

JENNIFER LAUREN

GALLERY

What is it all about?

This is an Easy Read resource
about the Jennifer Lauren Gallery



ABOUT THE JENNIFER LAUREN GALLERY

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The Gallery shows artwork by Deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent artists from across the UK and from around the world



Jennifer Lauren Gilbert runs the Jennifer Lauren Gallery

It was set up in May 2017



It is an online Gallery, so it does not have a building that you can visit. The Gallery holds pop-up exhibitions and art fairs that you can visit – see website for details



The Gallery showcases many different artists including: autistic artists, learning disabled artists and artists that may have mental health issues



The Gallery also shows work by self-taught artists. This means artists who **HAVE NOT** been trained at an art school or completed an art course



Jennifer is passionate about the artists voices being heard – They might speak about their work through a film or it might be that their art itself speaks for them



Jennifer wants to change how disabled and self-taught artists are seen and the stigma surrounding them – so that their artwork gains more respect and is exhibited more often in large galleries and museums

WHAT IS JENNIFER'S BACKGROUND?



Jennifer has an art Degree from Central Saint Martins in London. It is a big art school that Jennifer went to full time for three years



Jennifer also has a Masters in Art, Health and Wellbeing. This means she sees how doing art is good for you, good for your health and makes you happy



Jennifer has worked with a group of artists with mental health issues, as well as a group of disabled and isolated artists working in the community using art to improve wellbeing



Jennifer was the Manager of a national arts charity for seven years, until 2016, working with over 2,000 artists from across the UK



These artists were disabled, learning disabled, Deaf, neurodivergent, homeless or isolated in their communities



At the arts charity she organised exhibitions and events in large arts venues across the UK. As well as organising training for these artists and offering specialised support



Jennifer has also worked 1-2-1, and in small groups, with learning disabled artists in a day care setting

WHAT DOES THE GALLERY DO?



Jennifer currently works with around 20 visual artists from around the world through her Gallery. This includes artists from India, Japan and America



The Jennifer Lauren Gallery holds pop up exhibitions in the UK. These are exhibitions in small venues, where Jennifer organises artwork to be hung on the walls or displayed on shelves



The Gallery takes part in international art fairs in places like Paris and New York. Art fairs are where lots of different galleries create small exhibiting spaces (known as booths) all in one large venue



Jennifer works with many more disabled and self-taught artists outside of her Gallery work. This is as a freelance producer and curator. This means she works alone providing whatever support these artists may need. This includes mentoring and support with funding



She works with many supported studios around the world working with disabled and self-taught artists. Places like Venture Arts and ActionSpace



Jennifer likes to interview artists so people can find out more about them. She posts these on her website

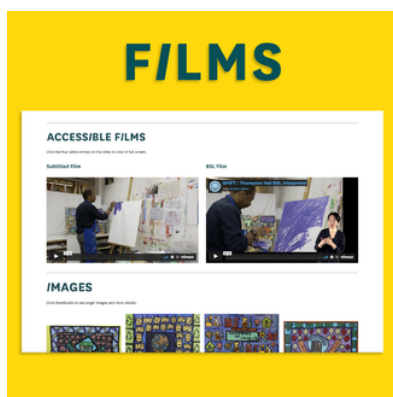


Jennifer also likes to interview art collectors – people who buy artworks – to find out what artwork they like and why. She does this through a series on the website called 'Meet the Collector'

OTHER PROJECTS OUTSIDE THE GALLERY



Jennifer runs a website called SHIFT. SHIFT is dedicated to raising the profile of learning disabled and neurodivergent artists in the art world

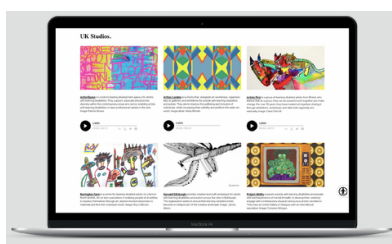


It does this through showcasing work in an accessible way on a website and through films about these artists. The films show the artists working in studios and talking about their artwork if they are able to. BSL (British Sign Language) versions of the films are available online



Jennifer co-runs a project called Art et al.

She runs it with two other female arts workers – one in the UK and one in Australia



It is a project that raises the profile and show new art content from neurodivergent, intellectually and learning disabled artists from around the world. It is all shown through the Art et al. website



Jennifer also co-runs Signs of Art alongside Deaf and hearing artists, and a Deaf artist focus group



Signs of Art exists to inspire, inform and engage Deaf artists and the Deaf and BSL community more widely



The Signs of Art team are working with galleries and museums to increase their BSL information, Deaf led events like BSL tours, and their Deaf awareness levels. This means making sure their staff are more knowledgeable on how to greet and support Deaf audience members and Deaf artists

CONTACT US

If you want to know more or have any questions at all, please contact Jennifer via the below:



www.jenniferlaurengallery.com



info@jenniferlaurengallery.com



Instagram: @J_LGALLERY

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