



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## SENSES

General Assembly X Cahaya  
26-30 April, 2024

Our physical senses of touch, sight, smell, sound and taste, can act as portals into expanded states of awareness, and in closer contact with our inner senses of insight and intuition. These experience can bring us into deeper connection within ourselves, and with others.

We invite guests to visit and immerse themselves in a long-weekend experience, Senses, presented by General Assembly X Cahaya.

Located in the heart of Mayfair, General Assembly celebrates the work of UK-based emerging artists. General Assembly is committed to building and nurturing a diverse and inclusive creative community. Senses, a long-weekend pop-up is brought together by General Assembly in partnership with Cahaya Studios.

Cahaya Studios, essential seasonless wardrobe, is inspired by the poetry of everyday life that celebrates the timeless craft of pleating. Fostering a human connection with art and nature, in line with CAHAYA's slow fashion model, all pleated pieces are non-seasonal and sold on a two-week pre-order basis. Designs are responsibly produced in North London using OEKO-TEX® certified 100% recycled polyester manufactured from post-consumer recycled plastic bottles.

Senses, on from 26-30 April, is a collaborative event and long-weekend programme seeking to connect creative areas of contemporary life. Senses features the work of UK-based contemporary painters and sculptures, Cahaya's essential timeless wardrobe, ikebana zen meditation, the first UK-release of Humble scented candles, artisanal beverages, and ambient sound.

### **About us:**

**General Assembly:** Founded in 2024, General Assembly is a contemporary art gallery located in Saint George Street, Mayfair. Housed in an ornate and elegant space, General Assembly celebrates and showcases UK-based emerging artists. The gallery is committed to nurturing a diverse and community-minded space in the heart of Mayfair.

*(General Assembly is brings together a community of like-minded individuals to support emerging artists and creatives in the heart of Mayfair. We celebrate inclusivity, social conscience and collaboration – Melanie Ashton, Founder, General Assembly)*

**Cahaya Studios:** Founder and creative director Rain Chan found herself immersed in the world of pleats after a conversation with a Savile Row pattern maker led her to the factory of

General Assembly: First Floor, 12 Saint George Street, W1S2FB

a master pleater in North London. The art of the centuries-old craft immediately captivated her, aligning her passions for sculpture, architecture, cinema and nature with an ambition to revive the dying art of the pleat. With this mission in mind, she launched CAHAYA in 2023, aiming to raise awareness and elevate interest for a new generation of craft-curious consumers. The result is a brand of seasonless, perennial pleat designs that push creative and technical possibilities while respecting the tradition of the craft.

**Zizi Sensai:** Sensei Zizi encountered flowers when she was just 3 years old while drawing in the garden of her childhood home in Japan, where she was born and raised to parents of Chinese descent. At age 9, upon visiting her mother's hometown Chengdu, Sensei Zizi fell in love with *Gongbi Hua* - traditional Chinese ink painting with a focus on depicting flowers in great detail. From then on every summer, she would visit her mother's hometown - spending endless hours sketching by the lotus pond. This memory lies at the very heart of Sensei Zizi's artistic vision. Sensei Zizi's Ikebana practice, embodied in SEN, resonates with modern society's longing for connection. Grounded in Sensei Zizi's profound appreciation and knowledge of traditional culture, SEN seamlessly bridges her heritage with her cosmopolitan background. (Quote: *"Ikebana is an extension of my meditation, with flowers and the seasons. A little zen oasis I hope to share with all of you."* — Sensei Zizi)

**Richard WM Hudson:** Richard WM Hudson has been working as a mixed media artist since a very young age. Gaining awards at school for his art to then having his work acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum at 16. As well as art, Richard has worked as a set, costume & interior designer, having completed a BA in Theatre Design at Central St Martins and an MA in Film Production Design at the National Film School. His work has been strongly influenced by the decade he has spent living in a remote part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, as well as regular visits to Scotland and Wales. He sources natural foraged materials to create art works with a dark, earthy tonality that are also homages to the materials original origin.

Richard's woodworks are often carved, scorched, and then polished to create pieces with strong prehistoric fossil references. Whilst others have been wielded into requiems, statuesque monuments to the glories of death. His ceramics are crafted from natural coloured raw clays and regularly paired with carefully chosen foraged artefacts. Richard's sculptures have been exhibited in various shows both in the UK and abroad, as well as numerous public exhibitions and prominent private collections, from where they have been positively reviewed and referenced in the press.

(Quote: *"My art forms are derived from my subconscious, a material reaction to my surroundings, a Requiem, harking back to indigenous peoples' spiritual practices and nature's own destructive power."*)

**Liberty Quinn:** Based in London, Liberty Quinn works across print, sculpture and audio-visual technology to investigate the breakdowns and shifting space of the Anthropocene. She recently obtained a Masters from the Royal College of Art and has shown throughout the UK. Selected shows include Proximity at Fold Gallery, Unfolding Traces with Pigeon Park and Un/Sense at Christie's.

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