

Press release
September 2025



Gregory Herbert in collaboration with Professor Katie J. Field, *Making-with*, 2021. Film still.



Noémie Goudal, *Warren*, 2012. © Noémie Goudal. Courtesy the the David and Indrè Roberts Collection and Edel Assanti

It Requires Getting Lost

1 November 2025 – 22 February 2026

Artists: Magdalena Abakanowicz, Noémie Goudal, Gregory Herbert, Pierre Huyghe, Malik Jama, Leon Kossoff, Jocelyn McGregor and Wolfgang Tillmans

It Requires Getting Lost is the result of a unique partnership between the Roberts Institute of Art (RIA), Venture Arts and Castlefield Gallery. Three artists working in the North of England — Gregory Herbert, Malik Jama and Jocelyn McGregor — have been invited by the partner organisations to work in dialogue with one another and in response to major works from one of the UK's most significant private collections, the David and Indrè Roberts Collection (managed by RIA). These major works, co-selected by all involved, will be featured in the exhibition.

Spending time with the collection commenced a research period designed to support Herbert, Jama and McGregor to develop new work for the exhibition at Castlefield Gallery. These new works will be exhibited alongside the works by **Magdalena Abakanowicz, Noémie Goudal, Pierre Huyghe, Leon Kossoff, and Wolfgang Tillmans** from the David and Indrè Roberts Collection. Sharing and exploring together has shaped Hebert, Jama and McGregor's development process.

The artists have together experienced one another's sources of inspiration, including places and spaces where humanity and nature come into contact in unexpected ways. To date these have included Anderson boat lift, a wishing well in Alderley Edge and Yordas Cave in Ingleton. Guiding the artists' research and overall exhibition are shared interests in the complex entanglement of human and non-human worlds, and testing the boundaries between the natural and artificial, making and material, intention and accident.

Selected and commissioned works featured in **It Requires Getting Lost** will span film, photography, painting, sound, projection mapping, and sculpture. A diverse group of works, together they point to what can be discovered in embracing the unknown. The exhibition will ask if we can resist the drive to want to be all knowing and to have all the answers, and instead accept not knowing. What might we learn? If we 'get lost', might we discover, see, and hear anew, including what nature has to share with us?

It Requires Getting Lost will take over Castlefield Gallery, with the works and installation playing with the context of the venue's architecture, creating a cave-like, subterranean feel. Conceived as a dark, underground space, the exhibition invites us to leave behind the hard-edged clarity of categories and distinctions and descend into a place of murky yet wondrous possibility.

The exhibition proposes that in the dark of not knowing we might actually find hope, and that with humility we can better respond to the challenges of our changing world. The exhibition's title is taken from a phrase used by philosopher and activist Bayo Akomolafe from an interview the artists and partners read together during the project. It suggests that getting lost together can catalyse true transformation and deeper understanding of the many paths we can take to live more responsively and responsibly in a world that is continually changing.

The whole project has been infused with positivity and curiosity from the start, offering the artists an opportunity to visit outdoor locations from Hulme Community Garden Centre to Stonehenge as well as exploring some of the most significant works of art from the 20th and 21st centuries in the David and Indré Roberts Collection. Their time together will lead to an exhibition that invites us to wonder amongst art works that encourage us to be at ease with the unknown and to embrace the unfamiliar offerings of our natural world.

Gregory Herbert says: *"During this residency, Malik, Jocelyn, and I explored our practices through visits to wishing wells, caves, ponds, bridges, canals, and the David and Indré Roberts Collection. These trips have given us the space to reflect on how our work connects with each other and the collection, whilst also building an ongoing conversation about our entangled relationship with the earth."*

Malik Jama says: *"We went on walks together, taking pictures and talking to each other. I've liked it and made two new friends. We've been to Stonehenge, seen great art at the David and Indré Roberts Collection's big warehouse. I saw art that looked like a cave in a car park by Noémie Goudal and I liked her waterfall too. I've liked taking pictures, walking around seeing things, and I've done projection mapping in the cave. I'm happy it happened."*

Jocelyn McGregor says: *"I have really valued being able to get to know Greg and Malik and their practices, as well as being an art fangirl with the David and Indré Roberts Collection. Us artists have been able to share core inspirations with one another through group visits, and collectively feed into the curation. This means that both our work and the exhibition are developing in this harmonious way, it's like having a conversation through art-making."*

ENDS//

Related Public Programme Event:

Remember Nature 2025

4 November 2025

Castlefield Gallery is taking part in Remember Nature 2025 with commissioned Lead Artist Yu-Chen Wang. Remember Nature 2025 marks the 10-year anniversary of the visionary art project initiated by artist Gustav Metzger (1926-2017).

Curated by Jo Joelson and Andrea Gregson, in partnership with 15 regional arts partners across England, Remember Nature will culminate in a Day-of-Action on 4 November 2025, bringing people together through a programme of cultural and artistic public interventions, to 'remember nature' and act collectively to face the climate and nature crisis.

This Day-of-Action will take place in Platt Fields Park, Fallowfield. Aimed at local people and put on by six local artists convened by Phil Barton, a series of walks and workshops will take place during the day, including one from Platt Hall to Hulme Community Garden Centre and back again.

remembernature.art

Notes to Editors:

Images available [here](#)

More information about the exhibition's artists and partners [here](#)

For further information and images, or to arrange interviews, please email Leslie Remonato at leslie@castlefieldgallery.co.uk

Exhibition Title: It Requires Getting Lost

Exhibition dates: Sunday 1 November 2025 – Sunday 22 February 2026

Preview: Thursday 30 October 2025

Slow Saturday Preview: Saturday 1 October 2025

Venue: Castlefield Gallery, 2 Hewitt Street, Manchester M15 4GB

Tel: 0161 832 8034

Web: castlefieldgallery.co.uk

Email: info@castlefieldgallery.co.uk

Opening Times: Wednesday – Sunday, 12 noon – 5:30 pm

It Requires Getting Lost is commissioned and produced by Castlefield Gallery, the Roberts Institute of Art and Venture Arts, with additional support from the Brian Mercer Trust and The Haworth Trust. Castlefield Gallery and Venture Arts are generously funded by Arts Council England and Manchester City Council.

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