ACID, ADHESIVES, BALLISTICS, CANVAS, CLAY, COMBUSTION, COMPRESSION, CONCRETE, CORROSION, CYBERNETICS, DROP, ELASTICITY, ELECTRICITY, ELECTROLYSIS, ELECTRONICS, EXPLOSIVES, FEEDBACK, GLASS, HEAT, HUMAN ENERGY, ICE, JET, LIGHT, LOAD, MASS-PRODUCTION, METAL, MOTION PICTURE, NATURAL FORCES, NUCLEAR ENERGY, PAINT, PAPER, PHOTOGRAPHY, PLASTER, PLASTICS, PRESSURE, RADIATION, SAND, SOLAR ENERGY, SOUND, STEAM, STRESS, TERRA-COTTA, VIBRATION, WATER, WELDING, WIRE, WOOD.

GUSTAV METZGER’S ALPHABET OF DESTRUCTION ART
Imagine an Academy where children and adults have the same right to speak, to act and to question. Imagine that this Academy searches for new ways to look at, think about and embrace destruction – in peace.

Welcome to KAPUTT: The Academy of Destruction at Tate Exchange.

Join our research, reclaim destruction from the bad guys and study for your diploma with us!

In The Academy of Destruction the most important exchange is between generations. Groups of adults and children can enrol in The Academy as study groups.

To earn your diploma, your study group will complete the following course together by:

**FLIPPING THROUGH THE LIBRARY’S BOOKS AND FILMS**
Find your favourite piece from the history of destruction. Take a test to find out what destruction is for you!

**ATTENDING A SESSION IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL**
Six kids and six adult artists form the fabulous faculty of The Academy. In the Assembly Hall they share their experiences, thoughts and practices around destruction. Listen to a presentation, watch an experiment, and eventually join in, if you dare!

**EXCHANGES IN THE COMMON ROOM**
Do a research assessment, complete your diploma and share your expertise!

In 1966 the artist Gustav Metzger invited artists and researchers from all around the world to come to London and take part in the Destruction in Art Symposium, a three-day event full of explosions, insights, encounters and hilarious catastrophes. The Academy of Destruction is deeply indebted to this endeavour. It is inspired by Metzger’s writings on Auto Destructive Art and his firm belief that destruction in art should become be a movement for peace.

The Academy of Destruction is dedicated to Gustav Metzger (1926-2016).

The Academy of Destruction commits to reclaiming destruction from the bad guys and exploring it in new ways – beyond hate, rage and violence. We do this with courage, kindness and the highest respect for people, beings and the planet.

Let’s admit it, all of us share a lust for destruction, whether it’s letting off fireworks, crash-testing or throwing mobile phones against the wall.

Live Art has experimented with destruction from its very beginnings. Artists who work in Live Art have crawled through broken glass, smashed pianos, built machines to destroy art gallery walls, performed soya sauce and ketchup fights… this list goes on. Do we see destruction in a different way if we call it Live Art?

Can we reclaim destruction as something that we can do together, and that can be marvellous, manifold, careful and mindful?

To find answers to our questions, The Academy faculty will carry out their own destructive wishes in six public sessions. You are invited to watch their experiments, join in with some of them and talk about destruction with everyone. All the thoughts and insights shared in these sessions will be recorded for our Video Manifesto and we will screen this on the last day of the Academy, Sunday 29 October for all to see.
Ruqiya (R.P.H.D.) holds the position of kickboxing and philosophy. She read all humanity: the Iliad, Genesis, European history, etc. She imagines the Academy as a place "where chaos and total anarchy is taught and was born. Where evil and destruction flow like magma. Yet there is method to this madness. The world needs its destructees and destructors."

Martin O’Brien is one of the undead. His body is in the process of constant self-destruction. He has cystic fibrosis and his body is a mucus factory. In his walking hours, he is dedicated to embracing this destruction as an art form. He has created art works that highlight the destruction of flesh through sickness, that imagine the destruction of capitalism through disease, that embrace a politics in which destruction can lead to something more interesting. He works with flesh and piercing, coughing and bleeding, he bites, he chews, and creates disorder.

Chese (Red Pool) has an undoubted sense of style and an infinite knowledge of anime characters and their flaws. He is founder of the discipline F.D.E. – Fictional Destructive Education, which instantly made it into our core curriculum.

Malik Nashad Sharpe is a dancer and choreographer who performs regularly under their alias Markiscrycrycry. Markiscrycrycry’s dance destroys hierarchies, stories and traditions, which tend to exclude black and queer people. In their dance they suggest radically different ways of dealing with extreme emotional states, affects and affections. Markiscrycrycry performs not only in theatres, but also in pubs, halls or in public space. They have recently delivered a Live Art Development Agency DIY project/workshop titled THE T R A P L A B.

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Sibylle Peters has repeatedly encouraged kids and adults to destroy things together. She has blown up rubber toys on stage, and reenacted Chris Burdens’ crawl through broken glass for a family audience. In her game PLAYING UP she invites families to destroy technical devices and to have soya sauce and ketchup fights. Sibylle has founded the Theatre of Research, in which children and adults explore and change the world together. Here she found, that children and adults share a lust for destruction. To further explore this she initiated the transgenerational Academy of Destruction.

Splendour & Najiba (Splenjiba) hold the positions of politics and finance in the Academy of Destruction, they come as a team. They are determined to destroy things which cause the country to be at war. They defend a high ethical standard of destruction: it must set people free and make them forget their worries.

Hester Chillingworth makes performance and installation work that smashes genres together. Hester is interested in mess, failure and rupture and loves the moments when we’re breaking a sweat, breaking the rules and breaking into a smile all at the same time. Hester is Thinker-in-Residence for the Live Art Development Agency, exploring Young People, Gender & Live Art. Hester is also Creative Producer (Participation & Engagement) for Forced Entertainment contemporary performance company. Sometimes Hester’s not here and Shorty turns up instead – Shorty is a deconstructed non-binary drag child who Hester found in 2016. Shorty plays at the edges and frays at the edges, and would love “boys” and “girls” spaces to be destroyed.

Katharina Duve likes is to destroy and reconstruct film sequences. Reframing the original narrative she tries to find a fresh perspective on the original. She is therefore disassembling single components of material and putting them together into collages of all kinds. As a member of the filmmaker-coop Auge Altona her work has been shown on international exhibitions, film festivals and theater productions. Katharina is filming and editing the Transgenerational Video Manifesto of Destruction.

The Live Art Development Agency (LADA) was set up to destroy the dominance of traditional, elitist artforms in the cultural landscape of the UK and beyond. LADA tries to destroy privilege within the arts, and the over-representation of white, abled bodied, cisgendered artists by strategically supporting diverse and radical practices. LADA believes Live Art is grounded in ideas of destruction because it defies definitions and explodes conventions. LADA believes in the unconventional, intergenerational and transgressive power of art and artists. LADA moved into a new space, The Garrett Centre, in East London in Autumn 2017 and welcomes all visitors.

Tate’s Early Years and Families (EY&F) Learning Programme works to destroy barriers to engaging with and enjoying art. The activities we offer aim to destroy limiting assumptions about children’s capacity for cultural engagement and the potential of intergenerational learning, by being progressive, relevant and accessible. We support children to destroy generalised preconceptions about themselves and use the EY&F programme to experiment, speculate and improvise with their own ideas about themselves and the world they live in.

Zoe Laughlin likes to think that she makes things, but more often than not she is breaking things. Back in 2010 she co-founded the Institute of Making, but still she kept on breaking things. At one point, she officially gave in to the destructive urge and built a machine for breaking wine glasses with sound. This formed part of her work interrogating how materials perform and the things that objects get up to, often without us noticing. Zoe looks forward to exploring a range of potentially hazardous materials and making processes.
THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER

11 AM – FIRST SESSION
First session: in which all members and visitors step through a painting made of holes into the Assembly Hall, where our Principal, Tolu (Principal Tolu the G.O.A.T.), will talk about children and adults having equal rights in this Academy. Then Sibylle Peters from Theatre of Research will invite members and visitors to take part into an interactive lecture and discussion to agree on the big questions The Academy wants to answer. After these questions are written on the wall, Ruqiya (R.P.H.D.), the Kickboxing Philosopher, will read her work on the history of destruction to the assembly.

2.30 PM – SECOND SESSION
Second session: in which Heike Roms presents her performance lecture Crash! Bang! Wallop! about destruction in art. Then members and visitors will be invited to take part in performing the score Killing The Books by Milan Knizak. The first day will end with a political discussion hosted by Splendour & Najiba (Splunjiba). They have prepared statements about destruction, money and politics in London, which will be discussed by members and visitors.

FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER

11 AM – THIRD SESSION
Third session: which will start with the top five fidgets to drive adults crazy presented by Zainab (Fidget Zalla). After that Ansuman Biswas will guide members and visitors through a meditation in which we will try to destroy our egos. Ansuman will then present his brand new composition for broken cello and bow saw. Rumour has it, that everyone, members and visitors, will have a chance to join in.

2.30 PM – FOURTH SESSION
Fourth session: in which Zoe Laughlin will give a lecture demonstration about the destruction of matter inspired by the Argos catalogue. After exploring a range of potentially hazardous materials and making processes, the second day will end with a workshop on anger relief lead by Rubie (Gurrubie).

SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER

11 AM – FIFTH SESSION
Fifth session: which is about collective desires and will be guided by Malik Nashad Sharpe (aka Markisicrycrycry) who will teach us how to tear down worlds and build new ones through dance and choreography. This is also about HipHop. After that Chese (Red Pool) and Sam (Jazsam), Ruqiya (R.P.H.D.), the Kickboxing Philosopher, and Tyrell (the acrobatic zombie killer) will demonstrate destructive moves in taekwondo, kickboxing and acrobatics. After that Martin O’Brien, the undead member of faculty, will talk about what to learn from rotten cabbage, and invite members and visitors to take part into an action, in which mouthfuls of edible material will be spit into vitrines. Finally, members of faculty will discuss the outcomes of The Academy.

2.30 PM – SIXTH SESSION
Sixth session: which will start with a sportive intermezzo: Sam (Jazsam), Ruqiya (R.P.H.D.), the Kickboxing Philosopher, and Tyrell (the acrobatic zombie killer) will demonstrate destructive moves in taekwondo, kickboxing and acrobatics. After that Martin O’Brien, the undead member of faculty, will talk about what to learn from rotten cabbage, and invite members and visitors to take part into an action, in which mouthfuls of edible material will be spit into vitrines. Finally, members of faculty will discuss the outcomes of The Academy.

SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER

12.00 PM
On Sunday, the faculty of The Academy will not be in session. Instead the Transgenerational Video Manifesto of Destruction, filmed throughout the previous three days, will be presented in the Assembly Hall followed by an open discussion hosted by Shorty (a deconstructed child persona created by artist Hester Chillingworth).
**Library Questionnaire**

**What is destruction for you?**
Watch the video clips on the big library screen. You will see thirteen different things happening. Which of them are destruction in your eyes, which are not? Find one you all agree is destruction, and one you all agree on is not.

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<th>Destruction</th>
<th>Not Destruction</th>
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**What have you witnessed in the Academy?**

**What did you get out of it?**

**What is your favourite piece of destruction art in the Library?**

**How is the Academy doing so far? What is missing?**

**What did you get out of it?**

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**What have you witnessed in the Academy?**

**How is the Academy doing so far? What is missing?**

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**Name one you disagree with. Why do you disagree?**

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**Research Assessment**
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<tr>
<td>WHAT IS YOUR DESTRUCTIVE EXPERTISE?</td>
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<td>WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DESTROY WITH IT?</td>
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<td>WHAT CHANGE IS THAT GOING TO BRING ABOUT?</td>
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<td>CAN YOU MAKE A DRAWING TO ILLUSTRATE YOUR DESTRUCTIVE EXPERTISE?</td>
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**CREDITS**

Theatre of Research’s Transgenerational Academy is the first academy that includes members of all ages as equal participants, where children, as well as adults, explore and experiment, think and act together.

**KAPUTT: The Academy of Destruction** is the first Transgenerational Academy taking place at Tate Exchange, London in October 2017.

KAPUTT has been conceived and created by Sibylle Peters of Theatre of Research, Germany and produced in a collaboration between Tate Families & Early Years, Theatre of Research, and the Live Art Development Agency (LADA).

Production credits: Jane Wells, Morgan Robinson, George Rayner-Law, Lawrie Phillips.

Thanks to Julia Baker, Finn Love, Billy Sassi, CJ Mitchell, Megan Vaughan, Alex Eisenberg and Amy Poole of LADA, Mary Paterson, Karragee Kils, Gundula Hoelty, Tanja Gwiasda and Hanno Krieg of Theatre of Research, Toni Loveday and all the students and staff at Ark All Saints Academy, Clare Evans, Celeste Menich and Alessia Arcuri of Tate.

KAPUTT forms part of LADA’s contribution to the Collaborative Arts Partnership Programme (CAPP) supported by Creative Europe Programme of the European Union. www.cappnetwork.com

The video clips *Daily Destruction* in the Library of the Academy has been assembled by Katharina Duve.