
MARGARET MITCHELL - AN ORDINARY EDEN

A STREET LEVEL PHOTOWORKS TOURING EXHIBITION



An Ordinary Eden by award-winning photographer **Margaret Mitchell** explores the importance of home and belonging. For this project, the artist worked with individuals and organisations, including Shelter Scotland, and it tells a compelling story of precarity in relation to material and psychological welfare for a growing socially vulnerable demographic across the UK. Through photographing multiple individuals who have lived experience of homelessness, the work reflects on both the emotional and practical consequences of being without a permanent home.

Mitchell embarked on 'An Ordinary Eden' in 2019 through to 2023 as a long-term socially engaged approach working with individuals who have – in the past or present – experienced periods of homelessness and the consequences for their practical and emotional well-being. At the heart of this work is the assertion that we all need to belong, have safety and stability, and have roots and meaningful connections with others. Lives limited by circumstance often do not allow that to happen, resulting in life journeys neither chosen nor wanted.

The portraits not only reflect upon the personal story of those photographed but on the wider questions about the kind of society we want to create.

Margaret Mitchell is an award-winning photographer based in Glasgow. Her work ranges from exploring communities and children's worlds through to long-term projects on social inequality. Bridging the psychological and the social, her work explores the intricacies and complexities of people's lives, particularly emphasising place and belonging. She has exhibited widely including at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh (2017 & 2022) and at the National Portrait Gallery, London as part of the Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize (2014 & 2022). Her book 'Passage' (Bluecoat Press, 2021) reflects on a cycle of inequality, asking questions on the nature of disadvantage and privilege in a study over three generations. She works both on personal projects and commissions and her work has been featured in the Guardian, De Correspondent, and the New Statesman amongst others.



Lynsdey (2019)



Tam On His Balcony (2020)



Micheal (2020)



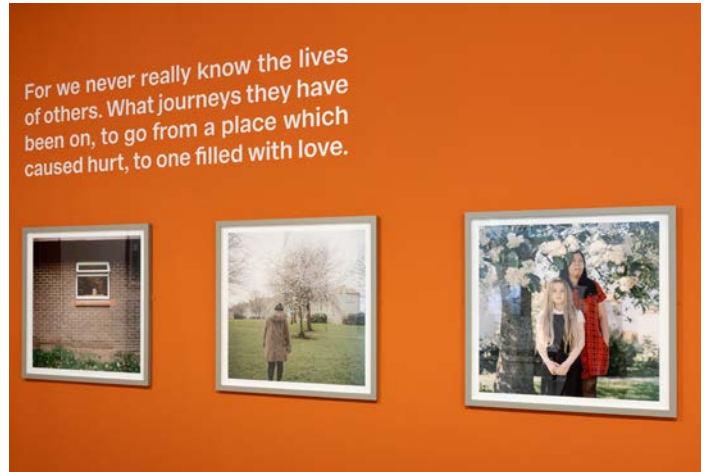
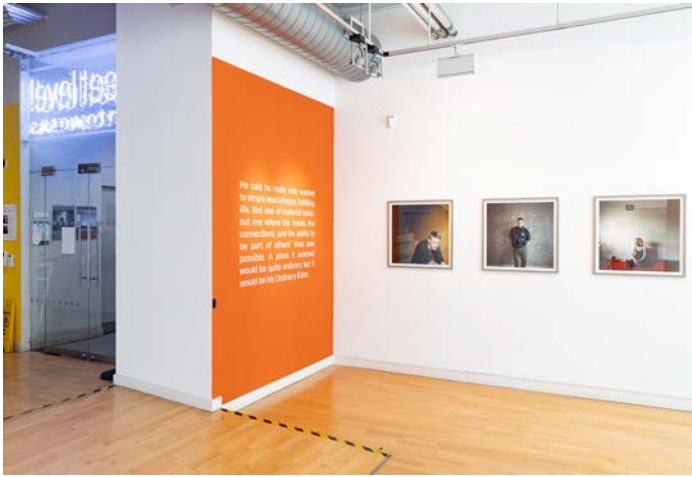
Daniel Close To His Homeless Hostel (2020)



Mark (2021)



Name Withheld (2022)





“Rather than grim scenes of hostels, rough sleepers and sleeping bags, her powerful collection of images focused on telling the stories of the people she encountered, as they navigate fractured lives without a place of their own or finding their feet in their first proper home.

Now gathered into a new exhibition, the portraits and the stories behind them offer a rare peak into the realities of everyday life for Scotland’s homeless population and raises poignant questions over the circumstances and traumas that combined to leave them without a roof over their heads.”

Susan Dick in The Herald

HIRE FEE

£4000 (Includes Artist Fee)

£3000 (Venue to provide Artist Fee)

SPACE REQUIRED

50 - 100 linear metres (maximum)

* Exhibition contents can be edited according to the exhibition space.

EXHIBITION CONTENTS

Framed Photographs

23x 70 x 70cm

9x 60 x 60cm

Loose Prints

3x 120 x 120cm

OPTIONAL

15 min A/V work supplied on USB

(Venue to supply own playback equipment)

Display case materials: Workbooks, participant notes, annotated work prints (Venue to supply own display cases)

Vinyl Wall text supplied as vector files

Colour code for orange wall paint

INSTALLATION

Framed Photographs - Mirror plated

Loose Prints - Double Sided Tape

TRANSPORT

One way transport (UK only)

EDUCATION

Hiring venues can adapt their own learning templates and practice accordingly.

SCAN FOR DIGITAL RESOURCES

Artist Walk & Talk Exhibition Tour

Narrated Exhibition Video

