

# Embodied Knowledge: Traces of Our Making

by Create + Connect

*Friday 6th February - Sunday 8th March 2026*

Create + Connect is an initiative dedicated to supporting women through creativity, collaboration, and community. Based in Hampshire, the programme delivers monthly workshops, engages local artists and skilled makers as workshop facilitators, and offers a platform for women to exchange skills and build connections.

This exhibition showcases the outcomes from a series of workshops held at God's House Tower during the last six months, including Madhubani Painting with Moly Gupta, Introduction to Weaving with Alice Hume, and Exploring Clay led by Ren Wooldridge. The programme was documented by Mihaela Ardei.

Together, these works carry the marks of exploration, exchange, and collaboration. They invite viewers to consider creativity as a form of communication—revealing the connections formed between people, materials, and place. *Embodied Knowledge* refers to the understanding that emerges through physical engagement, practice, and shared creative experience. *Traces of Our Making* values both the material outcomes of making and the community shaped through the process.

Create + Connect is a project led by Ren Wooldridge, a multi-disciplinary artist with a strong commitment to community-engaged practice, while her studio work is grounded in ceramic sculpture. Ren is a recipient of 'a space' arts' experimental bursary scheme, Pitch Your Project.

Pitch Your Project offers a creative, community-focused initiative in the SO postcode £2000 to fund new activity. Projects are selected by the community, for the community, at a live event where applicants pitch their ideas to an audience who then vote for the projects they'd like to see awarded the funding.

As part of 'a space' arts' mission to become an anti-racist organisation, this round of the Pitch Your Project bursary scheme was specifically for global-majority led initiatives. The live event took place in February 2025 and was hosted at God's House Tower, in partnership with Black History Month South.

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## **International Women's Day Events and Exhibitions**

We are hosting a series of exhibitions & events this year to celebrate International Women's Day 2026. See below for details.

### **Memories of Fear: The Artwork of Gerda Cohen**

*Thursday 5th March - Sunday 8th March*

An exhibition of work by Gerda Cohen, a child refugee from Nazism and local art teacher, born in Vienna to Polish-Jewish parents in 1925. Held in the University of Southampton's Special Collections, this collection of paintings explores themes of identity, motherhood, grief and trauma.

## **Celebration Event - Memories of Fear: The Artwork of Gerda Cohen**

*Friday 6th March, 2pm - 4pm*

Join us as we celebrate the work of Gerda Cohen and hear from Maddie Walch, Doctoral Researcher and Parkes Outreach Fellow at Parkes Institute for the study of Jewish/non-Jewish relations, University of Southampton.

## **Pitch Your Project: International Women's Day 2026**

*Friday 6th March, 6pm - 8pm*

Join us for this live event and hear from local community-focused, women-led projects in the city as they bid for a £2,000 bursary and an exhibition at God's House Tower in March 2027.

## **Artist-led Tour - Embodied Knowledge: Traces of Our Making with Ren Wooldridge**

*Sunday 8th March, 2pm - 4pm*

A special celebration to mark the end of the exhibition, featuring a tour of the show by lead artist, Ren Wooldridge, followed by an informal Q&A in the GHT Café.

### **Event Links, Accessibility and Extra Content**

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