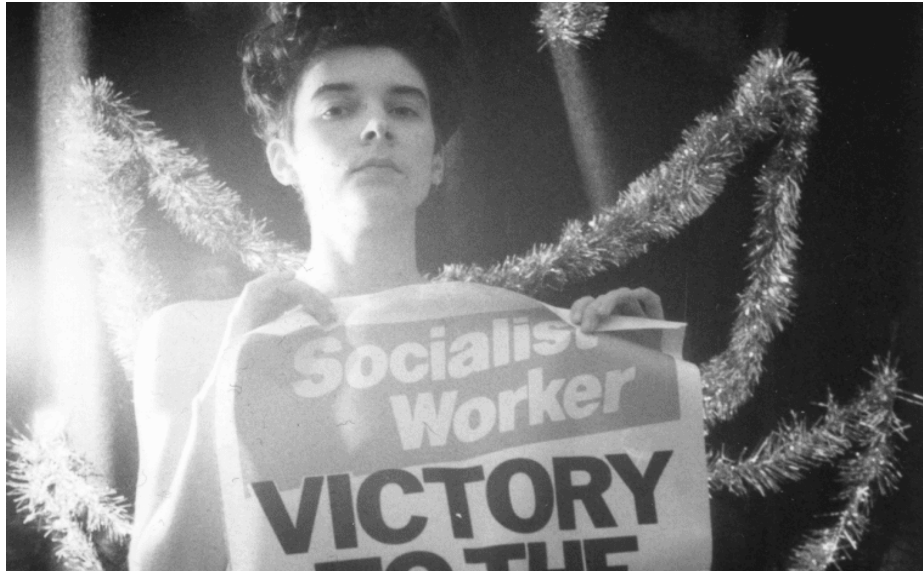




Alison Lloyd – 1957- 2023 artist

Alison grew up in Yorkshire and studied art in Cardiff 1976-1979 where she took photographs of herself capturing a young woman figuring out her sexuality and identity. After art college she moved to London where she joined the Socialist Workers' party (SWP) in 1984 in Islington and used her creative abilities politically particularly during the miner's strike 1984-5. Her iconic self-portrait as a Christmas angel, holding a Socialist Worker "Victory to the miners" poster symbolises what defined Alison, showing her revolutionary politics, humour, generosity, vulnerability and defiance. Alison's work (including that image) was in *Women in Revolt! Art and activism* 1970–1990 at Tate Britain in 2023/4. An interview with Alison about the show in *Socialist Worker* in November 2023, is full of her illuminating insights and modesty but also highlights that she was pleased to be featured in an exhibition on women and struggle. Alison became the East Midlands officer for the arts council and pursued a career in commissioning and curating—working with artists such as Marina Abramović and Jeremy Deller. Her own photography and film brought her politics on women's oppression into the frame of daily life. She said as an artist she had faced sexism throughout her life remembering one art tutor who had told her that she wouldn't be an artist but could be an artist's wife! Alison was a central figure in Nottingham's artistic community, and a trustee at Nottingham Primary. In 2019 she gained a PhD exploring hill walking as a form of sculpture. Alison rejoined the SWP in 2020 during the Covid pandemic and soon took over arranging Zoom meetings bringing along friends involving them in *Black Lives Matter* and other actions. When in-person activities started up again she connected with people on stalls over issues such as Trans+ Pride and Palestine. Sadly, Alison died of cancer on Jan 26th 2023.