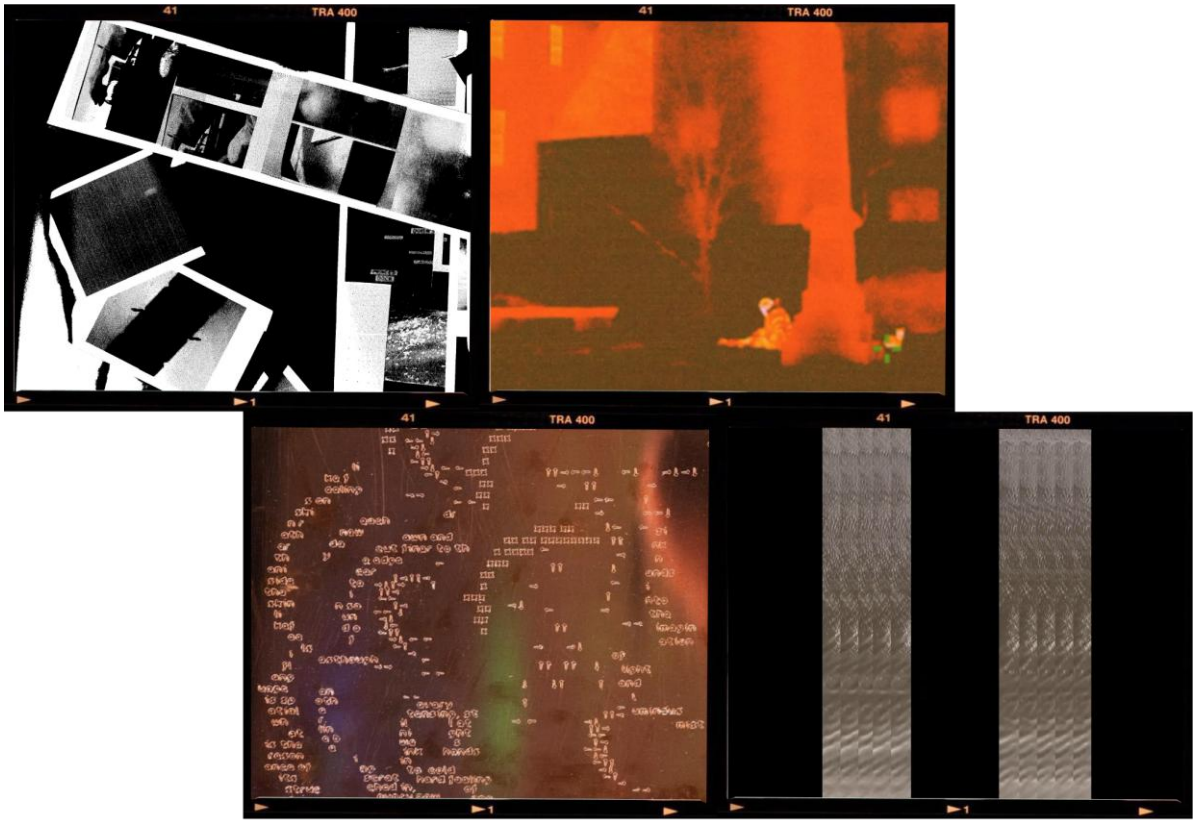
# River is/as

RIVER is/as




## Easy Read Exhibition Guide

## Part 2: About the Artworks

The Exhibitions Group

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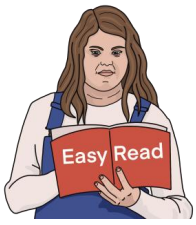

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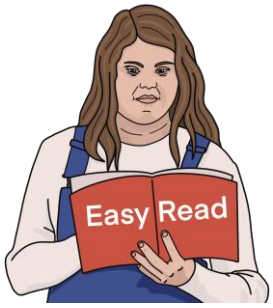
# About this guide




This is an Easy Read guide to the artworks in the River as/is exhibition.

You can read it if you want to learn more about an artwork and the artist who made it.

You do not have to read it to enjoy the artwork.

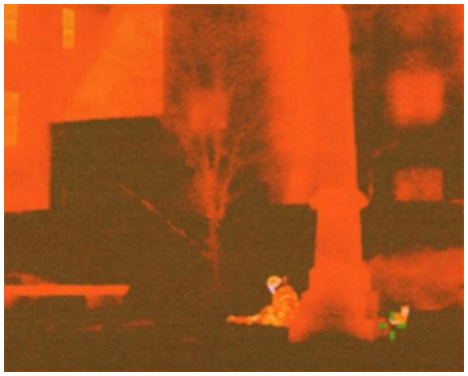
You can just look, listen, and experience the artworks in your own way.

Some artworks might make you feel sad or angry.

If you feel upset, you can stop and take a break.

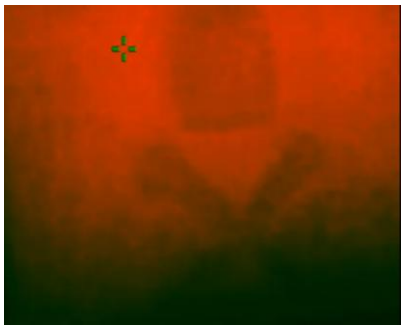
# Artists in Room 1

## Matthew Cosslett

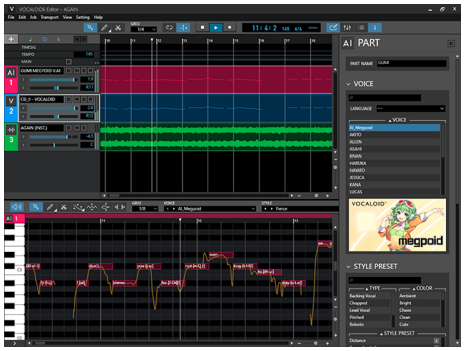


Matthew Cosslett's artwork is a video. It uses a special camera that shows heat instead of normal pictures.

The artwork looks at everyday places and things around the River Clyde, but in a strange way.



Some things are hard to see clearly, and the pictures come and go.

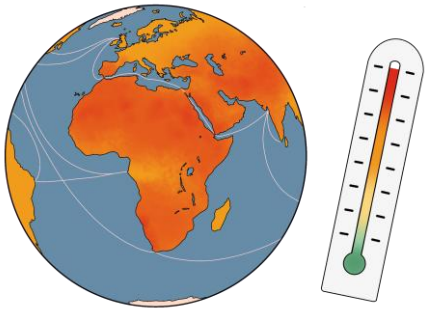



The sound is also strange, with different voices and music mixed together on a computer.

The artwork shows that we don’t always see everything clearly, even with technology. And that there is more going on in the city than we realise.

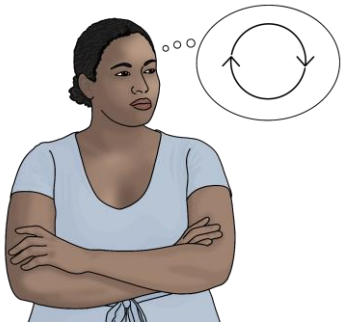
# Maria Howard

Maria Howard's work is a video and installation.

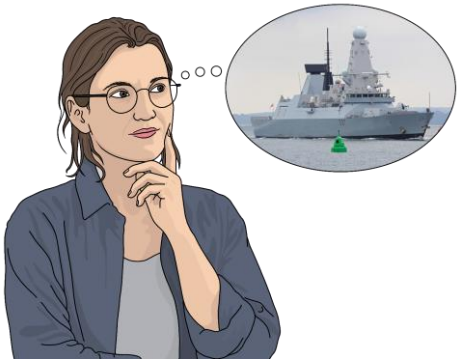


It is about how the River Clyde is linked to colonialism and climate problems.

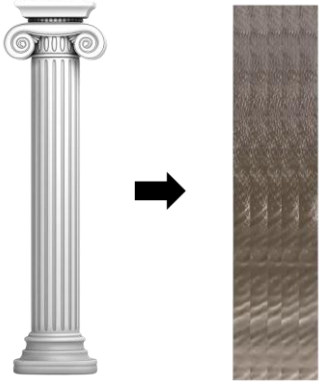
It shows how bad ways of doing things, like taking from others, keep happening again and again.



This makes it feel like things are stuck and not changing.



She uses poetry, sound, and pictures to show the river in a new way. Instead of the usual calm or pretty view.



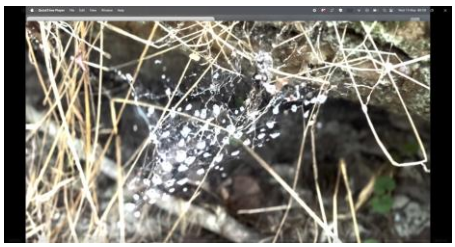
She also turns the river into the shape of a **column**, like a pillar. But the column is coming apart.

# Artists in Room 2

## Zsuzsanna Ihar

This artwork is a film installation. There are three films running at the same time.

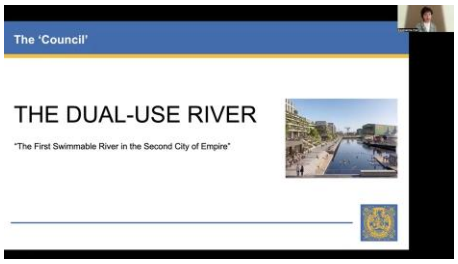
In the first film, a person travels down the river on a paddleboard. Along the way, they see strange and mixed images. For example:



- nature

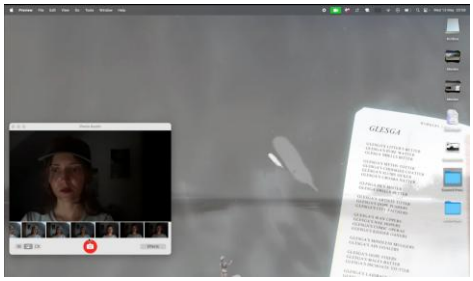
- Thing left behind from industry

- modern city plans and ideas




The second film is a pretend video from the Council. The artist acts like someone giving an official presentation about future plans for the River Clyde.

The film makes fun of ideas about turning the riverside into a stylish tourist area.



The third film is a talk by the artist. She explains how she feels about the river.

The installation is about how the river has been changed by different plans, industries, and businesses. Many of these did not work well or were not finished.

It also looks at how the river is used for different things at the same time:

- fun activities, like paddleboarding, and

- industry, like building weapons

The river has many layers:

- dreams about making it look modern and beautiful

- real problems like decay, pollution, and failed projects

## Extense

**Extense** is a pair of artists, Dianne Burdon and Clara Hancock. They made this artwork together.

This artwork uses sound and pictures to think about old nuclear power stations on the River Clyde.

It looks at what happens after these stations close, especially the dangerous waste they leave behind.

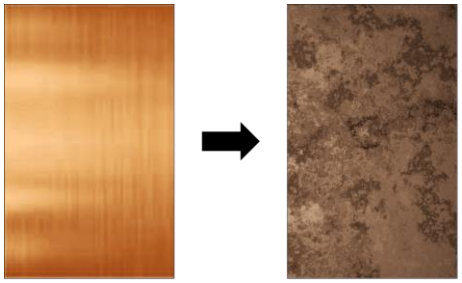
This waste can last for a very long time.

The artists ask:

- How do we warn people in the future about this danger?

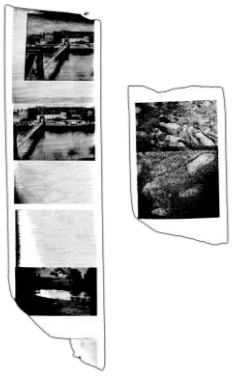
- How do we send messages that will still make sense many years from now?

They create warning symbols, sounds, and patterns to imagine how this could work.

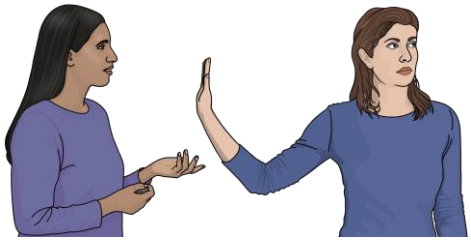


They also use materials that rust and break down to show how things change over time.

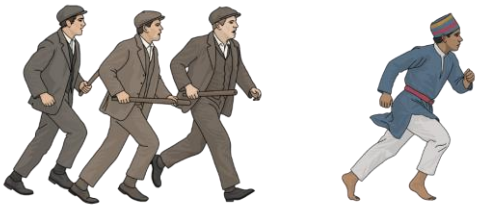
## Camara Taylor



Camara Taylor's artwork is a storyboard for a film that he did not get to make.

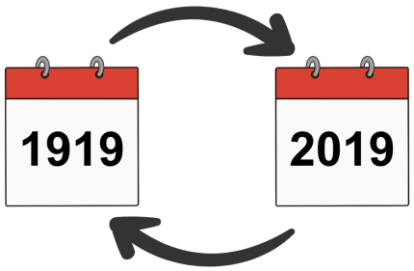


The work is about racism linked to the River Clyde.



In 1919, a group of white shipyard workers attacked Black, African, Chinese, and South Asian sailors in Glasgow. This was called the Broomielaw Race Riots.

In 2019, a Black man died when he jumped into the River Clyde. The police were chasing him.




Camara connects events from 1919 to 2019, showing how history repeats itself.

## Conneffluents

**Conneffluents** is a pair of artists, Jac Common and Katy Lewis Hood. They made this artwork together.

This artwork is like a small science lab in the gallery.

It contains real water from the River Clyde, where **organisms** are growing.

**Organisms** are tiny living things. Many are so small we cannot see them.

The artwork is about looking closely at the river in a new way.

The artists will also lead 2 workshops.

In workshop 1, you can go to the River Clyde to collect some water.

In workshop 2, you can:

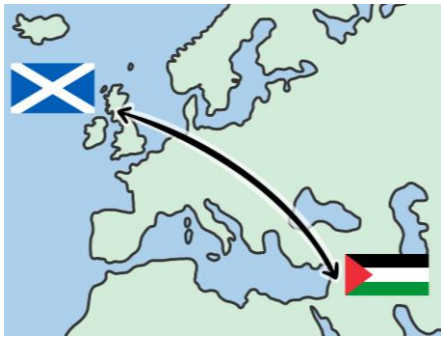
- look what grows in the river water
- write poetry about it

You can join one or both workshops.

## Sonia Levy and Bint Mbareh

This is a sound work.

It brings together voices and sounds from the River Clyde and places in Palestine.



The artists show how places far apart are connected by war and industry.

For example, ships built on the River Clyde can be used in wars in other parts of the world.

You can listen to the sounds and think about these connections, and imagine more peaceful futures.