

Camden Art Centre Emerging Artist Award at Frieze Recipient announcement Ella Fleck

Installation view. *training material (aria)* by Ella Fleck for Frieze London 2026 with Ehrlich Steinberg, Los Angeles. Courtesy of the artist and Ehrlich Steinberg, Los Angeles. Photo: Dominique Croshaw.



Today, Camden Art Centre and Frieze are pleased to announce Ella Fleck (b. 1993, London) as the recipient of the 2026 Camden Art Centre Emerging Artist Award at Frieze. Fleck, who is represented by Ehrlich Steinberg, Los Angeles will realise a solo exhibition at Camden Art Centre in 2028.

The annual Emerging Artist Award – unveiled for the first time at Frieze London 2018 and now in its eighth year – offers invaluable critical exposure to an emerging artist, providing their first solo show at a London institution. The recipient will be supported by the experienced curatorial team at Camden Art Centre, and the exhibition will be accompanied by a programme of public talks and events.

The artist is represented by Ehrlich Steinberg, Los Angeles. Ehrlich Steinberg is one of 35 galleries from 17 countries in the Focus section of Frieze, London, the fair's celebrated section supporting younger galleries and artists in early stages of their careers – and the section from which the Award recipient is selected.

The 2026 Award was selected by a panel chaired by Martin Clark (Director, Camden Art Centre), with Gina Buenfeld-Murley (Senior Exhibitions Curator, Camden Art Centre) and Laura Smith (Artistic Director, The Hepworth Wakefield). A group of UK and international patrons have generously supported the Award, including lead supporter Matthew Greenburgh. These patrons share an interest in supporting the work of emerging artists and the economy of younger galleries within the contemporary art scene.

Previous recipients of the Camden Art Centre Emerging Artist Award at Frieze include: Wong Ping (2018); Julien Creuzet (2019); Tenant of Culture (2021); Marina Xenofontos (2022); Jack O'Brien (2023), Nat Faulker (2024) and Bogdan Ablozhnyy (2025) – whose award exhibition will take place at Camden Art Centre next year, running 19 November 2027–16 January 2028.

For over 25 years Camden Art Centre has been committed to supporting and nurturing artists in the formative stages of their careers. The Camden Art Centre Emerging Artist Award at Frieze continues this work, building on more than 30 years of significant early career exhibitions by artists including Walter Price, Zeinab Saleh, Mohammed Sami, Jonathan Baldock, Mike Nelson, Veronica Ryan and Martin Creed.

Quotes

The jury (Martin Clark (chair of the jury and Director of Camden Art Centre), Gina Buenfeld-Murley (Senior Exhibitions Curator, Camden Art Centre) and Laura Smith (Artistic Director, The Hepworth Wakefield)): We are delighted to present this year's award to Ehrlich Steinberg and Ella Fleck. The jury were struck by the quality and ambition of the presentation which uses installation, sculpture, sound and scent to make public the usually hidden architectures and technologies of online desire and commerce. Presented in the very particular context of an international art fair, the work speaks in a deeply affecting and highly original way to ideas of money, control, labour, manipulation and the circulation and power of images.

Ella Fleck: I'm beyond thrilled to receive the Camden Art Centre Emerging Artist Award. Having grown up in Kilburn, Camden Art Centre has been part of my life for a long time, so this feels particularly special. I'm honoured that my first institutional project will be somewhere I have admired for so long. I'm very excited to think about my work in that setting and within such an ambitious programme.

Ace Ehrlich and Tabitha Steinberg, Ehrlich Steinberg: We couldn't be happier for Ella. We're honoured to be presenting a work of this calibre and especially proud for it to be recognised by Camden Art Centre which we so greatly admire. We have enormous respect for the artists and galleries who have received the award in previous years, so it means a great deal to be

selected among them. We're really looking forward to seeing how Ella develops her work for what will be her most significant project to date.

Notes to editors

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Supporters

Camden Art Centre is indebted to the generosity and expertise of its Award Supporters. Supporters of the Award include Matthew Greenburgh (Lead Supporter), James Freedman, Alex Haidas, Bella Kesoyan, Suling Mead, Mubarak Ali Foundation, Amalia Mytilineou, Ralph Segreti & Richard Follows, Ronald & Sophie Sofer and Alma Zevi. Whilst all final decisions on the shortlist and choice of winning artist remain the responsibility of the selection panel, chaired by Camden Art Centre Director, Martin Clark, this panel draws on the knowledge and experience of the Award Supporters in reviewing and discussing all award submissions, including the shortlist.

Recipient Biography

Ella Fleck is a London-based artist and writer. Her practice examines the entanglement of psychosexual ideologies within invisible systems of technology. She works across installation through strategies of infiltration, sound, architecture, language, scent, and chemical-signalling. Fleck received her BA in English Literature from the University of Exeter in 2014 and an MFA at Goldsmiths, University of London in 2026. Solo exhibitions include *training material* at Frieze London with Ehrlich Steinberg, London, UK (upcoming); *Spray* at Season 4 Episode 6, London, UK (2025); NADA House at New Art Dealers Alliance, Governors Island, NY (2024). Selected group exhibitions include *Alone, alone, all, all alone* at Ehrlich Steinberg, Los Angeles, CA (2026); 15th Kaunas Biennial, Kaunas, LT (2025); *Return of the Repressed*, curated by Toby Ziegler, London, UK (2025); *Solid, Liquid, Gas* at St Margaret's House Chapel, London, UK (2025); *La Petite Mort* at APT Gallery, London, UK (2024); *Mirror Stage* at Shipton Gallery, London, UK (2023); *Think Before You Print* at Galerie von Empfangshalle, Munich, DE (2023); *Jumper* at Harkawik, New York, NY (2021); *SUNSCREEN* at 4649, Tokyo, JP (2020). Fleck's work has been reviewed in publications including *i-D*, *Twin Magazine*, *Plaster*, *The White Pube*, *The Toe Rag*, and *Modern Weekly Style*. Her writing has appeared in *Frieze*, *Montez Press*, *Art Et Al.*, *JuneArt.io*, *Emergent Magazine*, and *All Inclusive*.

Camden Art Centre

Since 1965 Camden Art Centre has been a place for art and the people that make it. Rooted in our local community and internationally acclaimed, we foster a sense of belonging and a deeper relationship to art. We aim to push boundaries and connect people to their own creativity through our exhibitions, residencies, events and learning programmes. Originally built as a public library, the building now combines historic architecture with open, modern spaces and a secluded garden with free entry for all. Camden Art Centre has always led the way supporting artists and audiences to create and engage with the most vital and inspiring contemporary art and culture today.

Frieze

Frieze is a leading global contemporary art organization, recognized for its art fairs, publications and digital presence. Founded in 1991 with the launch of *frieze* magazine, the brand has grown to encompass eight of the most significant art fairs worldwide in cities including Chicago, London, Los Angeles, New York, Seoul and Abu Dhabi. These events attract leading artists, galleries and collectors, fostering innovative dialogues and practices within the art community. *frieze* magazine continues to set the benchmark for insightful art criticism and commentary, while *frieze.com* serves as a vital online resource. Committed to expanding the reach and understanding of contemporary art, Frieze also hosts year-round curated programs and associated initiatives, such as No.9 Cork Street, Frieze House Seoul and Frieze Connect, that enrich the cultural landscape. With a dedicated team passionate about the arts, Frieze remains at the forefront of artistic exploration and cultural discourse, connecting diverse audiences with groundbreaking artists and their work. Frieze is part of the MARI network.