

Domo Baal
David Blamey
Matthew Cornford
Schirin Kretschmann

PUBLIC EVENT

2026
23 May
18:00 hrs

Division of Labour
Holy Trinity Church
Cloudesley Square
London N1 0HN

Free entry

IN/OUT OF STUDIO PANEL DISCUSSION

Is the studio the ‘natural habitat’ of art? In 1971 Daniel Buren published *The Function of the Studio*, an essay in which he argued that art should remain in the studio, or else be made in situ. Much has changed since then. Today, artists work on-line, collaboratively, performatively, and site-specifically as well as alone in a room of their own. Should we now then consider the studio as but a single node in a broader production system of creativity and exhibition?

David Blamey works on location nomadically, as well as in traditional ‘domestic’ studios in central London and rural SW France. “Sometimes the studio tells me what to do next”, he says, “but when that voice becomes too familiar, I go out to the street, into nature, or on occasion into the art world”.

Matthew Cornford has never worked in a studio, preferring to take photographs on location, or improvise in spaces of public engagement. His photographs are printed commercially and most of his other works are made by specialist fabricators. His art predicates ideas, objects and images over the primacy of an artist’s hand.

Schirin Kretschmann’s work is conceived, made and exhibited on site – whether on a rooftop, in a museum, a gallery, or a car park. Her studio is the only space at her disposal that she doesn’t share with anyone else. It is a place of retreat, contemplation and storage. Small and intimate, the size is only ‘seven steps from door to window’, as one journalist drolly noted.

Domo Baal is a London gallerist of more than 25 years. As such, she has visited hundreds of artists' studios and holds considerable knowledge of the breadth of situations that constitute a creative work place. She regards the conventional private studio setting as a perfect location to understand an artist's practice 'from the roots up' while acknowledging that wherever an artist thinks or makes can be thought of as a place of work.

Talk convened by
Nat Pitt (Division of Labour)

Panel discussion, Q&A
Refreshments