CREATIVE UNIONS – A call to action
#CreativeUnions

As Prime Minister, Theresa May triggered Article 50 yesterday, we now look for new ways to maintain open creative collaboration across borders.

Creative Unions is an initiative of Central Saint Martins and the colleges of University of the Arts London (UAL) bringing together events, actions, and voices to demonstrate that creativity must operate across boundaries.

"The premise is that creativity by necessity and inclination works across borders – geographical borders, social borders, disciplinary borders. Creative Unions is a space where we can operate in an open and generous manner.
Creative Unions provides a platform where, against the post-everything tendencies, knowledge, expertise, truth and criticality are taken seriously, given a voice, and engaged with democratically. Over time, I hope that Creative Unions will become a gathering point for the cultural sector to make its multiple voices heard in order to demonstrate the transformative role that the arts and design can play in the current political scenes."

Professor Jeremy Till
Head of Central Saint Martins
Pro Vice-Chancellor Research, University of the Arts London

At a special event on Monday 27th April, Creative Unions will be launched to the students and staff of Central Saint Martins and UAL. They will be invited to make their mark and speak their mind, and offer creative solutions through proposals for events, performances, installations and design. These will be programmed throughout the 2017 – 2018 year to celebrate the creative spirit of openness, tolerance and collaboration.

The launch event will feature invited speakers, an open platform and the opportunity for creative protest across different media. In this spirit of openness, Central Saint Martins will be turned inside out by the 'CSM WALL', a ground-breaking augmented reality artwork by BA Graphic Design student, Oliver Vanes in collaboration with Holition. Accessed by smart phone, the Granary Square façade of the college will be transformed into a live and virtual public patchwork highlighting the creativity of our staff and students.

The Creative Unions badge will be applied throughout the year to projects which will be seen as exemplars of creative unions; crossing disciplines, boundaries and borders. In September 2017, the Central Saint Martins exhibition for London Design Festival will be entitled 'Creative Unions' and will bring together many of these projects and concepts.

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Central Saint Martins, UAL
Central Saint Martins, UAL (CSM) is internationally renowned for the creative energy of its students, staff and graduates with an exceptional reputation for educating foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and research students in arts, design and performance. CSM's award-winning campus at Kings Cross offers opportunities for creative collaboration and has provided an outstanding social scene for students.

Alumni include Grace Wales Bonner, Terence Conran, Peter Doig, Michael Fassbender, Gilbert and George, Antony Gormley, Craig Green, Tom Hardy, Jean Jullien, Christopher Kane, Helen Marten, Stella McCartney, Alexander McQueen, Morag Myerscough, Sandy Powell, Laure Prouvost, Raqib Shaw

CSM is part of **University of the Arts London** (UAL), an international centre for innovative teaching and research in arts, design, fashion, communication and the performing arts. The University is made up of six Colleges: Camberwell College of Arts, Central Saint Martins, Chelsea College of Arts, London College of Communication, London College of Fashion and Wimbledon College of Arts. www.arts.ac.uk/csm