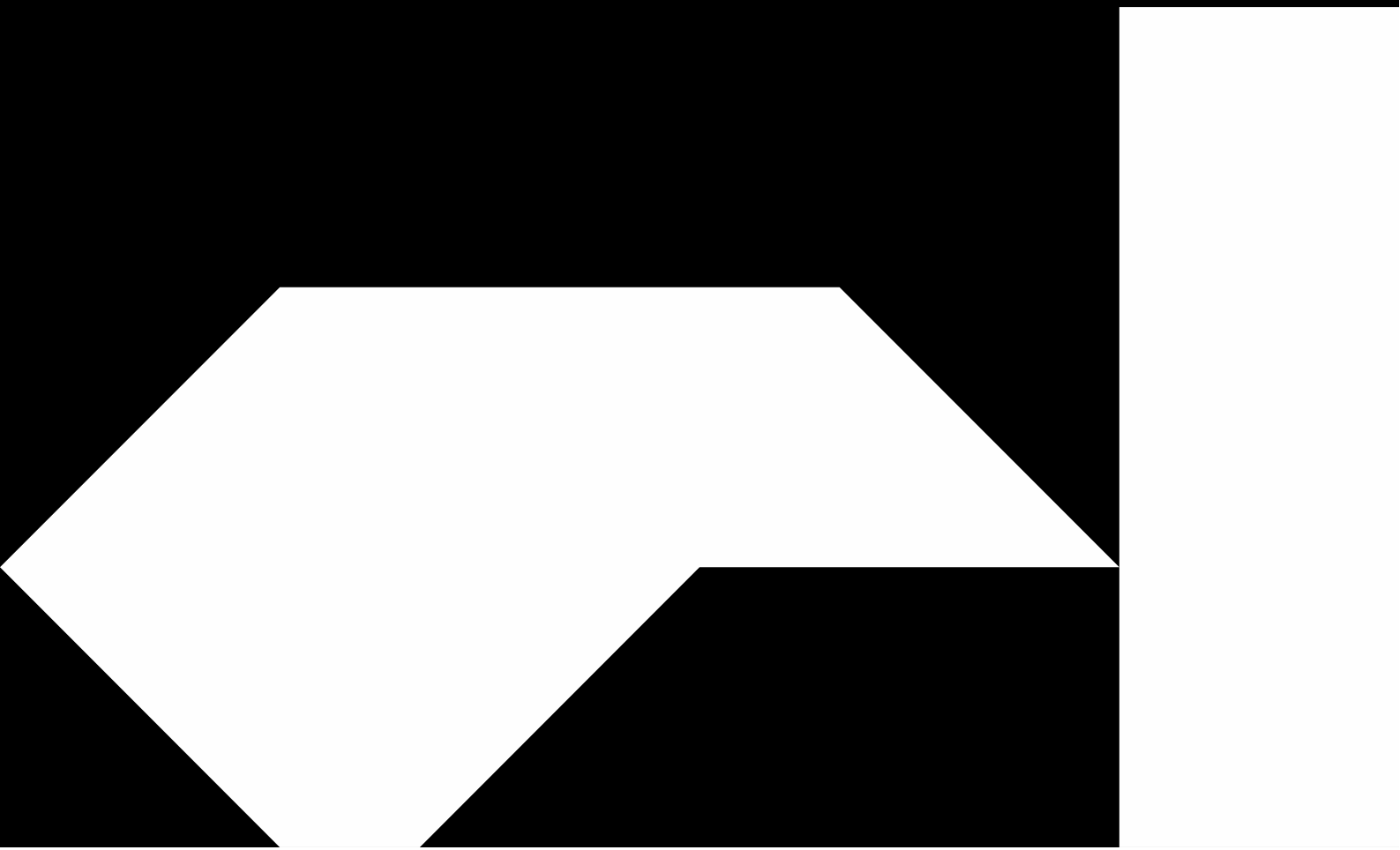
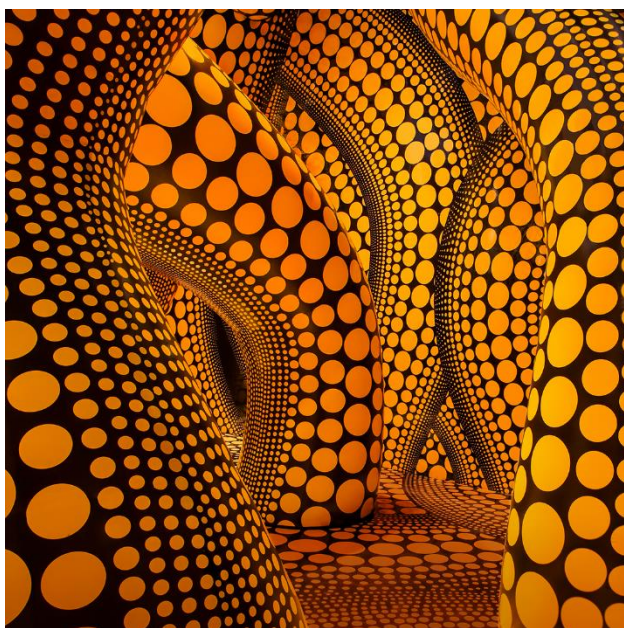


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**WHAT TO EXPECT  
YAYOI KUSAMA:  
YOU, ME AND THE  
BALLOONS**





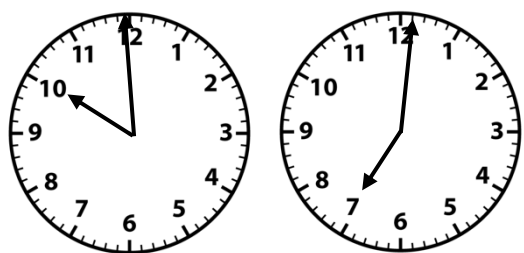
## What is the event?

You, Me and the Balloons is an art exhibition of work by the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. It includes lots of huge, colourful inflatables gathered together in an enormous, tall room. You can walk around and look at everything at your own pace.



## When is the event?

You, Me and the Balloons is open to visit from **30<sup>th</sup> June 2023** until **28<sup>th</sup> August 2023**. It is closed on Mondays except for Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August.



## How long is it

You can choose a ticket for a timed entry slot. The earliest entry slot is 10am, and the latest entry slot is 7pm.

Once you are inside, you can spend as much or little time as you like exploring the exhibition.



## Venue name/ venue entrance

This is what Aviva Studios looks like.

If you are visiting between 30<sup>th</sup> June and 16<sup>th</sup> July, Festival Square, an outdoor music event will be located outside the building. It might be noisy at some times.



## Ticket scanning and assistance

The ticket scanning and queuing area for You, Me and the Balloons is in the Social, which is where you come into the building.

Look for our hosts who will be wearing black t-shirts with white writing and orange lanyards. They will be able to show you where to go.

If you will find it hard to queue, you can tell a host, and they will arrange for you to go straight into the exhibition at your entry time.



There will also be volunteers who can help you. They will be wearing blue t-shirts with blue lanyards like this.

Presented by Factory International for Manchester International Festival  
**Yayoi Kusama: You, Me and the Balloons**  
Thu 29 June 2023, 10.00AM

The Warehouse, Factory International  
Water Street, Manchester, M3 4JQ  
General Admission



Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult over 18. Babes in Arms - Under 2's do not require a ticket.  
James Webster £0.00 - Standard admission Order Number: 23-FV-41HC

## Your ticket

This is what your ticket will look like.  
It will tell you the date and time of your booked slot.

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## Seating

There are lots of places to sit in the Social while you are waiting to go into You, Me and the Balloons.

You can borrow a foldable stool from one of our hosts if you will need to sit down when you're inside the exhibition.



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## Inside You, Me and the Balloons

You will come into the exhibition through a dark corridor that leads into a rectangular room called a pavilion.

The walls and floor here are covered in bright yellow and black patterns – it might feel a bit confusing. If you would rather not go in through this room, please ask a host to take you through another door.

If you want to, you can take the stairs or lift to the roof of this room, where you'll be able to see the whole exhibition from above.

After you come down from the roof of the pavilion, or out of the room, you will be at ground level, and able to walk around the space at your own pace and look at everything.

If you need to take a break and come out of the space at any time, ask a host or volunteer to show you the way.





## What to expect at the event

The whole room is filled with large inflatable sculptures. There are lots of different shapes, and everything is very colourful. Lots of the inflatables are covered in dots, because this pattern is important to the artist.

You cannot touch most of the inflatables.

There is a very tall inflatable figure of a girl, and one of a dog. They're not real and they won't move.

There is a small room inside a dome that you can go into if you want to – inside there are lots of mirrors, so it might feel a bit confusing.

There is another dome with a peephole so you can look inside, but not go in.

At one end of the room there is a pink platform that you can walk on.

There are also inflatables hanging from the ceiling above you, so don't forget to look up!



## Audience behaviour

There will be other people exploring You, Me and the Balloons at the same time as you. They will be walking around, looking at the inflatables.

People might need to take it in turns to look at certain things as there isn't room for everyone to crowd around them at once.

People might be taking photographs or selfies because of how big and colourful everything is.

People might be talking noisily because they are excited.

Everyone can spend as much or little time in the space as they want to.



## Housekeeping information

There are no loud sounds in the space. You might be able to hear the air going into the inflatables.

There is a lift that makes a sudden noise when it starts moving – you might hear this while you are near the yellow Pavilion.

There will be a video playing of the artist, Yayoi Kusama singing a poem in Japanese. You will be able to hear this, but you might not understand what she is saying.

There are not bright or flashing lights in the space, but there are lots of bright colours, large structures, and highly patterned areas.

When you come out of the exhibition, you'll come back to the Social. It might be busy or crowded here at certain times. Our host can help you find a quieter spot.



## Facilities

– There are toilets, including accessible toilets, in the brick arches at the back of the Social, through the big silver doors. The toilets are gender neutral, and the accessible toilets are in the same space.

– You can buy food and drink from the bar in the Social, where there are also places to sit and relax.

[access@factoryinternational.org](mailto:access@factoryinternational.org)