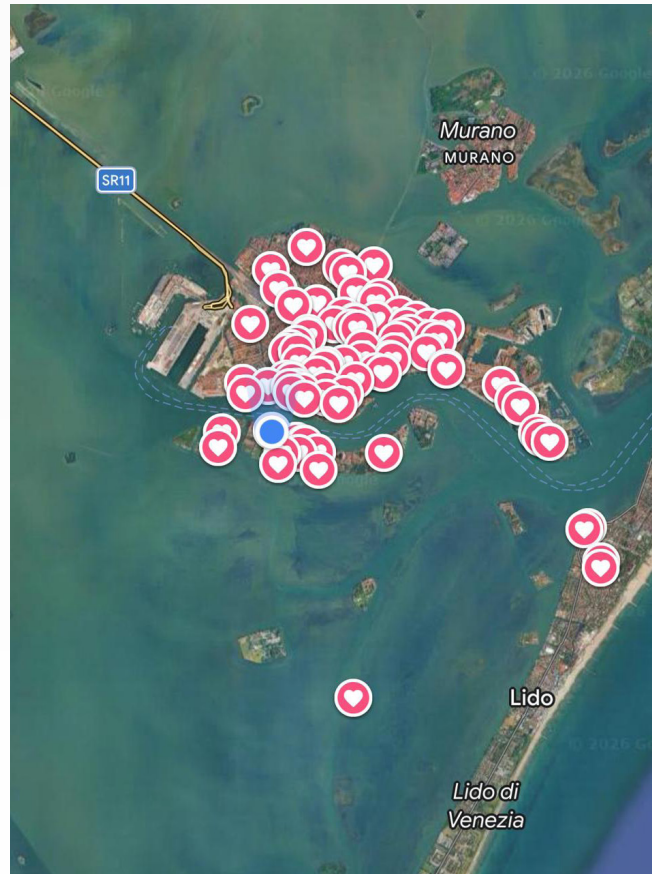


Lydia Ourahmane
5 Works
Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation, Venice

5 May – 22 November 2026
Opening: Monday 4 May, 4-8pm



Lydia Ourahmane will present a solo exhibition, *5 Works*, at the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation in Venice from 5 May to 22 November 2026, curated by Polly Staple. The exhibition will coincide with the 61st International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia.

Lydia Ourahmane is a conceptual artist whose installations, sculptures, moving image and sound works create situations that have consequences beyond the walls of the institution, while negotiating the terms within. Exploring landscapes of displacement and community, her work examines how the movement of objects and people is influenced by factors such as state restrictions and invisible barriers. Her recent presentations have involved the audience as material, subject and author.

Ourahmane's new commission follows a residency at the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation in Venice. One of the exhibition's central premises is that many of the artworks are created in Venice. Ourahmane has worked with Venetian craftspeople and technicians but also collaborated with organisations in the city of Venice and the surrounding region. These individuals and collectives continue to offer extraordinary expertise and comprise a thriving community, providing a concrete alternative to popular images of Venice as a city of tourism and in decline.

5 Works combines a wide range of visceral media – including, for example, antique sculpture moulds, church lighting and decommissioned bed linen – with traditional conceptual gestures such as the recontextualisation of found objects and the presentation of documentary process. Several works in the exhibition are the direct result of negotiations, transactions and exchanges specific to historic sites and activist associations in Venice including Poveglia per tutti, Bancolotto No. 10: Il Cerchio and LSG: Lavanderia Spolaore Giuseppe.

The island of Poveglia has become a muse throughout the making of the exhibition. Situated on the outskirts of the Venice lagoon and largely inaccessible, its history is steeped in myth. The island has recently however been reclaimed by the association Poveglia per tutti (Poveglia for all) which is transforming the site into a public park. A central object commissioned for *5 Works* is a fully functioning pier that will be transferred to Poveglia enabling public access by boat from the water to the land.

Ourahmane's practice is focused on the real politics of daily life as much as exploring how art itself is valued and produced, distributed and displayed. We are living in a new world order in which waste collapses into sublime abstraction for many but remains a brutal reality for others. This requires a shift in perspective. What then is the form for our present moment? At what point does art insert itself into reality? In *5 Works*, matter is always negotiating its terms.

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Notes to editors

LYDIA OURAHMANE

Born in Saïda, Algeria in 1992, Lydia Ourahmane is currently based in Venice. Lydia Ourahmane's solo exhibitions include *108 Days* at MACBA, Barcelona (2024); *Tassili* at Sculpture Center, New York, rhizome, Algiers and Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris (all 2022); *sync*, KW Institute of Contemporary Art, Berlin (2022); *Survival in the Afterlife*, Portikus, Frankfurt (2021–22); *Barzakh*, Kunsthalle Basel, S.M.A.K., Ghent, and Triangle, France (all 2021–22); *The you in us*, Chisenhale Gallery, London (2018). Her work has been featured in major biennials, including the 60th International Art Exhibition– La Biennale di Venezia (2024); the 15th Gwangju Biennale (2024); the 34th Bienal de São Paulo (2021); Manifesta 12, Palermo (2018); and the 15th Istanbul Biennial (2017).

Ourahmane received the Rosa Schapire Art Prize in 2024 and the Arts Foundation Fellowship Award in 2018. Her work is held in the collections of Tate, the Stedelijk Museum, FRAC Nantes, and the British Museum, among others. In 2026, Ourahmane's work will be included in presentations at Tate Britain, London; Castello di Rivoli, Turin; the Gothenburg Biennial; Galeria Municipal do Porto; and Rubaiya, Qatar.

POLLY STAPLE

Polly Staple is an independent curator based in London. She was previously Director of Collection, British Art at Tate; Director of Chisenhale Gallery; Director of Frieze Projects and Editor-at-Large of *frieze* magazine. Since 2000, Staple has played a significant role in shaping contemporary art discourse, championing emerging artists and contributing to the development of major art collections. She often collaborates closely with artists to realise new commissions, exhibitions, and publications to expand the definition of what contemporary art can be.

Staple is renowned for her award-winning programme at Chisenhale Gallery and significant projects with artists such as Ed Atkins, Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, Helen Marten, Camille Henrot, Ima-Abasi Okon, P. Staff, Mark Leckey and Hito Steyerl. The commissions she produced by Maria Eichhorn, Ed Atkins and Banu Cennetoğlu were recently recognised by *ARTnews* and *frieze* as three of the 'Best Works of the 21st Century'.

NICOLETTA FIORUCCI FOUNDATION

The Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation is a non-profit arts organisation that promotes experimentation in contemporary art and design, with a focus on interdisciplinary, site-specific, ecological, and community-oriented approaches. Founded by collector and arts patron Nicoletta Fiorucci, the Foundation operates between London, with its headquarters and exhibitions programme in Chelsea, and Venice, where a new venue dedicated to annual commissions was inaugurated in 2025 with a show by Tolia Astakhishvili curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist.

Structured as an archipelago of homes and spaces across Europe, the Foundation supports artists and cultural institutions through exhibitions, events, publications, and residencies. In 2025, it launched the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation Prize at Frieze London, supporting non-traditional media and unconventional forms of presentation at the fair, with Alex Margo Arden as its first recipient. Building on a decade of legacy from the Fiorucci Art Trust, the Foundation encourages unconventional approaches and the cross-pollination of radical ideas.

Nicoletta Fiorucci has a long-standing relationship with Lydia Ourahmane and Polly Staple. As a former headline supporter of Chisenhale Gallery's programme, Fiorucci supported the realisation of Ourahmane's solo exhibition curated by Staple at the Gallery in 2018. Ourahmane was a participant artist of Volcano Extravaganza in Stromboli in 2018, and in 2024 she realised Sibü, a site-specific sound installation for the Nicoletta Fiorucci Foundation London HQ. Ourahmane's work is held in the Nicoletta Fiorucci Collection.