

Kira Freije: Unspeak the Chorus

22 November 2025 – 4 May 2026

British artist Kira Freije has created this installation of sculptures especially for The Hepworth Wakefield.

20 life size figures seem to be caught mid-gesture or mid-thought. They are arranged in groups that suggest fragments of stories, reminding us of situations without being specific about time and place.



IMAGINE: Is this a room full of people, ghosts, or memories?

Kira makes solid casts of her own feet and hands in aluminium as a starting point for her sculptures. Building them from the feet up, she welds strips of stainless steel to create the body frameworks. She then adds mask-like faces, cast from her family and friends, conveying a range of emotions.

"Although the metal is solid, it is also malleable ... It is a material that can change and it allows me to make mistakes and to be led by its shifting form" Kira Freije

IMAGINE: Immerse yourself in a group of sculptures. Create a story that is inspired by them. Think about when, where, who, why.

The eyes of Kira's sculptures are always shut as when casting someone's face, the person has to keep their eyes closed. Found fabrics, materials and objects help create an everyday reality to the scenarios.

DRAW: Capture the expressions on the faces of the sculptures. Draw several on a page to see how they react to each other.

"There is perhaps something in the eyes being closed that means that they never confront you. Maybe that's why they allow you to enter this space." Kira Freije

DISCUSS: Kira uses mirrors, lighting and haze to create drama in her exhibition. How could you present your artwork to increase its impact on the viewer? How could you place and light your work to make it more unusual?

