



**LEEDS
ARTS RESEARCH
CENTRE**

KEF

ZARA WORTH

THINK OF A DOOR

(TEMPTATION/REDEMPTION)

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK DATA COLLECTION

February 2023

The University's Research & Enterprise Service has requested information on knowledge exchange and engagement with the public and communities. Please complete the form below and return it to Professor Simon Morris (S.DC.Morris@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) and Dr Tina Conkar (t.conkar@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) by **21 February 2023**.

Many thanks for your support with information gathering for this submission.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
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| School: | Leeds School of Arts |

Please use the template below to detail information on all projects you have undertaken since 1 January 2019 that involved public and community engagement. Please use one form per project.

| | |
|--|--|
| Project Title: | Think of a door (temptation/redemption) |
| Project Date(s): | 7 October 2022 – 22 January 2023 |
| URL Link to Project: | 'Sin' at York Art Gallery: https://www.yorkartgallery.org.uk/exhibition/sin/ 'Think of a door' on the artist's website: https://www.zaraworth.com/think-of-a-door-temptationredemption.html 'Thinking-through images' on the York Art Gallery Website: https://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk/whats-on/events/thinking-through-images/ |
| Brief Description of Project (250-1000 words max.) In the field below please give a brief outline of the project and what it entailed. | |
| <p>Made using ersatz materials 'Think of a Door' is a reflection on the morality of social media inspired aspirations. Combining forms and motifs copied from religious artefacts and interiors with imagery from social media and smartphones, these forms and the work's title evoke the image of a door – a metaphor shared by religious art and smartphones to describe their mediation between tangible and intangible space. According to belief, surpassing such thresholds might mean transgression or transcendence. Remixing imagery including Rodin's 'Gates of Hell', Ghiberti's 'Gates of Paradise', and York Minster's interior with smartphone bezels and a halo selfie filter draws an equivalence between these images and their narratives of temptation and redemption. Tangled together, it's unclear whether we are looking at hands from a religious icon, Anna Delvey's Instagram account or a 12th century York jail cell lintel, in an analogy for the confusing and contradictory values of social media culture.</p> <p>'Think of a door (temptation/redemption)' was created for the exhibition 'Sin' at York Art Gallery.</p> | |

Sin has permeated life since the earliest days, but the story of its relation to art has not been told before. Defined universally as a regrettable fault, offence or omission, sin is something that everyone can relate to. Bringing together works of art that span centuries, the exhibition explores changing ideas about sin and morality. Sin invites visitors to reflect on their own ideas about sin and society today, including attitudes to crime, alcohol, the body, the environment and more.

The exhibition includes eight exceptional paintings from the National Gallery's collection, including 'Venus and Cupid' by Lucas Cranach the Elder and 'The Woman Taken in Adultery' by Rembrandt, as well as works on loan by Tracey Emin ('It was just a kiss') and Ron Mueck ('Youth'). Alongside them, a selection of works from York Museums Trust enables visitors to discover connections to York Art Gallery's own collections. These works range from a medieval stone-carving of demons devouring the soul of a sinner to Sarah Lucas's sculpture 'NUD 4'. A new work specially created for the exhibition by Yorkshire-born artist Zara Worth ('Think of a door (temptation/redemption)') will also be on display.

Inspired by the theme of sin, the work of York Art Gallery's annual Teenage Art School, which was produced in partnership with Mediale, has been captured in a multi-channel film installation for the exhibition. Sitting alongside the loans in the exhibition, this work captures the teenagers' commitment to the concepts explored and shows how art can help us make sense of the world.

'Thinking-through images' is a live dance intervention from Creative Producer and dancer Tala Lee-Turton and Creative Photographer Xenia Bakshinskaya in collaboration with and in response to Zara Worth's installation Think of a door (temptation/redemption). Over the course of the day Lee-Turton and Bakshinskaya will use movement and live image-making to catalyse the installation's potential for participation. Informed by detailed hand movement that Lee-Turton draws upon from an array of contemporary dance practitioners, and by posing, in the contexts of vogue, ballet and yoga, the performances will manifest elements of the installation's imagery, borrowing hand gestures from the religious architecture, icons and social media content which are combined within Worth's sculptural and pictorial compositions. Through simultaneous image capture including Instagram live recordings, photography and videography, 'Thinking-through images' reveals Worth's installation as an image to be participated in.

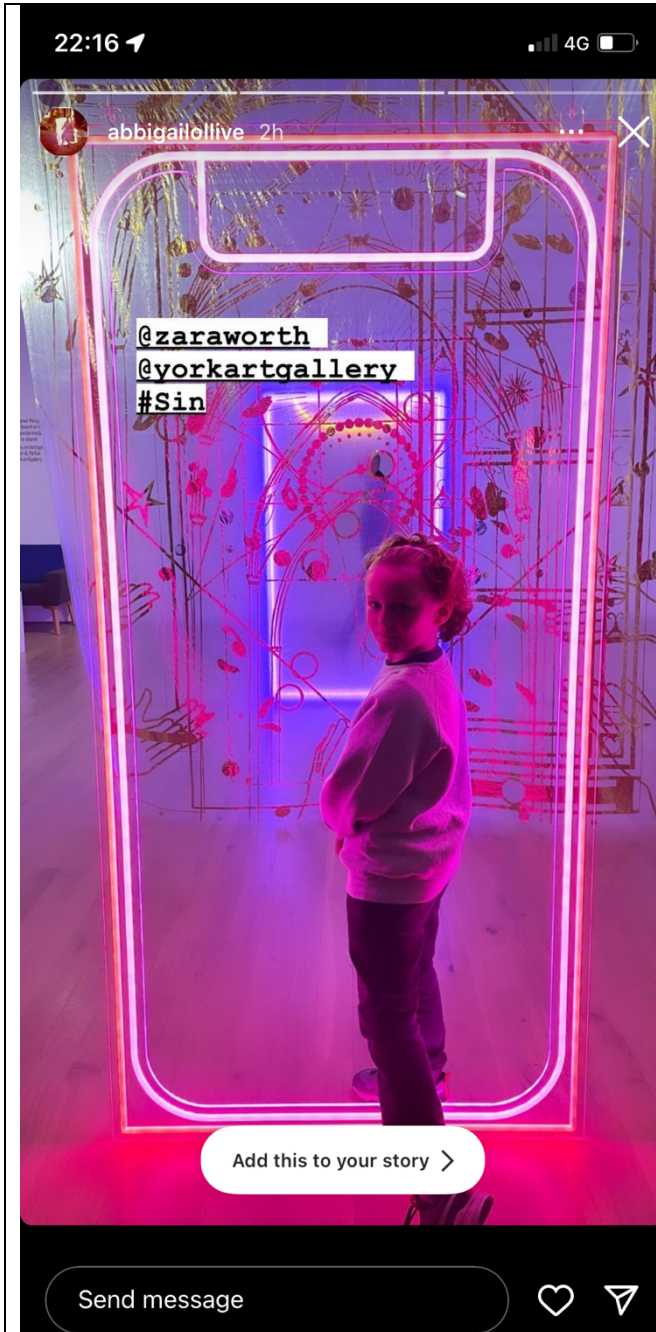
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|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Organisations Engaged with: Please list the names of any organisations engaged with, such as Schools or Community Groups.</p> | <p>York Art Gallery: https://www.yorkartgallery.org.uk Tala Lee-Turton Productions: https://talaleeturton.com Zavod Studios: https://www.zavodstudio.co.uk</p> | <p>Total participants: Please give an approximate figure for the number of people who engaged with your project.</p> | <p>7391 exhibition visitors 68 people engaged with the digital filter created for the exhibition</p> |
| <p>Knowledge Exchange Outcomes: If relevant, in brief, please describe any knowledge exchange outcomes such as new approaches to working with a community.</p> | <p>Encouraging interactive public engagement with contemporary art installation.</p> | | |
| <p>Quotes</p> | | | |

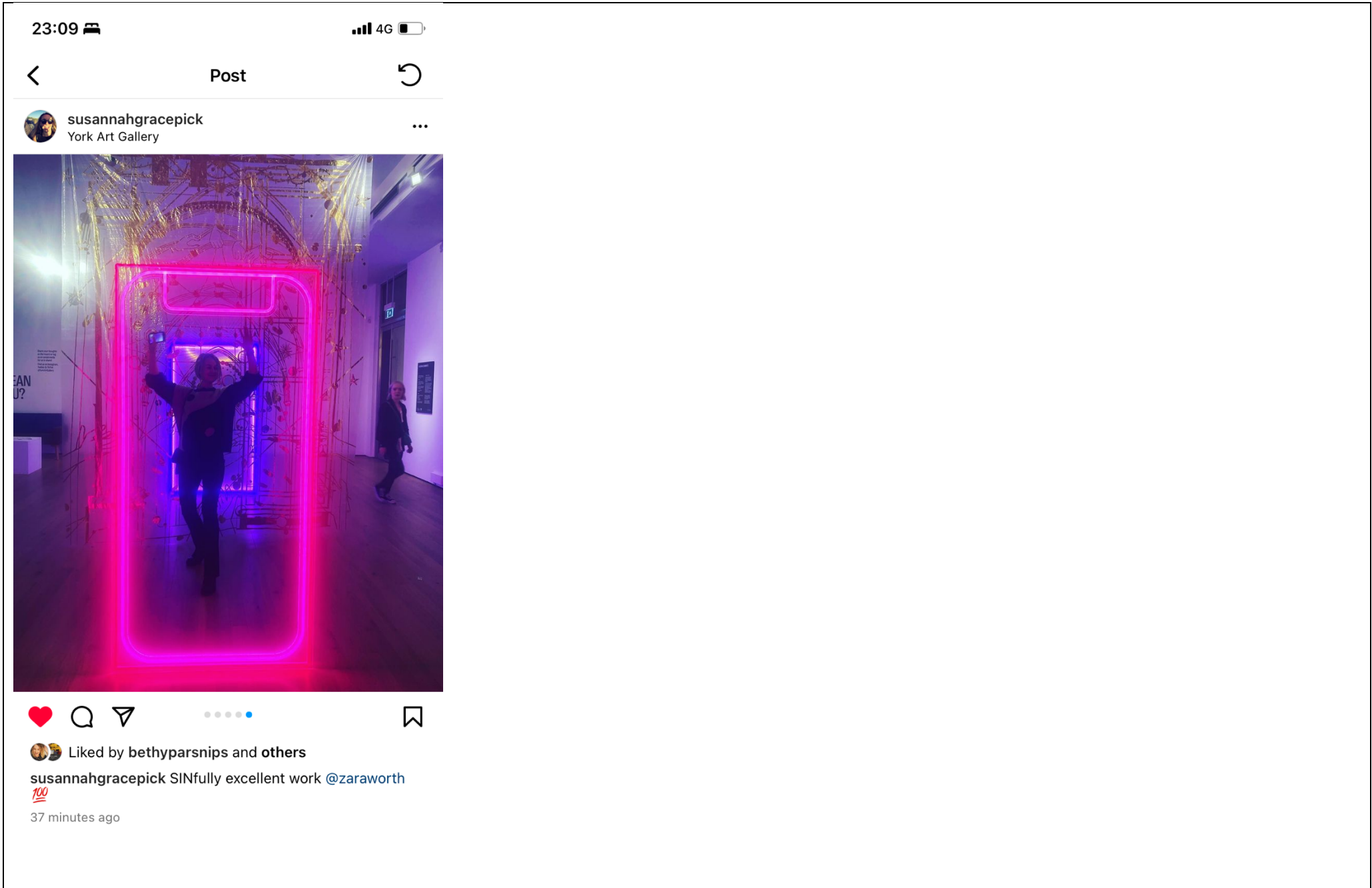
In the field below please include any relevant quotes that you would like to share which evidence the knowledge exchange and engagement your project received.

Images

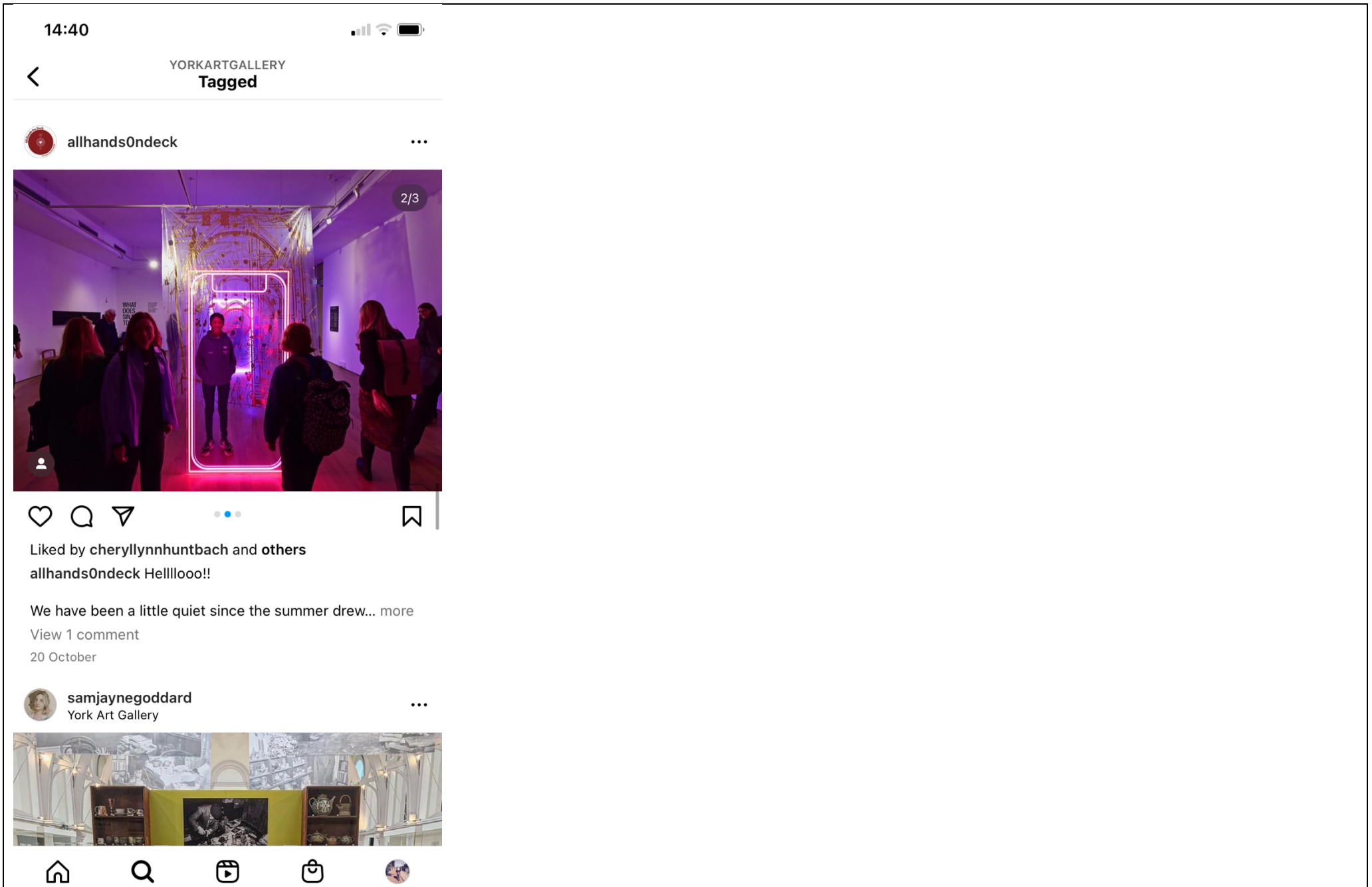
In the field below please include any relevant images you would like to share.











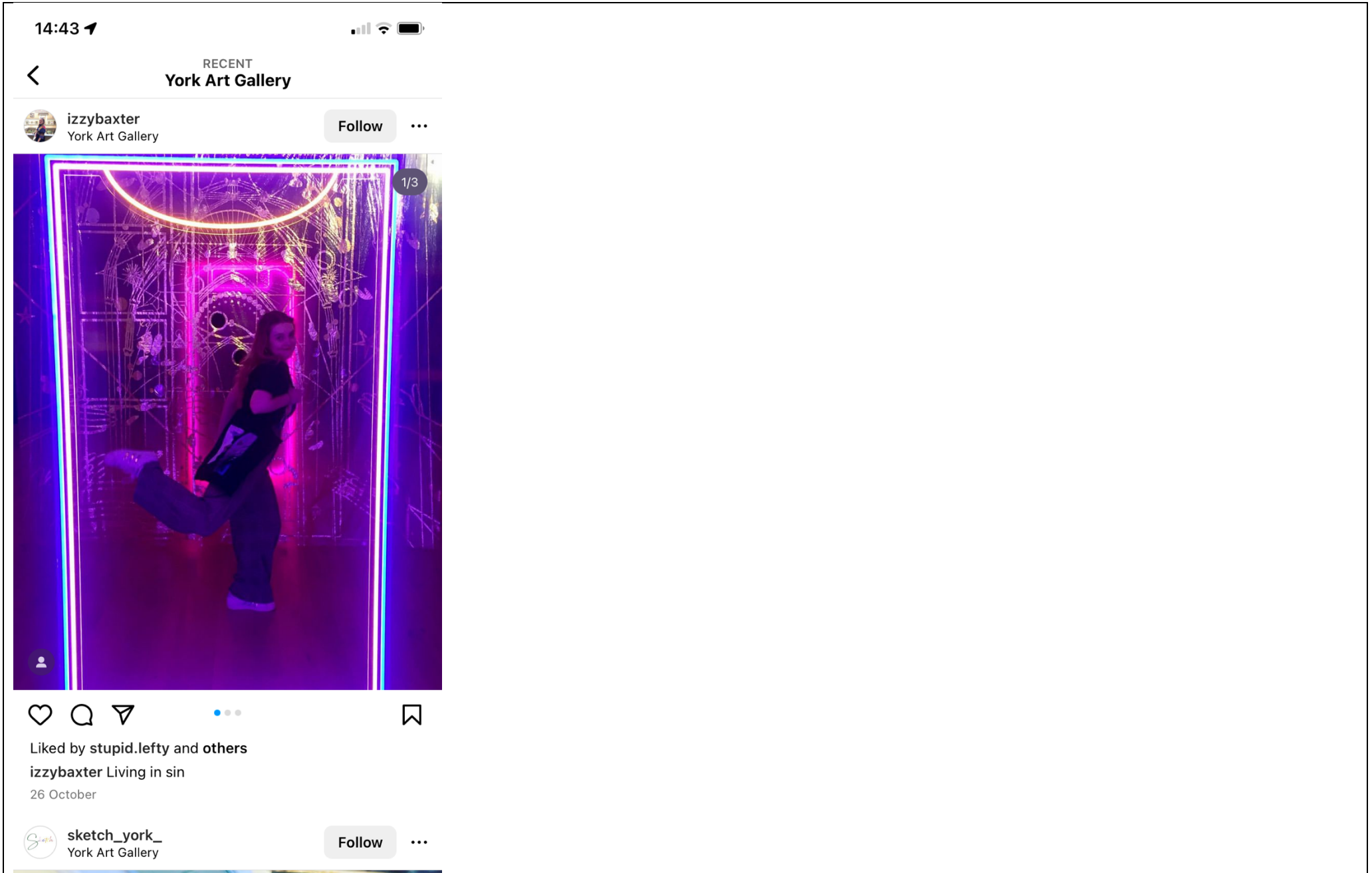




Image credit: Anthony Chappel-Ross



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