

The YBA class of 2019

Young, cool and seriously talented, these are the ones to watch. Clara Strunck meets the creatives shaking up London's art scene

CLARA STRUNCK | Thursday 26 September 2019 07:00 |  0 comments



The art world's rising stars shot on location at the Design Museum, London (Ryan Saradjola)

Head down to Saka Maka in Brockley on a Friday night and you may well run into sculpture star Jala Wahid, picking up an Indian takeaway.

Or painter — and Wahid's fellow graduate of the Royal Academy — Lewis Hammond, who you might just see buying a samosa or two.

If you're in Soho, keep an eye out for Joshua Gordon, film-maker to fashion's finest. He'll be tucking in to steak haché and chocolate mousse at Brasserie Zédel alongside his model girlfriend, Jess Maybury.

When it comes to artistic inspiration, you'll find Somaya Critchlow checking out the Rubens at the National Gallery, also a favourite museum of Antonia Showering — when she's not playing board games or working until the early hours in her Hackney studio, that is.

There's no doubt about it: these young artists have the lowdown on what's good in London, and they themselves are some of the city's finest assets.

Catch them at galleries big and small over the coming months, from Maximillian William to TJ Boulting, and don't forget to look out for their names at Frieze next week, where Hammond and Joy Miessi will be showing off their wares. But don't expect their pieces to hang around for long — it's safe to say this bunch, and their work, are going places.

PERES PROJECTS

George Rouy



All clothing, George's own

George Rouy is a multi-talented man. The Brixton-based painter, 25, has already had solo shows of his hazy, colourful nudes at J Hammond Projects and Hannah Barry Gallery since graduating from Camberwell College of Arts in 2015. But his girlfriend, photographer Harley Weir, rates his cooking. 'She says I make a really good paella,' he laughs. The pair are working on a group show, curated by Jefferson Hack, opening at 180 Strand next month. 'It's actually worked really well — we're very similar.'



Stutter, 2017, by George Rouy

Best piece of advice for those starting out? Don't compromise yourself or your vision.