

# A B sence wkard astard



Noëmi Lakmaier - You Are Welcome  
Joy Stanley & Thomas Williams

**22 & 23 March 2017 at mac birmingham**

Workshops, keynote speeches, panel debates, open mic,  
with internationally renowned artists and academics,  
focussing on underrepresentation, exclusion and invisibility.

**Co produced by DASH, mac birmingham and LADA**



## 22 March 2017 - 10am - 4pm The Awkward Bastards at Work

Day long creative workshops led by four diverse artists.

**Rachel Gadsden** [www.rachelgadsden.com](http://www.rachelgadsden.com)

Rachel is a British artist who is exhibited internationally and who works across the mainstream and Disability Art sectors. Come prepared let go and create extraordinary expressionistic emotional physical artworks.

**Sue Austin** [www.wearefreewheeling.org.uk](http://www.wearefreewheeling.org.uk)

Sue is an internationally acclaimed multimedia, performance and installation artist. Sue will give a hands on introduction to 360 degree immersive technology - smart device/phone essential.

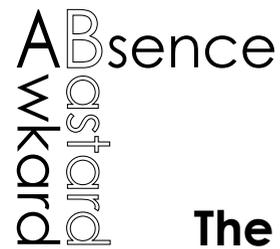
**Mohammed Ali** [www.aerosolarabic.com](http://www.aerosolarabic.com)

Mohammed is an artist, educator and curator. He will guide participants in how to deliver public art projects that connect with the public in a meaningful way.

**Gemma Marmalade** [www.gemmamarmalade.com](http://www.gemmamarmalade.com)

Gemma is a British artist specialising in photography, video and performance.

Join Gemma in this exploratory performance workshop and have lots of fun taking the mickey out of the establishment!



## 23 March 2017 10.15am - 6pm The Return of the Awkward Bastards A Symposium

### Panel One - Framing Diversity

A panel considering different contexts for the representation of underrepresented artists and practices. Do institutional frameworks for diverse practice perpetuate marginalisation and 'difference', in terms of artists, practices and audiences, or the opposite? What should institutional frameworks look like? What kind of freedoms, permissions and agency do artist-led or grassroots contexts offer that the institution cannot?

Keynote by Frances Morris, Director of Tate Modern

### Panel Two - Pasts and Futures

A panel considering responsibilities to our pasts and our futures. How do we ensure that underrepresented artists and practices are represented in cultural histories? How do we rewrite and reclaim histories? How do we equally invest in the future? How do we support future generations of makers and cultural leaders in meaningful and instrumental ways?

Keynote by David A Bailey of the International Curators Forum.

### Radical Practices

Radical short provocations by artists, activists and academics addressing a range of burning issues across the spectrum of diversity.

DASH's Awkward Bastards symposium in March 2015 was one of the first to engage with the spectrum of diversity from disability, ethnicity, sexuality, to gender and class. The Awkward Bastards return with ABsence in 2017 to consider the ways in which diverse artists and practices have been, are, or could be framed, and our collective responsibilities to our pasts and our futures.

### **Contributors to the symposium include:**

Frances Morris (Tate Modern), Tony Heaton (Shape), Mohammed Ali (artist), Rachel Anderson (Idle Women), Daniel Oliver (artist), Jamila Johnson Small (artist/organiser), Simon Casson (Duckie), Amanda Cachia (curator), Sue Austin (artist), Melanie Keen (Iniva), Nick Llewellyn & Cian Binchy (Access All Areas), David A Bailey (International Curators Forum), Aaron Wright (Fierce Festival), Tanya Raabe-Webber (artist), Helga Henry (Birmingham Hippodrome), Sarah Watson & Thompson Hall (Creative Minds), Rachel Gadsden (artist), Gemma Marmalade (artist).

### **Ticket prices:**

Workshops	£30 salaried	£20 non salaried and concessions
Symposium	£60 salaried	£30 non salaried and concessions
Dual	£80 salaried	£40 non salaried and concessions

**For bursary places contact DASH – [mike@dasharts.org](mailto:mike@dasharts.org)**

For tickets please visit [macbirmingham.co.uk](http://macbirmingham.co.uk)  
or call **0121 446 3232**

All events take place at **mac birmingham**

