



EXHIBITIONS

Autonomy

Showing in the Learning Gallery



	Free
	10:00 - 17:00
	National Glass Centre Learning Gallery

Additional information

[Access Information](#) 

This exhibition showcases work made by autistic young people, living in Sunderland. The 16- to 25-year-olds have taken part in an eleven-month project entitled *Autonomy* which has enabled social connection through creative activity. The overarching aim is to ensure that young autistic people have the freedom and opportunity to collaboratively enjoy creative and cultural opportunities and celebrate their unique qualities and preferences.

Young people became involved with *Autonomy* through partnership with Sunderland College and through Sunderland Culture's weekly open-access social arts group *Special Interests Club*, held at Arts Centre Washington. Documented through photography portraits by Simon Green of Luminary Photography CIC, the participants shared and explored their own special interests and collections.

The group worked alongside photographers Michael Davidson and Nicola Maxwell, to create sandcast glass sculptures using objects they value. They have also worked alongside National Glass Centre curatorial team to understand the importance and purpose of museum collections. Working alongside animator Sheryl Jenkins, the group have also created their own stop-motion animations.

Autonomy has been supported by the Association of Independent Museums (AIM) Connected Communities programme which is funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Know Your Neighbourhood Fund, through Arts Council England



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