



Project

timber has been specified for both the structure and external cladding, reducing embodied energy and harnessing the skills of local craftsmen. The extension to the Old School House stands as a testament to Bindloss Dawes' continuous successful integration of contemporary design within historic settings. The project not only respects the heritage of the original building but enhances it, combining the architect's contemporary design with that of their clients', and resolving the long-term problems of the original building conversion, to create a home that will endure for years to come. Combining careful detailing and contemporary construction methods, the building is of its time, whilst being sensitive to its setting and context. George Dawes, Director, Bindloss Dawes said, "Unlike suburban house extensions, the countryside often provides a wonderful opportunity to work with the full 360 degrees of a building. The Old School House occupies a beautiful corner of Somerset, and so we wanted to capture the sun as it passes around the house, as well as enjoying the best views over the countryside."

Fawn Ma, Project Architect, Bindloss Dawes said, "The difficulty architects often face on a project like this is achieving quality of execution. We were lucky to work with skilled craftspeople and builders who shared our scrupulous attention to detail. In our view, this attitude is what really elevates a project



and we are very grateful to Duncan and his building team for helping us to realise our vision."

[www.bindlossdawes.com](http://www.bindlossdawes.com)  
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Photography by Francesca Lovene



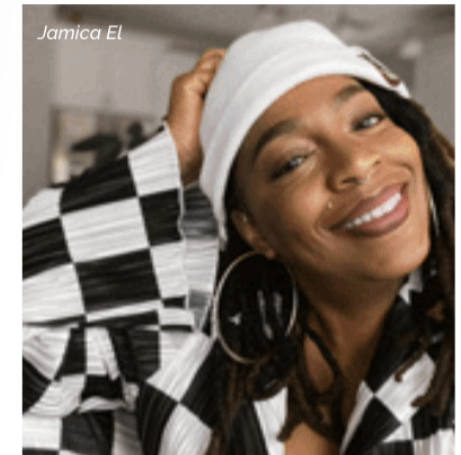
Preview

# VISIONARY EXHIBITION

Blessed Foundation has announced the group exhibition Fields of Vision, which runs from 24 July to 19 September at The Bacon Factory in Vauxhall, London.



Ai Xia



Jamica El



Alfredo Salazar-Caro

The Fields of Vision exhibition highlights the intersection of art and sustainability, showcasing contemporary solutions that address our environmental and societal challenges.

Sustainability is a popular topic in the public-facing debates surrounding the field of innovation. However, its integration into the existing mainstream business and political models remains marginal. The term itself is broad and signifies an ethical stand, rather than a defined set of rules to follow. In its principle, sustainability means responsibility and care for the current and future communities and environments in envisioning, design, production and recycling processes. Such an approach stands in opposition to extractivism, a mass removal of resources for financial profit. While the net-zero carbon emission goal set in the UK for 2050 might give the impression that sustainable practices are yet to be invented, the Fields of Vision exhibition highlights existing solutions spearheaded by three artists: Ai Xia, Jamica El and Alfredo Salazar-Caro. Their work points to three considerations crucial for sustainable production - purpose, possibilities and imprint - of an individual, community and nature. A Moment in Eternity, 2023, by Ai Xia, an interactive media artist and game designer, is a mixed reality experience created in the aftermath of a work-related injury. It addresses, amongst other topics, human strengths and limitations in the context of an internalised pressure of productivity. The work serves as a powerful, meditative tool creating space

and time to regain the purpose of self and one's footprint. Jamica El, artist, researcher and founder of muvboard, in her installation The Waiting Room Experience, 2034', presents the audience with a new quality to the one usually associated with hospital and administrative waiting rooms. Instead of a space that can be draining energy, El designs an area where local communities have an opportunity to recharge, reflect and share ideas and strategies for their future. The ideas that occur in the space are encouraged to be shared on the Community Visioning Board. Waiting is not a passive activity here, but one focused on self-organisation



Alfredo Salazar-Caro, Biocompatible Architecture: Indigenous visions of the future of human dwelling, 2024, installation of 3-D printed maquettes made of clay, prototypes of housing for the future

and strengthening of agency. In the Afrofuturistic spirit, the future is understood here as a field of regained opportunities rather than decay. Alfredo Salazar-Caro, a creator and world-builder, contributes to the exhibition Biocompatible Architecture: Indigenous visions of the future of human dwelling, 2024, a mixed-media installation featuring architectural visualisations and 3D prints made of locally sourced clay. Salazar-Caro investigated the feasibility of biocompatible architecture in a range of environments, focusing on the high desert and jungle areas of Colombia, Mexico and Saudi Arabia. The work is an outcome of several research trips, where he learned about ancestral traditions of making housing from locally sourced materials. Practices that, as he points out, not only respect but also help regenerate the earth. Fields of Vision exhibition brings the breadth of experience of these US-based artists into the space of Blessed Foundation in London. In the spirit of solution-driven programming, the show will equip the visitors with a range of strategies to reposition themselves to their means of production, and their relationship with society and nature for more sustainable futures.

Visit the Fields of Vision exhibition from 24th July to 19th September at The Bacon Factory, 6 Stannary Street, SE11 4AA.

[www.blessed-foundation.org](http://www.blessed-foundation.org)  
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