Ruth Millington

Surreal Solihull curator tour

Ruth Millington is an art historian, curator and author. Specialising in modern and contemporary art, she has written about Surrealism's female artists and muses for various publications, including her first book MUSE (Vintage, 2022).

Researching the life and work of Emmy Bridgwater, she has shared her findings in a BBC R4 documentary The Bohemians of Balsall Heath, which she co-presented with Stewart Lee. Working with the artist's estate, she wrote an essay for The Mayor Gallery's exhibition Emmy Bridgwater: The Edge of Beyond in 2022.

As a curator, she wants to bring art to everyday spaces, including Solihull's high street on the occasion of this public exhibition. Millington believes that art history is for everyone, leading her to write This Book Will Make You An Artist (Nosy Crow, 2024), which invites children to make mini-masterpieces inspired by great artists of the past. She hopes this exhibition and programme of performances will invite people to see Surreal in a new light and celebrate its heritage, plus local creative talent today.

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