. Watch now at:

<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/exhibition/women-revolt-art-and-activism-uk-1970-1990>

From Matisse to Think Pink: a talk by Liz Rideal

12.45-1.30pm Tuesday 27 August. Watch now at:

<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/exhibition/women-revolt-art-and-activism-uk-1970-1990>

(It's) About Time: Rosy Martin in conversation with Nicky Bird

12.45-1.30pm Tuesday 10 September. Watch now at:

<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/exhibition/women-revolt-art-and-activism-uk-1970-1990>

British Sign Language Tour, Saturday 26 October, Modern Two

The Drawing Room, Wednesday 13 November, Modern Two



Group visits

The Welcoming tours, 18 September 2024

- We continued our partnership with the Welcoming, a charity that supports asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants in Edinburgh. The group explored the exhibition and made their own collages.

Guided tours for community groups, August-September 2024

- As part of our communities and access programme we offered free guided tours to community groups, led by a group of friendly artists and art historians. In August and September, we welcomed groups including Women's Wellbeing Group, Craigmillar Now and Edinburgh Women's Aid Peer Support Group.

A tour and discussion held for and with members of **Glasgow Women's Library's We Make Museums group**, made up of GWL volunteers, stakeholders and community members interested in finding out about how museums work and how the art in them gets there, 10 August 2024

A tour and discussion session for **Hunterian Museum staff and members of the Emotional Museum group**, made up of young Black scholars at University of Glasgow, 14 November 2024

Selected press



‘Wandering around the Modern Two gallery feels like being a part of the protest. Art becomes activism and activism merges into art with black and white photographic documentation, and posters on the walls punctuated with striking paintings and slogans.’
The Conversation,
September 2024, online journal

‘Revolutionaries need weapons; art was to hand so they used it ... Tracing the art and activism of the women’s movement from 1970 to 1990, this exhibition offers a valuable history lesson’.

***** review in the *Scotsman* by Duncan Macmillan, May 2024



‘...my favourite of the exhibits is the case of newsletters and zines in the first room – typewritten, hand-drawn or photocopied publications produced by Women’s Liberation organisations in Aberdeen, Tayside, Glasgow and Edinburgh. “Meetings start at 8pm and we usually go to the pub at around 9.30pm,” says one from the early 1970s

... If ever you needed a demonstration for how art can act as an agent of social change, look no further than this show.’
The Herald review, May 2024



Selected press: listings

The Scotsman: ***** review <https://www.scotsman.com/arts-and-culture/art/women-in-revolt-review-revolutionaries-need-weapons-art-was-to-hand-so-they-used-it-4673400>

The Conversation: online review [Women in Revolt! Exhibition showcases the feminist activist artists who used art to change lives](#)

The Herald - Women in Revolt, where, when and how to get tickets
https://www.heraldsotland.com/life_style/24312843.women-revolt-exhibition---get-tickets/

ArtMag - Twenty Years of British Feminist Radical at SNGMA [Twenty Years of British Feminist Radical at Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh](#)

The Times - Five things to do in Scotland this week (print)

The Skinny - Things To Do What's On Scotland <https://www.theskinny.co.uk/things-to-do/scotland/whats-on-scotland-16-23-may-knockengorroch-more>

The Guardian - A joyous momentous march for liberation: Chandan (Sally) Fraser's best photograph <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/article/2024/may/22/a-joyous-and-momentous-march-for-liberation-chandan-sally-frasers-best-photograph>

The Herald - review (also included a press shot in print)
<https://www.heraldsotland.com/opinion/24349967.women-revolt-bikini-kill-discovering-degas/?ref=rss>

The Skinny - What's on Scotland
[Scotland's Best Events This Week \(23-30 May\) - The Skinny](#)

Lacan Chita - Scotland's best events this week
<https://www.lacanchita.mx/ytueced/e1cdcckm93916P1cdkd39.html>

North Edinburgh News
<https://nen.press/2024/05/27/women-in-revolt-takes-over-modern-two-for-its-only-scottish-tour-date/>

The Herald Saturday Magazine (print)

Art is Alive [Women in Revolt! at the National Galleries of Scotland – ART IS ALIVE](#)

The Sunday Post - Interview with Linsey Young (print)

SNACK Magazine – review (print and online)

[SNACK magazine June 2024 \(Issue 63\) - SNACK: Music, film, arts and culture magazine for Scotland](#)

News and Star - Cumbria's Margaret Harrison features in Women in Revolt!

<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/24362828.cumbrias-margaret-harrison-features-women-revolt/?ref=rss>

[Women's History Scotland: Promoting study and research in women's and gender history in Scotland – online review by Hannah Speed and Eleanor Peters](#)
womenshistoryscotland.org

Bella Caledonia - Women in Revolt Review, 3 January 2025
www.bellacaledonia.org/2025/01/03/women-in-revolt/



Acknowledgements

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