

# Amba Sayal-Bennett: Geometries of Difference

PRESS RELEASE

22 September 2022 – 5 February 2023



## **Amba Sayal-Bennett: Geometries of Difference**

**22 September 2022 – 5 February 2023**

**Site-wide**

**Free**

This October, Somerset House presents a brand-new commission from London-based interdisciplinary artist **Amba Sayal-Bennett**. For her first public commission in the UK, Sayal-Bennett has created a new series of ten new sculptural reliefs spread across Somerset House, drawing inspiration from 18th-century architectural renderings of the building by its architect, **Sir William Chambers**.

Exploring how the British colonial imagination and imperialist attitudes of the time were encoded in the designs of Somerset House, Sayal-Bennett incorporates fragments of Chambers drawings - which were influenced by Greek and Roman architecture - to create contemporary geometric reliefs. The pattern-rich designs are rendered in powder coated laser-cut steel, resulting in futuristic sculptures that reflect on the past whilst looking towards the future.

The artworks feature in **Great Arch Hall, Seamen's Hall, Nelson Stairs, Stamp Stairs** and **New Wing Corridor**.

A map of the locations is available on the Somerset House website or can be collected in-person from **Seamen's Hall**.

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Amba will be giving a free in-person talk about her commission at the **Morgan Stanley Late at Somerset House with The Courtauld** on **19 October**, register for tickets at [somersethouse.org.uk](https://somersethouse.org.uk). Read more about Geometries of Difference in an [interview with Sayal-Bennett](#) on Somerset House's website.

Sponsored by Morgan Stanley.

### **FOR PRESS ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:**

[press@somersethouse.org.uk](mailto:press@somersethouse.org.uk)/0207 845 4624

**Address:** Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LA

**Transport:** Underground: Temple, Embankment / Rail: Charing Cross, Waterloo, Blackfriars

**Website:** [www.somersethouse.org.uk](http://www.somersethouse.org.uk)

**Somerset House Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/SomersetHouse](https://www.facebook.com/SomersetHouse)

**Somerset House Twitter:** @SomersetHouse

**Somerset House Instagram:** @SomersetHouse

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

**Dates & Times: 22 September 2022 – 5 February 2023**

**Tickets available via the website**

### **ABOUT SOMERSET HOUSE**

*Step Inside, Think Outside*

As the home of cultural innovators, Somerset House is a site of origination, with a cultural programme offering alternative perspectives on the biggest issues of our time. We are a place of joy and discovery, where everyone is invited to Step Inside and Think Outside.

From our historic site in the heart of London, we work globally across art, creativity, business, and non-profit, nurturing new talent, methods and technologies. Our resident community of creative enterprises, arts organisations, artists and makers, makes us a centre of ideas, with most of our programme home-grown.

We sit at the meeting point of artistic and social innovation, bringing worlds and minds together to create surprising and often magical results. Our spirit of constant curiosity and counter perspective is integral to our history and key to our future.

### **ABOUT AMBA SAYAL-BENNETT**

Sayal-Bennett's work combines drawing, sculpture, and installation with a research-based interest in the histories of the built environment. Inspired by the visual language of geometry and diagrams, and utilising 3D-modelling and production techniques, she creates colourful works with a contemporary aesthetic.

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Completing undergraduate and postgraduate History of Art at The University of Oxford and The Courtauld Institute, Sayal-Bennett subsequently completed a PhD in Art Practice and Learning from Goldsmiths. She is co-founder of [Cypher Billboard](#), an artist-run program that commissions artworks for billboards in London and is an Associate Lecturer in Visual Culture at UWE Bristol. She lives and works in London.

### **ABOUT MORGAN STANLEY**

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