

# GALLERY GUIDE

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## Garry Fabian Miller: Adore...

The word adore feels like a hug, which is fitting for an exhibition of work that feels a bit like a hug too. From the way Garry Fabian Miller uses colour in his photography to make the small things in nature appear bigger – reminding us how small we are in comparison – to his tactile tapestries that make you want to wrap yourself in his art. His work pulls you in and says: 'no worries, I've got you, spend some time here.'

At Rising Arts Agency we talk a lot about embodiment, which is just a fancy word for feeling something in your body. Like when you get to a place where you feel at home; it goes deeper than just a physical sensation. The spaces we try and create at Rising also aim to enable a sense of belonging in a world that can often feel unwelcoming of difference. We believe in a future where anyone can be an artist and find a 'home' for their art. Just like Fabian Miller, who found a home for his art at Arnolfini when he was just nineteen.

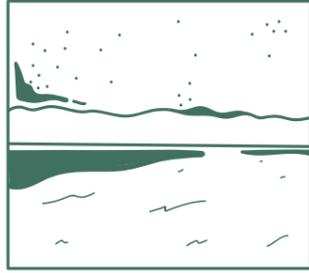
We invite you to walk around the galleries and find moments of comfort and home for yourself. This home might be amongst the artists that have inspired Fabian Miller's work, or the personal objects and belongings from his home and studio on Dartmoor. Or, it could be in the darkness found in gallery one, reminding us of the photographic darkroom where Fabian Miller has spent so much of his life creating colour and light.

Wherever it is, we invite you to find the place that you adore and spend some time there. Make yourself comfortable, and then, when you're ready to leave, think about how you can create that feeling for others in the worlds in which you live.

*Love Jess Bunyan and Euella Jackson, Co-Directors of Rising Arts Agency, a youth-led agency advocating for sector and social change, who have been based at Arnolfini since 2022.*

Collaboration lies at the heart of Garry Fabian Miller's work. We have invited some of our community partners to suggest different ways of exploring the exhibition below.

If you'd like to get creative with your responses, please help yourself to blank sheets of paper next to the guides or on Arnold the Art Cart, who lives on the second floor.



### HORIZONS

Let's Make Art invite you to stand in front of a photograph of the sea, let your eyes find the place where sea meets sky. Use your hands like binoculars (or ask staff for a pair) and travel into the image; what can you see? What other horizons or meeting points exist in your world?



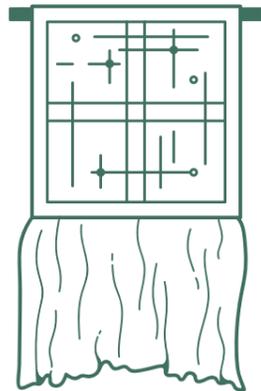
### NATURE

creativeShift would like you to think about how light affects the way you feel? How does light change the way colours look in plants and nature? What have you noticed about the light as we move into spring?



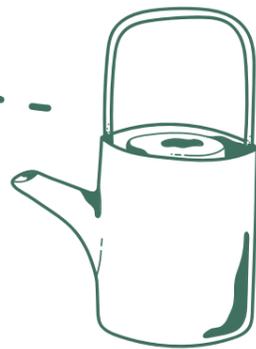
### EXPLORE

Art in Motion would like you to spend time exploring how the artworks make you feel. Do your feelings have a shape or a colour? Can you draw a picture or write a few words to describe your experience of looking at the work?



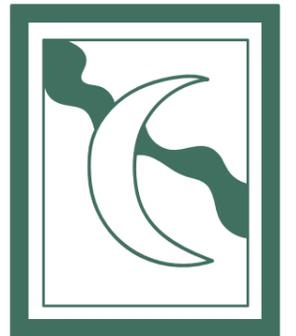
### COLOUR

Let's Make Art would like you to look at the the pink and yellow tapestry (in gallery three) and think about where colour comes from?



### CRAFT

Rising Arts Agency suggest spending time in gallery two, where you'll find prints and teapots, alongside rugs and tapestries. They would like you to think about the question 'who gets to be an artist and what gets to be called art?'



### NIGHT

Art in Motion invite you to spend a quiet moment inside the small, dark room in gallery one. Do the images make you feel calm, tearful, or perhaps joyful? Do they create a sense of awe and wonder? How does it feel stepping back out into the light?



### HOME

creativeShift invite you to look at photographs and objects from Dartmoor (in gallery four). Do you have an object that transports you somewhere special? Is there a particular place or somewhere you like to sit in your home that brings you joy?

**Can you think of a way that you can create something with someone else in your life? Think about the poets, potters, and weavers that Fabian Miller has worked with. Who would you like to collaborate with and what would you create?**

**Garry Fabian Miller has collaborated with many artists, makers, writers and thinkers. You can find out more about some of these collaborations below:**

Fabian Miller has worked with composer **Oliver Coates** since 2018 when they created the film *Last evenings*, featuring animated photographs and a soundtrack (performed live at the V&A in 2018). Coates has also released two new soundtracks for films made by the artist's son **Sam Fabian Miller** (showing on the second floor).

To coincide with the opening of *Adore* poet **Alice Oswald** has written a series of new poems, published by The Letter Press. Fabian Miller and Oswald have produced a number of publications together for this imprint, and in 2019 Fabian Miller designed the cover for Oswald's last collection of poetry, *Nobody*, published by Cape.

In 2014 Fabian Miller began working with **Dovecot Tapestry Studio** in Edinburgh, sharing their love of traditional craft processes. They have since collaborated on a

series of gun-tufted hearth rugs, including the rug *Golden Light* (in gallery two).

Fabian Miller began working with Bristol-based **Dash + Miller** and **Bristol Weaving Mill** (partner companies) in 2019. They have translated four of his artworks into tapestries using new and traditional techniques. Three of these tapestries can be seen in *Adore*.

Since 2020, Fabian Miller and photographer **Nicholas J R White** have been working on the *Crucible*, a project focusing on the small circle of Dartmoor that has provided inspiration for the last 32 years. White has been walking the *Crucible's* paths, creating new artwork (shown in gallery four) of the place both artists call home.

You can find out more about Arnolfini's own community partners and collaborators including **Rising Arts Agency**, **creativeShift CIC**, **Art in Motion** and **Let's Make Art** on our website.

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