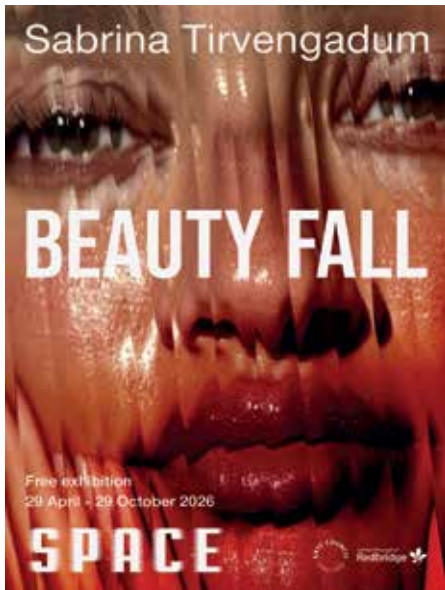




SABRINA TIRVENGADUM, *Beauty Fall*

29 April 2026 - 10 October 2026

SPACE Ilford,
10 Oakfield Rd, IG1 1ZJ

SPACE Gallery presents *Beauty Fall*, the solo exhibition by deaf British Mauritian artist Sabrina Tirvengadum. The exhibition turns the gallery into a satirical beauty salon. Visitors will find AI-generated beauty ads, a face-morphing mirror and installations exposing colonial influences on algorithmic beauty standards.

On her sixth birthday, Sabrina wished to be pretty, aspiring to lighter skin and straighter hair to look less like herself. These early experiences, shaped by colonial beauty standards, now echo in today's algorithmic definitions of beauty. *Beauty Fall* explores how idealised beauty standards, shaped by Western industry and social media, impact self-esteem and distort identity. Marginalising people across identities and appearances, these systems challenge visitors to question how beauty is measured and whether it can be reclaimed today.

Sabrina's exploration of measurement is grounded in personal and ancestral history. She has worked with archival family photographs to trace how colonial documentation recorded, categorised, and often erased those it claimed to represent. 3D-printed beauty masks of the artist's grandparents are displayed in the space, serving as witnesses to ancestors and communities deliberately excluded.

Sabrina Tirvengadum is a deaf British-Mauritian visual artist and graphic designer based in London. She holds a BA (Hons) in Photographic Arts from the University of Westminster. Her work focuses on identity, memory and ancestral history, using photography, collage, AI and digital painting. She has exhibited at venues like the Attenborough Arts Centre and Autograph. Sabrina is the founder of We're All Human and was selected for the 2025 Autograph x Light Work residency.

Book your school visit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. No more than 30 students per visit, 2 visits per day, for up to 90 minutes. Visits can start from 10am – please book with Daniel Picone, daniel@spacestudios.org.uk



FURTHER RESEARCH:



Watch Artist Talk



Beauty Fall Exhibition



Afternoon Chai



Artist Website

FOR TEACHERS:

MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

For Beauty Fall, Sabrina created an ideal AI version of herself to prompt a generative AI model. Pressure to conform to set beauty standards can lead us to alter or hide our features, risking a loss of connection to both ourselves, our sense of identity, and our ancestors. Visitors are encouraged to value traits inherited from their ancestors that beauty culture often seeks to erase.



THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

- Aspects of beauty culture that are typically concealed. In Beauty Fall, advertisements are presented with their underlying messages exposed, and beauty products are labelled to expose their true impact.
- Large expanses of sky in art and film such as The Truman Show, the paintings of René Magritte.
- The use of landscape backdrops in studio photography. Hand painted backdrops related to indentured history of Mauritius to create an idealised paradise to signify a better life.





SUGGESTIONS:

Collage - using images from magazines, or downloaded from the internet, make a collage that creates an image made up from features that don't conform to conventional Western beauty standards. What attributes make us human?

- Think also about the settings, colour and background that you use to represent this portrait of humanity. Write a short story about a feature that we instinctively might want to hide from view.
- What would happen if it was celebrated as beautiful? In the story it might unexpectedly become a superpower.



THINGS TO CONSIDER:



BEAUTY STANDARDS

- How are beauty standards created?
- How do they relate to ethnicity, age and gender?
- What characteristics or aspects of our faces and bodies are considered valuable or would be given a high score?



IDENTITY

As a class, design a series of backdrops for portrait photos and a class photo. Use large rolls of paper (lining paper, wallpaper) or large sheets of material to draw and paint onto. You can also attach objects to the material.

- What background would be meaningful and represent the pupils in your class?
- What object, colour, texture or shapes would you add to the backdrop to represent you?
- When your individual and class portrait is taken?



FAMILY ARCHIVE

I breathe life into my ancestors' stories and pay homage to their existence. Sabrina uses family photos to research and retell her family history.

Compare photos of older members of your family with selfies and photos that you have taken with your friends. You are making an archive for the future.

- What are the stories that they tell about your life, the things you care about and your friendships?

USEFUL WORDS:

Advert**Ancestors****Archive****Aristocratic****Beauty Standard****Beautiful****Symmetrical****Human****Ideal****Traits****Morphing****Embrace****Mixed heritage****Digital Colonialism****Discomfort****Generate****Glow up****Indentured****Disability****Identity****History****Culture****Generation****Inherited****Features****Reveal****Unravel****Representation****Retoucher**