

25 - 28 January, 2024

Galle Fort becomes a walkable gallery, as heritage properties play host to a curated exhibition of contemporary works.



Art Trail

Galle Fort, Sri Lanka

Look for the rooster icon (🐓) on each event to see which events are free to attend.

Do You Remember Me? Fabienne Francotte



25 January
10:00 - 13:00
Art Workshop

25 January
14:00 - 15:00 🐓
Curated Tour

The Fort Printers

Fabienne Francotte's work explores subjects that surpass media reports and news declarations, bringing to light the many inflictions and emotions faced by those confronting violence. Her exhibition showcases faces portrayed strongly, depicting emotion and feeling; often inspired by the individuals she encounters. She captures the chaos that lies within the external features of humans in her drawings

25 Thursday, January
10:00 - 18:00
Art Exhibition 🐓



ARTRA's Best of Emerging Artists 2023

Pulasthi Handunge, Mohammed Hathi,
Malki Jayakody & Mahela Pansilu

25 Thursday, January
17:00 - 18:30

Meet the Artists 🐓



Colourism

Malki Jayakody

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00

Art Exhibition 🐓

In her collection 'Colourism', Jayakody wields a myriad of mediums, such as watercolour, inks, oil paints, pencils and pens to illustrate the human race's battles with a range of "-isms" or ideologies associated with discriminatory practices.

Thambili House

Galle Fort through the Eyes of Edward Atkinson Hornel



Ismeth Raheem
& Azara Jaleel

26 January
11:30 - 12:30

Curated Tour 🐓

Galle Fort Hotel

Scottish artist Edward Atkinson Hornel (1864 - 1933) is internationally recognised for his intricate paintings of maidens in romantic woodland settings and portraiture. In exploring Hornel's photography, curator and art historian Ismeth Raheem and ARTRA Editor-in-Chief Azara Jaleel take guests on a guided tour of the exhibition depicting rural life in the early 20th century Ceylon.

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 17:00
Art Exhibition 🐓

100 Actresses
Charles Uzzell-Edwards



26 January
17:00 - 18:00
Curated Tour 🐓

The Charleston

This exhibition features graffiti-style portraits of one hundred famous actresses known for their beauty. Inspired by asking an Artificial Intelligence to make him a list of one hundred actresses to draw as part of his 'Nightmares Series' portraits, Uzzell-Edwards embarked upon this artistic behemoth with the following mantra in mind: "The AI suggested them, but did not create them. That was my job."

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00
Art Exhibition 🐓

ARTRA's Best of Emerging Artists 2023



(Pixel? Visual? SOMETHING Symphony)
Mahela Pansilu
27 January
11:15 - 12:15
Curated Tour 🐓

(Pixel? Visual? SOMETHING Symphony) beckons us to contemplate the symbiotic relationship between what our eyes perceive, what stirs within us, and the enduring imprints etched on our hearts.

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 17:00
Art Exhibition 🐓



Resilience & Resistance
Mohammed Hathi
27 January
11:15 - 12:15
Curated Tour 🐓

In 'Resilience and Resistance', Mohammed Hathi delves into the systemic oppression of women that has become part of the fabric of normality within communities worldwide, as well as in Sri Lankan society.

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 17:00
Art Exhibition 🐓

Galle Fort Hotel

Trunk Call - the Astrologer's Daughter

Juliet Coombe
27 January
10:00 - 11:00
Meet the Author 🐓



The Last Elephant

John Vincent
25 - 28 January
10:00 - 17:00
Art Exhibition 🐓

Galle Fort Hotel

Artist John Vincent's work captures elephants walking through Sri Lanka's paddy fields, with a baby elephant picking water lilies as offerings. Framed by ancient trees growing through rocks, the scene reminds us of the island's Eden-like beauty. Twelve colourful paintings on elephant dung paper inspire us all to act to protect these wonderful wild creatures before it is too late. Trunk Call - The Astrologer's Daughter by Juliet Coombe and John Vincent is a beautiful fairytale with a heart-rending message that elephants are on the 2023 list of the world's most endangered animals.

Charles Uzzell-Edward

27 January
14:00 - 15:00
Meet the Artist 🐓



Landesi

Charles Uzzell-Edwards, born in South Wales in 1968, is a graffiti artist known by the moniker 'Pure Evil'. In the early 1990s, he was one of the designers for Anarchic Adjustment with Alan Brown and Nick Philip and released electronic ambient music on Pete Namlook's FAX label, recording "Octopus" 1, 2 & 3 and 'Dada' (under the pseudonym Drum Machine Circle) solo. He also produced 'A New Consciousness' and 'Create' 1 & 2 with Pete Namlook, recorded "Supergroup" with Thomas Bullock, and 'Audio' with Tetsu Inoue and Daimon Beal.

Sri Lankan Modern & Contemporary Art Magazine, ARTRA's Latest Edition 'Galle Fort in the Contemporary'



Chevaan Daniel, Channa Daswatte, Azara Jaleel & Jagath Weerasinghe
27 January
16:15 - 17:15
[Magazine Launch](#)

30 Leyn Baan Street

Galle Fort is a symbol of Sri Lanka's complex past and its architectural legacy. Azara Jaleel, Editor-in-Chief of ARTRA Magazine, chairs a timely discussion on the thematic significance of the latest edition of ARTRA Magazine, delving into the Fort's cultural significance and enduring appeal through the lens of art and architecture.



Serendipity Vineet Vohra



28 January
11:30 - 12:30
[Curated Tour](#) 🐓

Thambili House

Vineet Vohra's exhibition displays the soul of his street photography. By capturing photographs of people, animals and scenes in media res, Vohra endeavours to relay the essence of serendipity as he understands his unsheltered intention. Serendipity through this catalogue of photographs makes the familiar into something poetic, and at times even mythical, combining factors such as proximity, similarity, intuition, direction and closure.

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00
[Art Exhibition](#) 🐓

ARTRA's Best of Emerging Artists 2023



Reflections
Pulasthi Handunge
28 January
10:00 - 11:00
[Curated Tour](#) 🐓

'Reflections' is a collection of works that delve into Handunge's perspectives on Sri Lanka's recent economic crisis. Through this collection of paintings, the artist conveys the mounting societal pressure to migrate amidst surging inflation and an escalating economic collapse, as the fleeing of thousands of other countrymen from an increasingly uncertain future contributes to a mass exodus.

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00
[Art Exhibition](#) 🐓



Poverty and Prosperity
Kopalapillai Mathiskumar
28 January
10:00 - 11:00
[Curated Tour](#) 🐓

Inspired by Lucknow, India, where he is currently pursuing his Master's in Creative Painting, Mathiskumar's exhibition serves as a window into his evolving artistic sentiments. Where he once utilised pigment ink, watercolour, and oils to explore the poignancy of man's relationship with nature, Mathiskumar now wields repurposed fabric scraps and poly bags in a reinvented form of a painting style which remains rooted in his mixed-media origins.

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00
[Art Exhibition](#) 🐓

The Fort Printers

Pure Evil Drawing Club Charles Uzzell-Edward



28 January
14:00 - 15:00
[Kids Art Workshop](#)
(Ages 6 - 12)

The Fort Printers

Discover street and graffiti art styles in a workshop led by Charles Uzzell-Edwards, a globally exhibited graffiti artist from London. Participants will have the opportunity to dwell on and discuss their spirit animals, before bringing them to life through creative drawings. Artwork will then be displayed as part of the Festival's Art Trail.



Mirissa Hills

27 January
10:00 - 18:00

Open House 🐓

Just a few minutes from Weligama Bay, Mount Cinnamon at Mirissa Hill is a brilliant example of the idiosyncratic style of renowned architect C. Anjalendran, a spirited modernist who draws on Sri Lanka's rich vernacular traditions in his authentic approach to architecture (ARTRA Magazine, Architecture of Anjalendran Edition 62, 2022). The villa - a design destination in itself - also showcases the owners' extensive art collection. A gallery runs the length of the house, featuring works by Sri Lankan and international artists. Spot pieces by Ivan Peiris of the '43 Group, Muhanned Cader and Druvinka, amongst others. Particular highlights include a sculpture of a phoenix by young Chinese artist Zhang Zhaohong and an intricate screen, designed by Laki Senanayake and entitled 'The Enchanted Forest'.



Jetwing Lighthouse

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00

Open House 🐓

Step into the Jetwing Lighthouse Hotel to marvel at legendary Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa's interpretation of post-modern minimalism. As you enter, you will be spellbound by the sculptural staircase embellished by ornate bronze and copper balustrading by renowned artist Laki Senanayake depicting the historic battle of Randeniwala (1630) between Sri Lankan and Portuguese soldiers (ARTRA Magazine - Works of Laki Senanayake, Edition 64, 2023). Further, admire pieces by acclaimed artist Barbara Sansoni upon the backdrop of the entrance, and those of Ena de Silva in the ceilings of the hotel's Coat of Arms Bar & Cardamom Café.



Galle Fort Hotel

25 - 28 January
10:00 - 17:00

Open House 🐓

For enchanting glimpses of bygone Ceylon, visit the Galle Fort Hotel's striking exhibition 'A Scottish Artist in Ceylon 1907'. Curated by renowned art historian Ismeth Raheem, the exhibition showcases photographs by famed Scottish artist Edward Atkinson Hornel (1864 - 1933). Gaze at more than 40 of Hornel's photographs of the island, ranging from the famous pearl fisheries of Sri Lanka's northwestern coast to those of Galle Fort itself, some of which are featured in ARTRA Magazine's Galle Fort in the Contemporary (Edition 66, 2024). The photographs are part of the E. A. Hornel collection in the custody of the National Trust for Scotland.



Women's Histories of Sex Work: Narratives of conflict, courage and survival

26 - 28 January
10:00 - 18:00

Open House 🐓

'The Women's Histories of Sex Work' shares narratives of women who have worked in sex work during, and as a result of the Sri Lankan civil war. These narratives highlight the complexity of their lives: the social stigmatisation, sexual violence and economic challenges that they have faced, as well as the simple joys, sisterhood and the empowerment they feel for having an independent income. The narratives highlight the need to support women sex workers to share their histories, and to amplify their collective voice towards accessing justice and a secure working environment.

Lanka Living Gallery