

DEVONSHIRE COLLECTIVE

Arpita Shah

From one dream to another

11 May – 2 July 2023

Preview: Friday 12 May, 6 – 8pm



© Abbas Mohammadi, courtesy the artist, Devonshire Collective and Photoworks

VOLT at Devonshire Collective

67-69 Seaside Road

Eastbourne, BN21 3PL

Thursday – Sunday, 11-5pm

From one dream to another is an exhibition of collaborative work produced by visual artist Arpita Shah and a group of young men from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds in Eastbourne.

A partnership commission by Devonshire Collective and Photoworks, supported by Arts Council England.

Photoworks



Supported using public funding by
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DEVONSHIRE COLLECTIVE

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SANCTUARY CAFÉ



Over the last six months, Arpita Shah has worked with a group of young men from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds using photography, text and sound to explore themes of home, identity, memory and hope.

The exhibition comprises photographs produced by the young men that are interwoven with their own words, alongside collaborative portraits created by Arpita and the young men. The exhibition also includes a sound installation, featuring interviews with the young men in their native tongues, including Persian and Arabic. Downstairs, a gathering space will host special events and free English practicing conversation club for the young men. This space is designed for everyone to sit, chat and share their own dreams for the future.

Artist Biography

Arpita Shah is a photographic artist and educator based in Eastbourne, UK. She works between photography, film and sound exploring the intersections of identity and culture. As an India-born artist, Shah spent an earlier part of her life living between India, Ireland and the Middle East before settling in the U.K and this migratory experience is reflected in her practice. Collaborating with individuals and families across UK from diverse cultural backgrounds, Shah's work centres on exploring notions of home, belonging, migration and memory.

Shah's work has been exhibited across the UK and internationally, including at the Detroit Center of Contemporary Photography (2013); Tramway in Glasgow (2014); Chobi Mela IX in Dhaka, Bangladesh (2017); Autograph APB in London (2018) Street Level Photoworks in Glasgow (2019) Impressions Gallery in Bradford (2020) and The Towner Gallery in Eastbourne (2020). She is also the recipient of the 2019 Light Work + Autograph ABP Artist-in-Residence programme in Syracuse NY and her work is held at the National Galleries of Scotland and Birmingham Museum's Trust.

Photoworks

Photoworks champions photography for everyone. We are an international platform, global in reach, and have provided opportunities for artists and audiences since 1995. We do not have a physical venue, but our online channels are always open. Our programme brings new experiences to audiences and opens up new ways to encounter photography.

Photoworks is a registered charity and the only organisation with a national remit for photography in England. Our work is supported by public funding through Arts Council England's National Portfolio.

www.photoworks.org.uk @photoworks_uk

Devonshire Collective

Devonshire Collective (DC) is a cultural and community organisation operating across a network of ex-retail sites in the Devonshire West ward, Eastbourne – a vibrant area with a long-standing community.

At our gallery, [VOLT](#), we commission significant first solo exhibitions by emerging and underrepresented artists living in East Sussex and nationally. We are studio providers to a range of creatives and makers. [DC Learn](#) is our learning and engagement programme for families, young people and our communities in Devonshire West ward. Our galleries and programmes are free, and open to all.

www.devonshirecollective.co.uk @devonshire_collective

Sanctuary Café

Sanctuary Café offers a free drop-in service for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, open every Friday 10am-12noon at All Souls Church Hall at the back of the Beacon Shopping Centre. Sanctuary Café has been running since 2016, helping people from over 43 different nationalities and on average have between 15-20 visitors each week.