

# Ugandan Asian 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Public Artwork

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ugandan Asian families arriving in Leicester falls in 2022 and Leicester City Council is marking this anniversary with a programme of activity, including a public artwork commission.



# The Art Commission

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Leicester City Council is funding and commissioning an artist to develop a permanent commemorative sculptural three-dimensional artwork which will provide a legacy for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ugandan Asian migration to Leicester

The Ugandan Asian 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (UA50) commission will be designed in acknowledgement and recognition of over 20,000 displaced Ugandan Asians who settled in Leicester between 1968 and 1978



# Location



The sculpture will be sited on the green space and/or central pathway, on Belgrave Circle Leicester



# Vision

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- To provide a permanent sculpture or artwork to illustrate Leicester's proud history of welcoming refugees, particularly marking the arrival of Ugandan Asians and celebrating the contribution of the community over the last 50 years in shaping the city in its present form.
- The sculpture or artwork will incorporate elements of Ugandan heritage in encapsulating the exodus and will be located in the city where many Ugandan Asians settled.



# Purpose

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- To mark the proud history of Leicester in welcoming refugees
- To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ugandan Asians being expelled from Uganda and arriving in the UK, with thousands settling in Leicester
- To ensure this historic event is understood and remembered in future generations
- To celebrate the important contribution the Ugandan Asian community have made in shaping the diverse identity of Leicester



# Key Aspirations for Public Artwork

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- To celebrate the importance of the Ugandan Asian Community to Leicester over the last 50 years
- To engage and ensure future generations understand and remember the events of 1972
- To ensure the sculpture and art piece can be incorporated into festivals and events in the area, i.e. Diwali





# The sculpture

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- A permanent sculpture or art piece which includes elements connected to Ugandan Asian heritage

It will:

- Incorporate the experience of Leicester's Ugandan Asian community being expelled from Uganda and settling in Leicester
- Be accessible
- Be reflective and encourage people to engage
- Be sensitive to the surrounding built environment
- Be cast or fabricated from hardwearing material which is resistant to the elements, vandalism, and theft
- not pose a risk to public safety



# Community Engagement

- The selected artist will be invited to engage with Leicester Ugandan Asian community members to create and inform the final artwork design. Workshop sessions with community members will be developed to effectively capture the experience of Leicester Ugandan Asian citizens with a purpose of providing community ownership of the commission, and to ensure the final artwork intrinsically reflects the Leicester Ugandan Asian experience.





# Timescale

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- **Artist engagement activity:**  
Summer/ early autumn 2022

