

**Strictly embargoed until 00:01 Friday 2 April**

## **Whitechapel Gallery to receive £206,332 from second round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund**

- Whitechapel Gallery among more than 2,700 recipients to benefit from the latest round of awards from the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund
- In May, Whitechapel Gallery will be able to safely re-open with an inspiring new programme for visitors because of this award, which will help to reflate its reserves, significantly impacted during prolonged lockdown, but vital for the Gallery's future sustainability

Whitechapel Gallery in London has received a grant of £206,332 from the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund to help the organisation recover and reopen.

More than £300 million has been awarded to thousands of cultural organisations across the country including Whitechapel Gallery in the latest round of support from the Culture Recovery Fund, the Culture Secretary announced today.

This award will help assure Whitechapel Gallery's future sustainability by reflatting its financial reserves, which have been significantly impacted by continued income losses during prolonged lockdown.

Over £800 million in grants and loans has already been awarded to support almost 3,800 cinemas, performance venues, museums, heritage sites and other cultural organisations dealing with the immediate challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

The second round of awards made today will help organisations to look ahead to the spring and summer and plan for reopening and recovery. After months of closures and cancellations to contain the virus and save lives, this funding will be a much-needed helping hand for organisations transitioning back to normal in the months ahead.

**Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden, said:** *"Our record-breaking Culture Recovery Fund has already helped thousands of culture and heritage organisations across the country survive the biggest crisis they've ever faced. Now we're staying by their side as they prepare to welcome the public back through their doors - helping our cultural gems plan for reopening and thrive in the better times ahead."*

**Iwona Blazwick, Whitechapel Gallery Director, said:** *"Whitechapel Gallery is hugely grateful to the Culture Recovery Fund, and the vital support this award provides to assure the Gallery's future sustainability by reflatting its reserves, significantly impacted by continued income losses during prolonged lockdown. Whitechapel Gallery is now able to confidently plan its safe re-opening in May 2021 with an exceptional new programme of exhibitions and education events to inspire, uplift, and support our collective recovery"*.

## **Press Release**

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[whitechapelgallery.org](http://whitechapelgallery.org)

Whitechapel Gallery Trustee Limited is a private limited company, registered in England and Wales, registered company no. 4093862 and the corporate trustee of Whitechapel Gallery, registered charity no. 312162. VAT no. 863 586 582.

**Sir Nicholas Serota, Chair, Arts Council England, said:** *“Investing in a thriving cultural sector at the heart of communities is a vital part of helping the whole country to recover from the pandemic. These grants will help to re-open theatres, concert halls, and museums and will give artists and companies the opportunity to begin making new work. We are grateful to the Government for this support and for recognising the paramount importance of culture to our sense of belonging and identity as individuals and as a society.”*

The funding awarded today is from a £400 million pot which was held back last year to ensure the Culture Recovery Fund could continue to help organisations in need as the public health picture changed. The funding has been awarded by Arts Council England, as well as Historic England and National Lottery Heritage Fund and the British Film Institute.

### **Notes to Editors**

- Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let’s Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)
- Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million Emergency Response Package, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of the bodies administering the Government’s Culture Recovery Fund. Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19).
- At the Budget, the Chancellor announced the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund would be boosted with a further £300 million investment. Details of this third round of funding will be announced soon.

### **About Whitechapel Gallery**

For over a century the Whitechapel Gallery has premiered world-class artists from modern masters such as Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Frida Kahlo and Hannah Höch to contemporaries such as Zarina Bhimji, Sophie Calle, William Kentridge, Eduardo Paolozzi and Michael Rakowitz. Its historic campus houses exhibitions, artist commissions, collection displays, historic archives, education resources, inspiring art courses, talks and film screenings, the Townsend dining room and the Koenig Bookshop. It is a touchstone for contemporary art internationally, plays a central role in London’s cultural landscape and is pivotal to the continued growth of the world’s most vibrant contemporary art quarter.

### **Visitor Information**

Opening times: Tuesday – Sunday, 11am – 6pm; Thursdays, 11am – 9pm  
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### **Press Information**

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