

Spotlight

The Top 10 Exhibitions to See Around the World This Autumn

15 October 2025, Global



Grace Ndiritu, *The Ignorant Art School Sit-in #5* (2025). Exhibition view: *Compassionate Rebels in Action*, Cooper Gallery, Dundee (10 October 2025–13 December 2025). Courtesy Cooper Gallery, DJCAD. Photo: Sally Jubb.

Grace Ndiritu, *Compassionate Rebels in Action* (10 October 2025–13 December 2025) at Cooper Gallery, Dundee

Under the guidance of Grace Ndiritu, audiences are often invited to enter a museum or art gallery barefoot; cushions are sometimes scattered around the space. It is an unusual, holistic approach to how we engage with Western cultural spaces through what the artist has termed ‘non-rational methodologies’—from feeling the wood beneath our feet to simply sitting down on the floor and closing our eyes. In Ndiritu’s latest exhibition at Cooper Gallery (the final presentation in the

gallery's five-part exhibition series *The Ignorant Art School*, 2021–2025), she extends this interest in alternative forms of connection to protest as a collective tool for change. Archival photographs of historic protests—including a large-scale, black-and-white image of the Women's Strike staged in New York in 1970, which stretches from floor to ceiling in the gallery—ground present-day grassroots political action in social justice movements of the past. A screening of *Labour: Birth of a New Museum* (2023) shows Ndiritu leading a group of pregnant women on a shamanic journey to discover the 'soul' name of their unborn child, in a workshop staged within the context of a museum. Art and life, past and present, and the spiritual and the rational collapse together under Ndiritu's deft direction, as she asks us to reconsider how we come together—both inside and outside the gallery. – *Louise Benson*



