

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MARIA EICHHORN: '5 WEEKS, 25 DAYS, 175 HOURS'
23 APRIL – 29 MAY 2016

Contents

- I. **Why is Chisenhale Gallery closed?**
- II. **How can I visit Maria Eichhorn's exhibition?**
- III. **I need to contact Chisenhale Gallery urgently – what can I do?**
- IV. **How long will Chisenhale Gallery remain closed?**
- V. **Have all Chisenhale Gallery staff withdrawn their labour? What are the staff doing if they are not working?**
- VI. **When will the gallery be open again? When is the next exhibition?**
- VII. **Are there any talks or events in conjunction with Maria Eichhorn's exhibition?**
- VIII. **Where can I find more information about Maria Eichhorn's exhibition?**

Questions and Answers

I. **Why is Chisenhale Gallery closed?**

Chisenhale Gallery is closed as part of the current exhibition, *5 weeks, 25 days, 175 hours*, a new commission by artist Maria Eichhorn. At Eichhorn's request Chisenhale Gallery's staff have withdrawn their labour for the duration of the exhibition.

Following a site visit to Chisenhale in July 2015, which included a discussion with Chisenhale staff exploring their working lives, Eichhorn has produced a two-part work examining contemporary labour conditions. The exhibition, *5 weeks, 25 days, 175 hours*, began with a one-day symposium on Saturday 23 April, addressing ideas raised by the project. Following this symposium, staff then withdrew their labour at Eichhorn's request.

Although the gallery is closed, you do not have to enter the gallery to experience Maria Eichhorn's exhibition. There are multiple opportunities for audiences to engage with Eichhorn's exhibition, as outlined in response to Question II below.

II. **How can I visit Maria Eichhorn's exhibition?**

Maria Eichhorn's exhibition *5 weeks, 25 days, 175 hours* takes the form of an idea that operates in the public sphere. The work is constituted not in the empty gallery but in the conversations and ideas that are generated around the project and in the free time given to the staff and what they choose to do with it. Eichhorn's project directly confronts audience expectations of the artist, the artwork and the gallery, generating discourse rather than producing objects or images.

The exhibition began with a one-day symposium on Saturday 23 April, addressing ideas raised by the project. The symposium featured lectures by Isabell Lorey and Stewart Martin, and was chaired by Andrea Phillips. It included a discussion with the audience, in which Eichhorn participated.

Audiences can access audio recordings from the symposium alongside a free publication on our website throughout the exhibition. Please see the links below.

For more information about the symposium please [click here](#).

For audio recordings of the symposium please [click here](#).

To download the free publication featuring specially commissioned essays by the symposium participants, a discussion with Chisenhale Gallery's staff and an interview with Maria Eichhorn, please [click here](#).

To leave your feedback about the exhibition please [click here](#).

A sign installed outside the closed gallery explains the nature of the exhibition. Anyone contacting the gallery by email or phone will receive an explanatory out-of-office email or pre-recorded voicemail respectively.

III. **I need to contact Chisenhale Gallery urgently – what can I do?**

If you need to contact Chisenhale Gallery urgently during Maria Eichhorn's exhibition (Saturday 23 April – Sunday 29 May) you can email 5weeks25days175hours@chisenhale.org.uk or call 020 8981 4518 and leave a voicemail message. This email account and voicemail messages will be checked every Wednesday and any urgent enquiries will be dealt with as promptly as possible.

If you need to address any urgent matters regarding Chisenhale Gallery's premises, please contact Andrea Davidson, manager of Chisenhale Art Place Trust, andrea@chisenhale.co.uk or on 020 8981 1916.

For media and communications enquiries please email Hannah Gompertz at Chisenhale Gallery's media agency, SUTTON, Hannah@suttonpr.com.

IV. **How long will Chisenhale Gallery remain closed?**

Maria Eichhorn has asked that all staff withdraw their labour from Chisenhale Gallery for the five-week duration of her exhibition. The gallery and office will be closed from Sunday 24 April until Sunday 29 May.

V. Have all Chisenhale Gallery's staff withdrawn their labour? What are the staff doing if they are not working?

During Maria Eichhorn's exhibition the following employees would usually be working at Chisenhale Gallery: the Director, Deputy Director, Exhibitions and Events Curator, Offsite and Education Curator, Development Coordinator, Gallery Assistant, Finance Manager, Exhibitions and Events Assistant, Offsite and Education Assistant and Front of House staff. None of these staff members are working during Maria Eichhorn's exhibition.

Maria Eichhorn has not imposed any restrictions on what staff members do while they are not working. There are no guidelines or rules and staff members are not required to report on their free time.

VI. When will Chisenhale Gallery be open again? When is the next exhibition?

Chisenhale Gallery's office will reopen and staff will resume work on Tuesday 31 May.

The gallery will be open to the public for Yuri Pattison's exhibition from Thursday 7 July until Sunday 28 August, Wednesday to Sunday, 12–6pm.

Please join us for the opening of Yuri Pattison's exhibition on Wednesday 6 July, 6:30–8:30pm. For more information on Pattison's work, please [click here](#).

VII. Are there any talks or events in conjunction with Maria Eichhorn's exhibition?

As with all Chisenhale Gallery's exhibitions, the talks and events programme is tailored to suit the nature of the exhibition.

The symposium held on Saturday 23 April expanded on ideas within Maria Eichhorn's exhibition and the audience participated in the debate. To listen to a recording of the symposium please [click here](#).

VIII. Where can I find more information?

To find out more about Maria Eichhorn's exhibition please [click here](#).

If you have a non-urgent enquiry please email the gallery after Eichhorn's exhibition, from Tuesday 31 May. The email address for general enquiries is mail@chisenhale.org.uk.

Please note that from Sunday 24 April until Monday 30 May, emails sent to mail@chisenhale.org.uk will be deleted. For any urgent matters during this time please contact: 5weeks25days175hours@chisenhale.org.uk