



**A-MAZE
ARTISTS**

**What an amazing year!
We'd like to extend our gratitude to everyone for their
support, encouragement and participation.
This is the final newsletter of 2023 and we'd like to
share some highlights from the past year:**



February

Institute of Irish Studies

Fion Gunn was joined by director of the Liverpool Irish Festival, Emma Smith in a conversation about the experience of Diaspora and its impacts. Fion presented a short film created using VR and digital collage which evokes her own journey. The audience were invited to participate in an activity which explored the nature of connectivity and to contribute their own experiences. This was the last event in the series which Gunn has presented as part of her residency at the Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool.

April

FACT Liverpool Creative Sandpit

Dreamstudio, led by Maureen Kendal, presented work from A-Maze Artists Collective as part of their ongoing virtual and blended creations. This exhibition showcased prototypes for their exhibition at APT Gallery in London in October 2023.

May

Arts Council of England award

A-Maze Artists Collective were awarded an Arts Council England

(ACE) Award for their 'Boundless: Transitions' project.



July

EVA Conference & Exhibition

The EVA conference was an interesting mix of wide-ranging discussions that included global trends in the field of technology & art. Our paper was well received and the conference provided us with an opportunity to present the group's technical advances over the past year, new areas we're exploring creatively, and how we're addressing wider changes in the cultural heritage sector. We hope to provide a further update at next year's conference.

Amaze paper: '[Boundless – Worlds in Flux: Overcoming boundaries to virtual world integration in traditional heritage settings](#)'

September

Deptford X Fringe

Ahead of the APT exhibition, a few of the Amaze artists participated in this long-standing Deptford art festival with work displayed at the Deptford Lounge, a key community hub in the area.

October

APT Gallery

'Boundless: Transitions' exhibition featured work by the 9 artists from the A-Maze Collective. It was a month packed full of guided tours, panel discussions, and community-focused events to help audiences engage deeply with the works and themes on display.

'My takeaway from the exhibition was the pleasure of working with enthusiastic artists and seeing how the welcome we gave to our visitors paid off. They stayed for a long time, they conversed with us, asking questions and telling us their stories. We certainly got our messages across' Fion Gunn, lead artist

'The APT exhibition was an amazing new experience and I really enjoyed working collaboratively with the other artists. It was the first exhibition I've been involved in as an artist and it pushed me to explore new technologies and approaches to creative processes.'

Ardern Hulme-Beaman



What we are working on currently

Fion Gunn

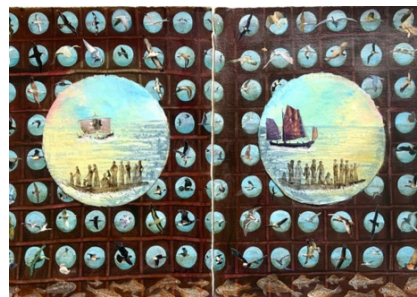
I've been working with Glyn Jones on the creation of the documentary film of our exhibition while also doing research my ongoing series of work 'Age of Empire' and 'Displaced'. I'm also preparing for two exhibitions in Cairo and Alexandria which are planned for Feb-Mar 2024, depending on the political situation in Egypt.

Ardern Hulme-Beaman

I'm working on improving my augmented reality (AR) app development skills to broaden the way my apps interact with objects. The previous AR app I made used 2D image recognition, but I'm now trying to expand this to recognition of 3D objects. To explore this further I've been experimenting with face-tracking app technologies.

Nazia Parvez

I'm developing my Displacement project in collaboration with a Unity developer and electronic media artist in Austin. The initial concept for this project was created during early discussions with A-Maze artists during the Covid pandemic in 2020.



Wishing you all a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year!

Special thanks to Dr Juanita Cox, Joris LeChene, Dr Sebastian Kaalwijk, Caitriona McAllister, Thomas Picard, Gabriela Zavala Mendoza, Glyn Jones, Verity Babbs, and to our sponsors and partners:



More to come in the New Year! In the meantime, please follow us on [@a_maze_artists](https://www.instagram.com/a_maze_artists)

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