**Artist in residence for the Women of Glasgow: The Franki Raffles Residency**

Background:

**Franki Raffles (1955–1994)**

Photographer and campaigner against violence against women.

This residency marks the 20th anniversary of the death of Scottish based photographer and activist Franki Raffles. Franki’s politics were at the core of her creative practice, and women’s lives, her central theme (from Soviet Russia and Tibetan valleys to Scottish housing schemes).

Franki wrote, photography offers ‘a unique opportunity to look closely at the world whilst retaining a measure of separateness from it’ and is ‘a way of challenging aspects of it’

In 1992 Franki instrumental in the identity and messaging of the Zero Tolerance campaign, (a ground-breaking public awareness initiative challenging social attitudes to male violence against women and children).

“The message of Zero Tolerance was radical, carried in the strapline ‘Male abuse of power is a crime’ and spelt out in bold black and white displays along Princes Street, on the sides of buses and posters in sports centres, pubs, and police stations. Its content and style aimed to empower women, eschewing images of abused women in favour of images of women and children in domestic settings, apparently comfortable and secure. The strong contrast between the everyday images and the message of the text underlined the familiar but hidden nature of abuse” (Sue Innes)

**Castlemilk Community Centre**

Castlemilk Community Centre is managed by Glasgow Life on behalf of Glasgow City Council as a resource for the local community.

Originally built in 1969, the facility offers a range of rooms for community use and is the base for a new pilot approach by Glasgow Arts on enhancing the arts offer within Castlemilk, engaging local communities in creative approaches and linking to the broader arts, museums, and libraries offer in the City.

**Glasgow Arts:**

Glasgow Arts is a new service grouping within Glasgow Life. We manage our own creative programmes including: Tramway, Gallery of Modern Art Exhibitions, MELA, MCF, and city wide arts development activity as well as support and collaborate with the independent cultural sector in Glasgow.

We believe in the power of the creative experience to enhance our lives, create resilience and connectivity in our communities and meaning across multiple cultures, experiences and backgrounds. Great art can have a profound influence on our sense of self and our identity, it can also be a great day out.

We work with Glasgow Citizens and Visitors across all life stages, levels of expertise and interest in the arts and music, and social, economic and cultural backgrounds. We acknowledge that we have a critical role within the city to open up access to and stimulate engagement with Arts and Music. We believe that access to and cultural representation within high quality Arts is a right and not a privilege.

**Glasgow Women’s Library:**

Glasgow Women’s Library is a unique information hub, library, archive and museum based in Bridgeton, Glasgow. Since its inception in 1991 it has worked (frequently in collaboration with artists, writers and filmmakers) to create a vibrant and inspiring environment for the conservation, collection, promotion and discussion of women’s contributions to culture and history. Its wide-ranging learning programmes are devised to widen horizons and expand social and cultural capital. It is open to all but specialises in working with women including those that are remote from or who feel excluded from culture including Black and Minority Ethnic women, LBT women , women who do not have English as their First Language and others.

[womenslibrary.org.uk](http://www.womenslibrary.org.uk)