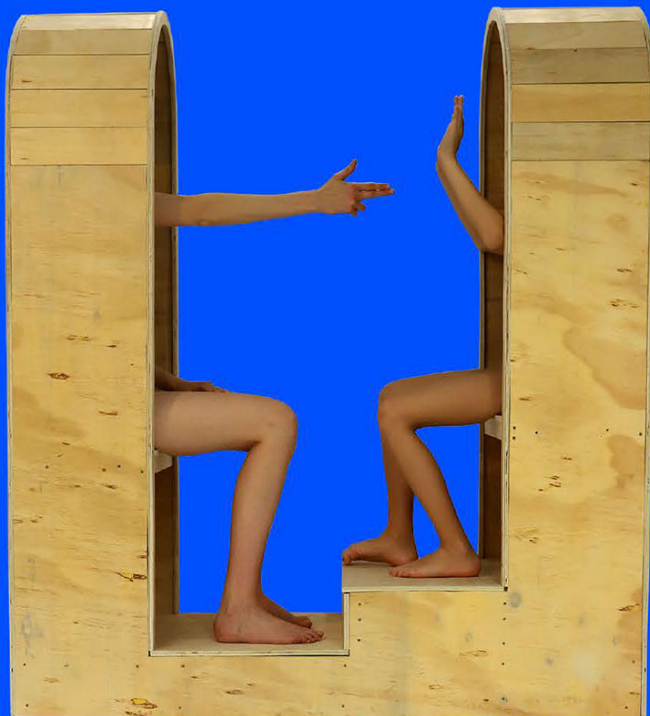


Birth Rites Collection

# Summer *School*



*Online*

*June 2025* 11th - 2nd July

*In-Person* University of Kent

*July 2025* 7th-10th

Leni Dothan, The Motherchild Machine n.7, 2019 Photographic prints. Commissioned by Procreate Projects for Oxytocin19. Courtesy of the artist and Birth Rites Collection.

Birth Rites Collection's Summer School is a unique programme of lectures, workshops, seminars and one-to-one tutorials. Four intensive days will introduce you to the collection and facilitate a dialogue between you, your practice, this years themes and the artworks. The course is led by artist and BRC Curator, Helen Knowles and artist Dr. Leni Dothan.

The course will empower you to articulate your own practice and responses to the collection in a supportive environment whilst exploring critical perspectives in the field of birth.

Midwives, academics, curators, artists, medics, health professionals, art historians, policy advisors and the general public interested in childbirth through the lens of art, are all welcome. As a participant, you will enter the course with your own skill set and finish, with bespoke visual, textual, auditory, photographic, filmic and/or performative material, to be used thereafter in your own future work.

Workshops will explore the aesthetic, ethical, political and visual discourses of birth via text, film, and performance. In addition, this year we present a unique opportunity to engage with a curated selection of works from the collection that are not ordinarily accessible to the public. In a dedicated space (in person & online), these pieces will enrich participants' engagement of the summer school themes.

Through lectures by leading artists in the field, we will introduce different perspectives to initiate in-depth discussions.

#### THEMES INCLUDE:

- Navigating mortality from preterm birth to post-partum
- Artistic responses to preterm birth
- How the collection informs and unpacks different perspectives in midwifery, medicine and education, and its potential to improve practice and policy
- The Collection's impact on feminist art practices and the rehabilitation of visual discourses of birth into art history
- Censorship of artworks on birth, institutional responses, ethics and the law

#### In-person course

University of Kent, Canterbury Campus,  
10.00 am - 17.00 pm, July 7th -10th  
(with some late evenings).

#### Cost

£650 per person / £500 concession -artists,  
students and low-income.  
15 places

#### Online course

Wed evenings  
19.00-21.30pm (BST) June 11th- July 2nd  
& Sat afternoon  
14.00-17.00pm (BST) June 28th

#### Cost

£550 per person / £400 concession

Deposit of £100 to secure a place  
There is one bursary place.

e: [helen@birthrites.org.uk](mailto:helen@birthrites.org.uk)  
[www.birthritescollection.org.uk](http://www.birthritescollection.org.uk)  
Book Now



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