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# Artists for BLUE

Artists create a wave of support for the Blue Marine Foundation at A H STUDIOS

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## BLUE MARINE THINK-IN

The BLUE Think-in brought together experts in the field of marine biology with artists working in response to climate change and ocean conservation. As host to the show, Andrea Hamilton opened up her studio as a platform for creative thinking and ideas sharing across disciplines, with an eye on finding solutions through positive action. Their collaboration echoes the rich interdisciplinary history of Somerset House where the Blue Marine Foundation are based, and highlights the important role science and art play in public awareness.



**Blue Think-in With Panel Dr Callum Roberts, Aidan Gahan, Clare Brook CEO, Andrea Hamilton, Simon Allison, Angela Palmer and Nico**



**Blue Think-in (patrons and artists: Xie Rong, Andrea Hamilton and Chris Levine)**



**Blue Think-in (patrons and artists Carol Bruton, Joanna Jones, Clare Smith, Dominique Gerolini and Renelio Marin)**

Chaired by CEO Clare Brook, BLUE's Chief Scientific Advisor Dr Callum Roberts gave us a dynamic introduction to this show's theme, **the high seas**. This vast area of ocean beyond any national jurisdiction plays a vital role in absorbing heat from man-made climate change and in the provision of the oxygen we need to breathe. In one way, it is owned by no-one, yet legally it is owned by every man, woman and child on the planet. It considered by the United Nations to be 'the common heritage of mankind'. Dr Roberts was utterly captivating in his description of mass underwater transmigration, and how this helps to sequester CO2 which is denser than sea water.

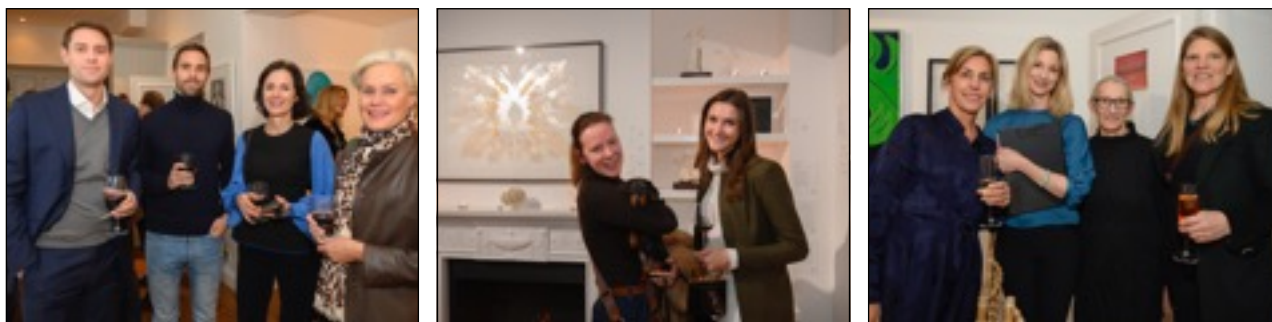


**Emma Witter, Joanna Jones, Clare Brook, Andrea Hamilton, Poppy Wetherill, Nico, Vanessa Galloway, and Emma Levine**

BLUE head of policy Aidan Gahan outlined the clear environmental, economic and philosophical imperative for protecting the ocean, our greatest and most resilient asset but "we just need to give it a break." Artists on the panel then responded, sharing insights and how their practice changed in response to the climate emergency. Sculptor Simon Allison spoke of 'Metousiosis' which means to affect a sea change. Whilst the shift in attitude towards our natural resources and waste is evidenced in many artists practice, the commercial art world, in particular the art fairs, needs to change tack. Angela Palmer then took us on a three year journey with her Ghost Forest project, a massive site specific installation that woke the world up to illegal logging of virgin forests (<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2010/jul/14/ghost-forest>). Distressed by the news that that an area of rainforest the size of a football pitch is being destroyed every four seconds, she went straight to the source in Ghana. There she convinced loggers to give her ancient stumps of felled trees, strapped them to trucks, shipped them to the UK and finally landed them in Trafalgar Square. Artist Andrea Hamilton concluded the think-in on a positive note, describing her own journey from being overwhelmed by frightening statistics to becoming

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proactive and making those small changes which collectively can bring about a real sea change. "Start small, but do something every day," and with that Clare opened up the discussion.



**Blue Think-in (patrons and artists Dede Johnston, Deborah Tarr, Dominique Gerolini and Ginny Pavry)**

The high seas cover 40% of the Earth's surface. But a healthy and climate-resilient ocean requires an ocean filled with natural life. Protecting the biodiversity of these vast areas is therefore vital for the future of humanity. Yet it is being ravaged by industrial-scale fishing and deep-sea mining, including at the Mid-Atlantic Ridge's "Lost City" – a field of underwater chimneys that scientists believe is where life on Earth began. In response to these threats, Blue Marine Foundation is working with NGOs, the UK government and the UN to help secure a legal treaty to protect nature in the high seas.

In 2020 BLUE will celebrate their 10 year anniversary and will continue to collaborate with artists to transmit their message of conservation and hope. We were incredibly lucky to have the support of many BLUE patrons, and so many thanks to all the 36 artists, many of whom were able to travel to the the show. It was clear that more gatherings like this would be welcome,



**Blue Think-in with artists Dominique Gerolini, Emma Witters, Xie Rong and Helen Lindon, and Katharine Beaugie**



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## BROWN UNIVERSITY PREVIEW

As two of the artists Andrea Hamilton and Azadeh Ghotbi are Brown University alumni, its president Mary Hanover conceived of a talk by visiting Professor Morone.



**Central image of Andrea Hamilton with Azadeh Ghotbi in front of their work**



**Alumni and the Professor Morone speaking**



**Full house for the discussion, Mary Hanover to the far right, still smiling!**

## PRIVATE VIEW

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A H STUDIOS then threw an party on the 12th of November, officially opening the show, whilst sharing more stories with blue minded patrons, artists and scientists and our beloved editor Hermione Crawford, and author Olivia Heffernan. Also in attendance were gallerists and curators, who thoroughly enjoyed the selection of work throughout the whole space and how it spoke to this important theme, of a world unseen (high seas) and therefore unprotected.



**Artists include from left to right: Vanessa Galloway, Mario Palencia (Maddox Art) Andrea Hamilton, Aigana Gali, Alice Wilson, Xie Rong and Gtechniq sponsor Robert Earle**



**Artist Corinne Corbett-Thompson with editor Hermione Crawford, Emma Witters with Patrons and curator Sara Terzi**



**Xie Rong with Aigana Gali, the phenomenal catering staff, and Mary Hanover who donated so much time and energy to help with BLUE.**

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## SCHOOL TRIP

One of the highlights of this exhibition has to be the school trip, on the 20th of November, when a coach load of nine year olds and their curious teachers diverted a trip to the Saatchi Gallery via 68 Kinnerton Street. Their response was so immediate and authentic, from the moment they stepped into the BLUE, that we were all reminded of the central role art can play in shaping our relationship with the world, and therefore our future. Collectively, your works have inspired a whole new generation of art loving ocean conservationists... THANK YOU!



The next generation...

## CHRISTMAS PARTY AND *FINISSAGE*

Despite the elections (!) A H STUDIOS continued to host events throughout the month of December encouraging support for BLUE across all sectors, but also creating fresh opportunities for patrons view your collected works. Here are just a few more pictures...



Blue's Clare Brook CEO, Nico, and the many patrons





**Key members of BLUE together with Andrea Hamilton, artist and host**

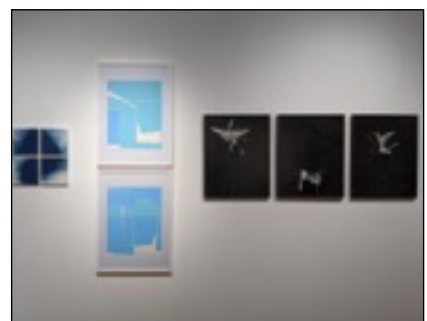
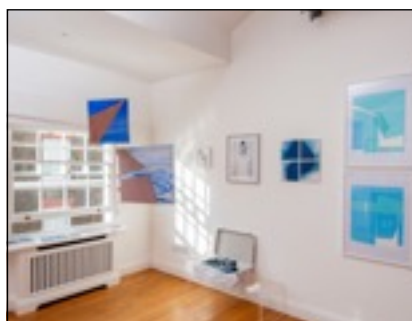
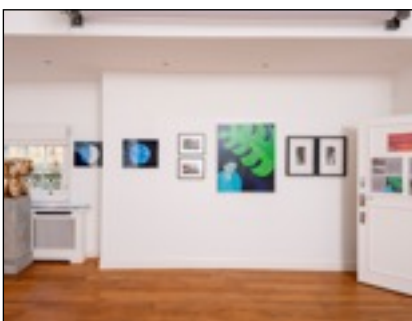
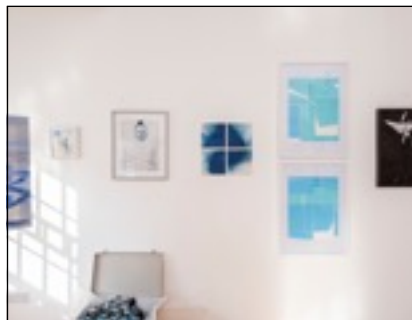


**Central image features Charles Glover, BLUE founding member.**

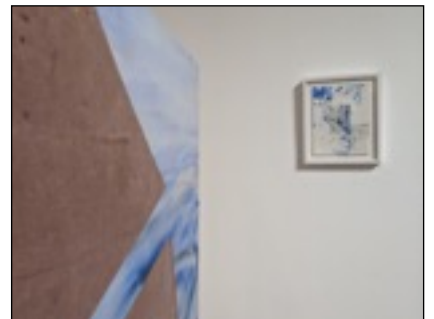
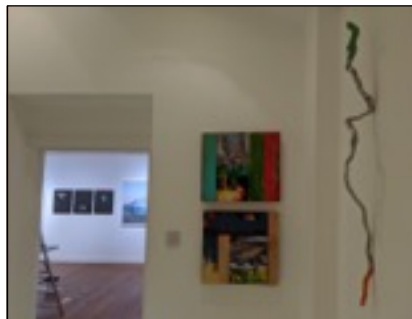
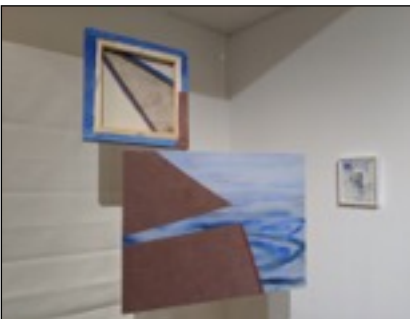
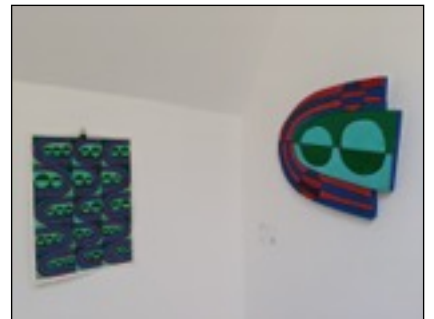
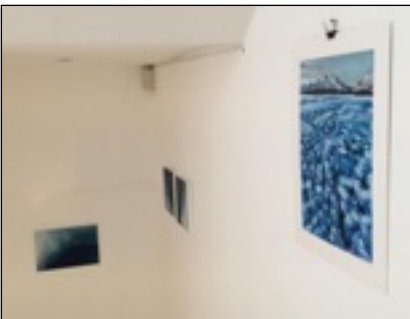
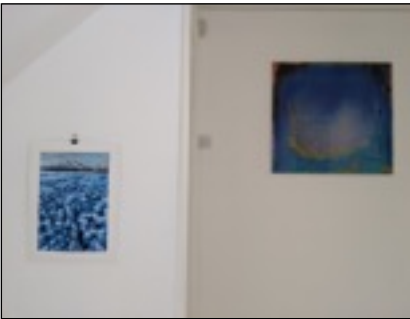
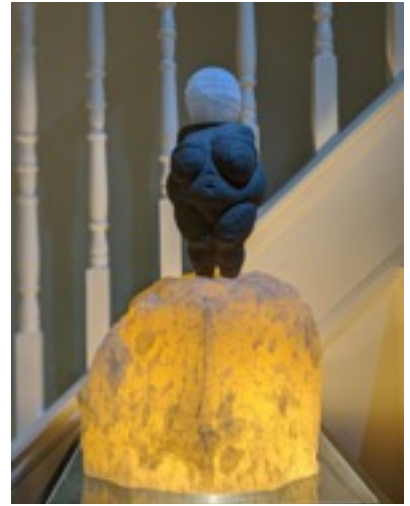
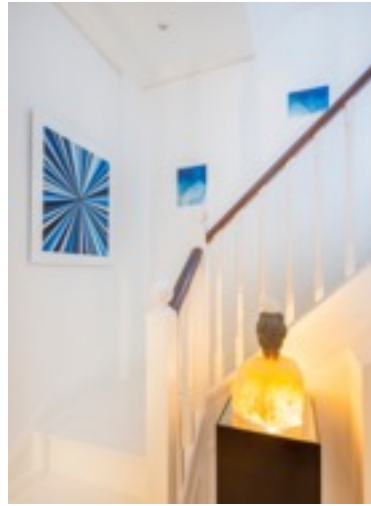
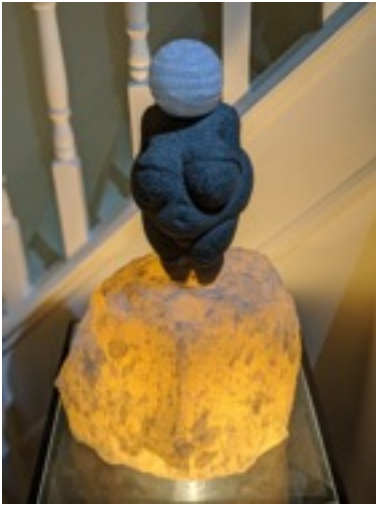


**Artists Hamish Mackie, Simon Allison, Nancy Cadogan and Emma Levine**

## SOME INSTALL SHOTS









So much gratitude to our BLUE angel Andrea Hamilton,  
and her wonderful team at A H STUDIOS  
**Thank you**



