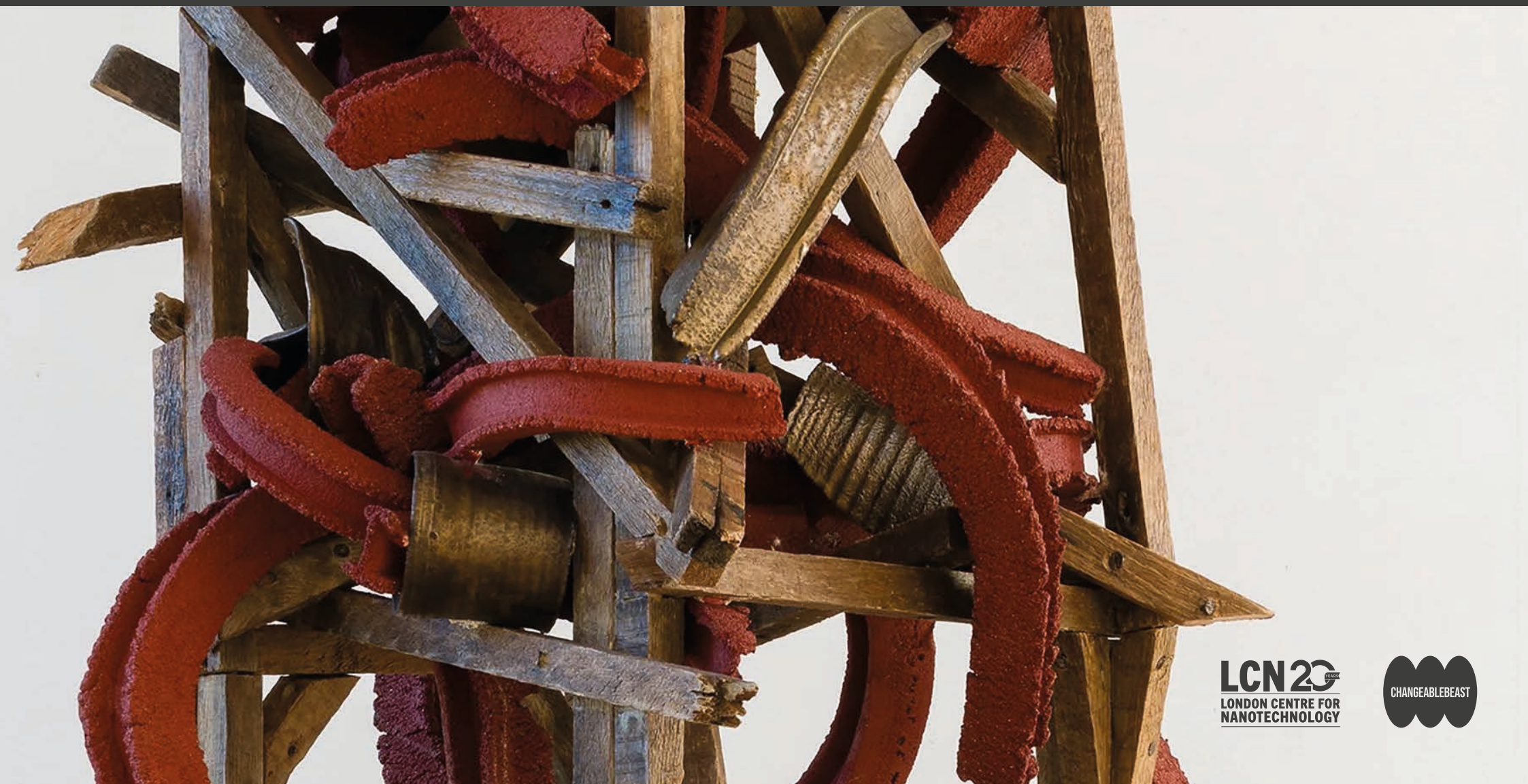


MATERIAL ENCOUNTERS

Artists and scientists
collaborating to
transform cutting-edge
nanoscience into new
forms of creative inquiry



LCN20
LONDON CENTRE FOR
NANOTECHNOLOGY



ARTISTS

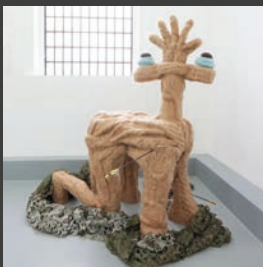
Eveleigh—Evans

Eveleigh—Evans are a London based artist duo who pursue a post-disciplinary, research-driven practice. Producing sculpture, installation, extended painting and print, they work with unconventional materials from forever chemicals to bio-matter in the pursuit of a universal language of alchemical minimalism.



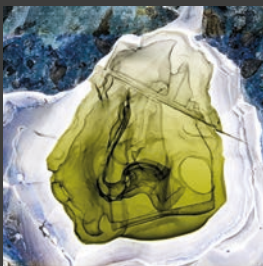
Chuting Lee

Chuting is a London-based Taiwanese artist specialising in sculpture and performance. She channels her thoughts and feelings into her art, capturing moments of intensity through the fluidity and plasticity of materials.



Ian Dawson

Ian's artworks are fuelled by an ongoing dialogue with practitioners from other fields of material practice. His exuberant sculptures are created from 3D prints which amalgamate into colourful post-digital explosion of matter. He is also co-programme leader of MASS Sculpture Programme, and co-director of The Material Lab at Winchester School of Art.



SCIENTISTS

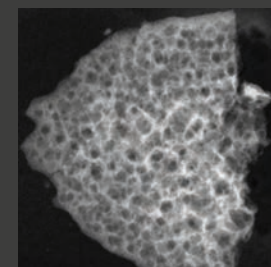
Sandrine Heutz

Sandrine is a Professor of Functional Molecular Materials at Imperial. She is Head of the Materials Department and co-director of the London Centre of Nanotechnology. Her work focuses on the growth, characterisation and optoelectronic properties of molecular semiconductors, which include famous pigments such as phthalocyanines.



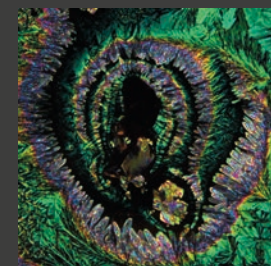
Camille Petit

Camille is a Professor of Materials Engineering in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Imperial. Camille leads a research group that designs, synthesises, characterises and tests porous materials (i.e. sorbents) that can address separation challenges related to environmental, water and energy sustainability.



Jess Wade

Jess is a Royal Society University Research Fellow and Assistant Professor in Functional Materials at Imperial College London. Her research considers new materials for optoelectronic, spintronic and quantum devices, with a focus on chiral molecular materials.



ARTISTS

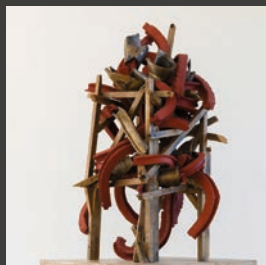
Clare Jarrett

Clare's work explores sculpture as an intimate act of attention, care, and transformation. Working with a variety of materials, including bronze and ceramics, her work binds together human and natural traces, evoking tenderness, vulnerability, and the passage of time.



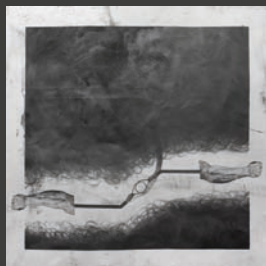
Sandy Layton

Through an engagement with materiality and process, Sandy's work explores recurrent themes of human bodily and emotional experience. Her practice involves playing spontaneously with different forms which she collages together and it is through this process that unconscious emotions come alive.



Andy Gomez

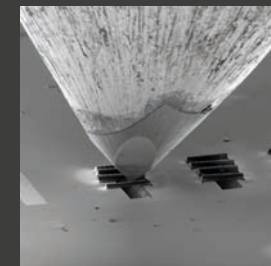
Using pencil and graphite pigment on paper, Andy creates large scale works on paper that combine photorealistic and surreal elements. He describes his practice as a playful assessment of how material and cultural value is assigned to objects.



SCIENTISTS

Oriol Gavalda Diaz

Oriol is an Assistant Professor in Ceramics in the Department of Materials at Imperial. He is interested in understanding how ceramics and composites used in demanding applications fail. He uses micro- and nanoscale characterisation and testing techniques that help explain how the microstructure and chemistry is linked to the failure process.



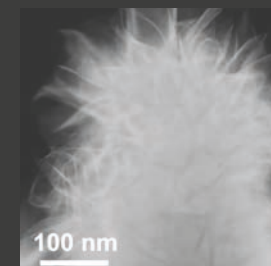
Shelly Conroy & Rahil Haria

Shelly is Associate Professor in Functional Thin Films and Microscopy at Imperial, and Rahil is a PhD student part of the Advanced Characterisation of Materials Centre of Doctoral Training. Their research focuses on the atomic scale design and characterisation of functional materials for semiconductor, quantum, and energy applications.



Cecilia Mattevi

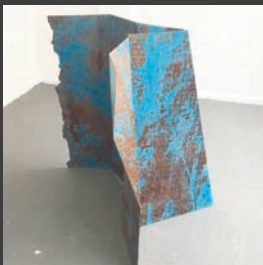
Cecilia is a Professor of Materials Science in the Department of Materials at Imperial College London. Her research interests centre on science and engineering of novel 2D atomically thin materials to enable applications in energy conversion and energy storage.



ARTISTS

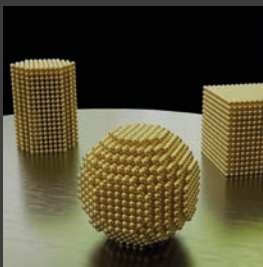
Jennifer Moore

Jennifer is interested in making images, forms and spaces through print, and sculpture. She is particularly drawn to mapping - exploring both physical locations and psychological spaces to construct new landscapes that question the nature of our relationship to the environment and attempt to articulate the disjunction of lived space.



Megan Grace-Hughes

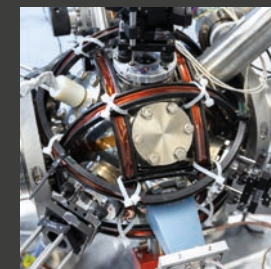
Megan works with sound and animation to create soundscapes and interactive works. By translating scientific ideas into sound and experience, her work invites audiences to listen, explore and build understanding through participation rather than explanation.



SCIENTISTS

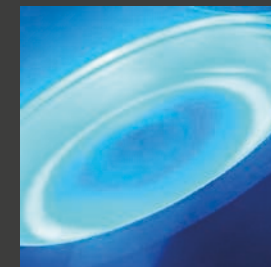
Joseph Cotter

Joseph is an Associate Professor in Quantum Innovation at Imperial's Department of Physics. He is an expert in quantum sensors. His previous work led to the development of a 'quantum compass'. He is currently working on high-performance inertial sensors with applications in aerospace, agriculture, maritime, and other critical national infrastructure.



Ryan Bower

Ryan is a Research Associate in Catalysis Plasmonics in the Department of Physics at Imperial. His fields of research include optical physics, electronics and sensors, quantum physics, nanotechnology, materials engineering, and nanofabrication. This collaboration is also supported by Bruno Rente, Research Facility Manager in Thin Film Devices at Imperial, and Tulsi Patel, PhD Student at King's College London



MATERIAL ENCOUNTERS

Artists and scientists collaborate to explore nanotechnology and material science

The London Centre for Nanotechnology (LCN) has launched Material Encounters, a new art-science collaboration that brings together artists and researchers to explore materiality, scale and observation through creative practice. Developed in partnership with the London-based artist collective Changeable Beast, Material Encounters invites artists to work closely with LCN scientists to create new artworks inspired by cutting-edge research in nanotechnology and material science.

Creative collaboration at the nanoscale

Across the project, artists are paired with LCN researchers who share a thematic, creative and intellectual affinity. Each partnership is flexible, allowing collaborators to shape the process in ways that suit their interests and working practices. Scientists may contribute through a small number of conversations or through more sustained dialogue, while artists retain creative control over the final work. Participating artists include members of Changeable Beast and invited guest artists working across sculpture, performance, sound, print and installation. Their practices engage with material processes, unconventional materials and embodied experiences, creating new ways of thinking about scientific ideas beyond traditional explanation. LCN researchers involved in the project represent a broad range of expertise, including functional molecular materials, ceramics, porous materials, optoelectronics, quantum technologies and nanofabrication. Together, these partnerships aim to generate artworks that make aspects of nanoscale research more tangible, curious and accessible.

Art, science and public engagement

Material Encounters forms part of a wider programme of activity marking the LCN's 20th anniversary in 2026 and builds on an established programme of outreach and public engagement, which includes Nanoday, Quantum Day, the Great Exhibition Road Festival and previous art-science collaborations such as Transcending the Invisible. The project runs from April to September 2026, during which artists and scientists will work together to develop new pieces. Curatorial discussions will take place throughout the collaboration period, with opportunities for scientists to take part in shaping the evolving work. Through Material Encounters, the LCN continues to explore how creative collaboration can open up new conversations about scientific research, encourage questions and invite wider audiences to encounter science in unexpected forms.