

SU Exhibitions: Content and Impact Checklist for exhibiting groups.

Artist name:

Name of group exhibition:

Name of work:

Type of work:

Date:

Section 1: Introduction

As part of the RCA's exhibition practice, and ahead of your upcoming exhibition, we ask that the group leader ensure all participating artists read and agree to the terms of this document. By ensuring that participants reflect on the environmental, ethical, and social implications of their work, you help the SU Exhibitions initiative remain an inclusive and welcoming space for both artists and audience. This checklist was adapted from one created for a mini festival by the Information Experience Design academic team.

These questions are not intended to restrict creativity, but to support responsible, professional practice. They encourage you to think critically about impact — on materials, audiences, collaborators, and communities.

Section 2: Environmental & Sustainable Impact

Environmental Considerations & Sustainable Impact

Please reflect on the environmental impact of your installation or presentation. Consider materials, energy use, transport, waste, and afterlife.

Questions:

1. Materials

- Are you making considered choices about your materials, to ensure that where possible they are environmentally sustainable? (ie. reuse, recycled, borrowed where appropriate).

- Materials such as vinyl, single-use plastic and styrofoam have extremely long lifespans and end up in landfill, so please bear this in mind before using them.

2. Waste & Afterlife

- Have you considered what will happen to these materials after the exhibition? Can any elements be reused, repurposed, or shared? Kensington campus holds a 'reuse hub' where you can leave materials (in good condition) to be used by other students.
- The Green Futures group holds termly swapshops across campuses for the same purpose, usually at the end of term.

Declaration-style checkbox:

☐ I have considered ways to reduce the environmental footprint of my work.

Section 3: Cultural Sensitivity & Representation

Section Title:

Cultural Awareness & Representation

Intro text:

Exhibition Practice requires sensitivity towards cultural references, identities, and representation. Please reflect on the sources, narratives, and materials within your work.

Questions.

Please provide a concise answer to each question if relevant to your practice.

1. Cultural References

- Does your work draw from specific cultural traditions, communities, or histories?
- If so, how have you ensured this engagement is respectful, inclusive and appropriately contextualised?

2. Representation

- Does your project engage with themes of race, gender, religion, identity, or lived experience?
- Have you considered how different audiences may interpret or experience the work?

Declaration-style checkbox:

☐ I confirm that I have critically considered issues of cultural appropriation, stereotyping, and potentially harmful representation.

Section 4: Ethical Collaboration & Working Processes

Section Title:

Ethical Process & Working With Others

Intro text:

If your project involves collaboration, participation, or engagement with others, please reflect on how this process has been conducted.

Questions:

1. Collaboration

- Did your project involve working with others (participants, performers, interviewees, communities)?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No

If yes:

- How were roles, consent, and expectations agreed?
- Were contributors appropriately credited?

- Was participation voluntary and informed?

(Paragraph response)

2. Working with Vulnerable Groups

- Does your project involve minors, elderly participants, disabled individuals, or other potentially vulnerable groups?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
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If this is part of an academic project*:

*Although we do not accept academic proposals (such as AcrossRCA or Viva shows), if your work is being exhibited as part of a non-academic project but was produced through your programme it will not hinder your chance of participation. If you require clarity on this matter, please email us at su-exhibitions@rca.ac.uk.

- Did you get approval for the research and outcomes from the RCA ethics committee?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If no, please explain why this was not a necessity:

- Please outline how you ensured safeguarding, consent, and ethical consideration.

(Paragraph response)

Section 5: Audience Care & Trigger Warnings

Section Title:

Audience Care & Content Advisory

Intro text:

We aim to create an exhibition environment that is welcoming and considerate to diverse audiences.

Questions:

1. Sensitive Content

- Does your work include any of the following themes?
 - Violence
 - Sexual content
 - Trauma
 - Self-harm
 - Flashing lights
 - Loud or immersive sound
 - Other potentially distressing material

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Trigger / Content Warnings

- Are there any content advisories we should include in the exhibition materials?
- If yes, please specify clearly, and ensure that you include such warnings when displaying your work.

(Short paragraph)