

ArtReach

NIGHT OF FESTIVALS

Celebrating values
of freedom through
artistic innovation



NIGHT OF FESTIVALS BARKING

Saturday 18th July: [11:00-22:30]

Sunday 19th July: [11:00-17:00]

Abbey Green and
Barking town centre

FREE FAMILY EVENT

All activity in the Festival is **Free Access** and is suitable for children, young people and families.



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CARNIVAL PROCESSIONS AND PERFORMANCES

Carnival processions and performances will commence from the **old Abbey Leisure Centre** and include **East St, Clockhouse Avenue, Broadway, Town Square, Blue Square and Abbey Green** – activity every 45 minutes throughout the Festival. Look out for the special, giant King John puppet leading a procession to celebrate the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and St Margaret's Church.

A HUB OF FESTIVAL ACTIVITY

A hub of Festival activity will also be sited on Abbey Green, located next to St. Margaret's Church. The Festival includes a performance Dome, Storytelling Yurt and ArtReach Nanoplex (moving image gallery in a converted caravan!).

All carnival activity is on the street and open access. Audiences who wish to see specific performances or shows in the Performance Dome, Storytelling Yurt or Nanoplex at *Night of Festivals* can book their free places, in advance, to secure seats.

To book places ahead please e-mail bradley@artreach.biz with your name, phone number, email, postcode and specific ticket requirements.



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Night of Festivals celebrates the values of freedom and democracy through artistic innovation.

TOWN CENTRE

CARNIVAL PROCESSIONS AND PERFORMANCE

Taking place all day each day of the Festival, carnival processions are designed by international artists Mandinga Arts, with many local participants taking part inside extraordinary costumes inspired by George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and by Latin American festival celebrations.

In addition there is a specially made giant King John puppet with a 20 metre long Magna Carta parchment! The Magna Carta procession is designed by Kinetika.

Carnival processions are accompanied by the extraordinary live musicians from Rhythms of the City and Sabar Sounds.

Look out too for the amazing spectacle of a full musical bateria and costumed dancers (in the Rio style) from Paraiso Samba who will be performing at 3.20, 5.30 and 8.30 in different town centre locations on Saturday and at 1.30 and 3.30 on Sunday – don't worry you'll hear them coming!



MANDINGA ARTS

A key ingredient of *Night of Festivals* events, Mandinga Arts provides spectacular carnival entertainment for spectators around the world. The company has designed and created award-winning giant puppets, costumes, masks and floats for carnivals, festivals, community projects and theatre across the globe. Audiences in Barking will meet costumed sectioned performers including Napoleon's Pigs, Sexy Cows, cats and mice, red-eyed frogs, hungry dogs, golden birds and creepy fluorescent skeletons (many animated by a selection of enthusiastic local participants!) Audience members will also wonder at the extraordinary *Day of the Dead* carnival puppets including the giant 5 metre high Mexican Skeleton!



PARAISO SAMBA

Paraiso is the only samba troupe in the UK whose artistic direction comes from artists who grew up in the Rio de Janeiro samba community. The company brings a real example of true samba dance and music to the UK. Paraiso is always a key component of *Night of Festivals* and at each event is guaranteed to attract huge enthusiastic crowds who respond to the beats, the songs and the exuberant and exotic dance that Paraiso brings to the streets.



RHYTHMS OF THE CITY

Rhythms of the City will be playing a vital part in the regular carnival processions, accompanying *Mandinga Arts* and playing the role of roving musicians. Under Artistic and Musical Director, Barak Schmool, *Rhythms of the City* perform at carnivals and festivals across Europe - including Notting Hill, Thames Festival, WOMAD, Glastonbury Festival, the Big Chill, Lovebox, Wireless, Pride and the Great British Carnival events.



SABAR SOUNDS

'Sabar' is a West African word meaning 'Drum' – Sabar Sounds is quite literally a sound system made of drums. Alongside *Rhythms of the City*, Sabar will provide vibrant accompanying music for our carnival interventions, with influences ranging from African, to Cuban and Indian. Lively and energetic, *Sabar Sounds* set the tempo for carnival.



MAGNA CARTA PARADE

Running time: 50 minutes

As part of the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta, Night of Festivals Barking will include a special Magna Carta procession alongside its regular programme of carnival interventions.

On Saturday 18th King John will be out and about, a giant puppet appearing on Abbey Green to a fanfare of music at 11am and 3pm and 6pm.

The Sunday parade (4pm) will include King John with an accompanying 20 metre long parchment, carried by local young people, and a replica King John seal. The parchment is both a facsimile of the original charter, and a canvas that shares the views of young people today about freedom and democracy.

Day: Saturday 18th
Time: 11am, 3pm and 6pm

Day: Sunday 19th
Time: 4pm

SATURDAY 18TH JULY BARKING ABBEY GREEN

PERFORMANCE DOME



11:00 FANFARE OPENING

Night of Festivals Barking will commence with a fanfare of Sabar Sounds and the first appearance of our giant King John puppet - a lively combination to kick-start the weekend of merrymaking in a spectacular Fanfare opening.



11:30 ACD ARTS Gumboots drumming and dance performance Running time: 40 minutes

Originating from the South African mines, the infectious gumboots dance and drumming performance from ACD Arts brings alive the dances and movements that miners developed to keep themselves motivated, entertained and able to communicate with each other in testing underground conditions. Wellies are available, so join in if you like!



12:30 SPRINGBOARD EAST THEATRE COMPANY Destination Democracy Running time: 50 minutes

A time travel adventure specially developed as a family theatre show and celebrating the origins of freedom and democracy through entertainment and interaction. Everett's boring night in front of the TV turns into an unexpected adventure when time travelling professor Dr. Hugo Hourglass interrupts the election night coverage. This is a madcap story of power struggles, conspiracy, protest and sacrifice, charting key events in the history of Parliament and British democracy.



13:30 HAYMANOT TESFA, ARIAN SADIR AND MINA SALAMA Running time: 40 minutes

An extraordinary mix of musical ensemble, Haymanot Tesfa, Arian Sadir and Mina Salama bring Ethiopian, Egyptian and Iranian rhythms and sounds together in a unique and compelling combination. The amazing sound of Haymanot's voice is not to be missed.

14:30 SPRINGBOARD EAST THEATRE COMPANY Destination Democracy Running time: 50 minutes (see 12.30 entry for details)



15:30 NAJMA AKHTAR AND TRIO Running time: 30 minutes

An international composer and vocalist, Najma Akhtar is a renowned figure on the world music scene. Her unique vocal performances grip audience members with sheer elegance and beauty - it's no small wonder, therefore, that her voice can be heard in a variety of films and motion pictures. Expect to hear a range of musical tones, with a blend of Eastern and Western influences including Indian classical music and modern jazz.

SATURDAY 18TH JULY

BARKING ABBEY GREEN

PERFORMANCE DOME



16:00
SANDEEP RAVAL
(joining with Najma Aktar)
Running time: 60 minutes

A hugely experienced performer, producer and multi instrument composer, Sandeep Raval is a musician of many talents. With a wide variety of percussion instruments and a unique musical score, his performances inspire a range of emotions and sheer awe! For *Night of Festivals* Barking, Sandeep will be performing a short introduction to his music, along with Najma Akhtar, and then offering a participatory Drum Circle workshop. Come along and join in – bring a percussion instrument if you can, but plenty also available on the day

17:00
ACD ARTS
Gumboots drumming and
dance performance
Running time: 40 minutes
(see 11.30 entry for details)



19:00
TONGUE FU
Running time: 90 minutes

Created and led by poet and musician Chris Redmond (BBC Radio 4's Pick of The Week) Tongue Fu is a show that combines exciting spoken word performance with improvised music. Three exceptional musicians are asked to improvise different musical styles to meet the requirements of the performing poet. It's about risk taking - coaxing performers, band and audience to leap before they look – it's raw, un-rehearsed, spontaneous and frequently brilliant as a result.

At the heart of Tongue Fu there is a love of words: a fascination with how they sound, what they mean, and what effect they might have when they're offered up to a room full of people and blown around like smoke, or feathers.

For *Night of Festivals* Barking the group (with national and local artists) will be creating on-the-spot performance poetry, around the themes of Freedom and Democracy, and improvising live to the funky sounds of the Tongue Fu band!



21:00
SIMPSON
Running time: 60 minutes

Nate Simpson's fluid voice has left audience members spellbound in the most prestigious of venues – including the London Jazz Festival and events for the London 2012 Olympics. As is customary with *Night of Festivals* events, expect Simpson, and his talented band, to perform a multifarious set of styles – encompassing soul to R&B to Reggae. A great way to finish the evening!



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SATURDAY 18TH JULY BARKING ABBEY GREEN

FREEDOM SQUARE

When you enter the *Night of Festivals* Performance Dome to see a show you'll also be aware of the colourful Freedom Square installation created by Iranian artist, Alinah Azadeh. Freedom Square is a textile based participative work, comprising up to 1,200 multi-coloured flags installed against the white canvas of the *Night of Festivals* Performance Dome.

The title of the work 'Freedom Square' references the use of cloth in protests for freedom and democracy in the Middle-East, in particular through the Green Movement in Iran, plus the age-old use of Prayer/Peace flags en masse, especially in India and Tibet.

Flags for the installation have been created in workshops in Barking and Dagenham ahead of the *Night of Festivals* event.

STORYTELLING YURT



11:00, 12:30, 14:00 and 15:30

NATURAL THEATRE

Running time: 40 minutes each performance

The world famous Natural Theatre creates comic and interactive street theatre, combining hilarious characters with surreal scenarios. Natural Theatre has performed in over 80 countries, picking up many international awards along the way, and performing in busy city and town streets and at a range of festivals.

The company can be seen on Abbey Green, around the Storytelling Yurt and elsewhere on both Saturday and Sunday at 11:00, 12:30, 14:00 and 15.30.

ANNIVERSARY FREEDOM COMIC

During *Night of Festivals* you will be able to pick up a copy of a special Anniversary Freedom Comic, created by comic artist Kev Sutherland working with schools, youth groups and the wider community in Barking and Dagenham.

The comic has been developed to focus on celebrations for both the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and the 800th anniversary of St Margaret's Church, Barking.

A comedian and comic strip creator, Kev Sutherland has drawn for various publications including The Beano and Marvel comics. Kev has also produced shows for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe such as The Sitcom Trials and The Scottish Falsetto Sock Puppet Theatre!



11:30, 12:00, 13:00 , 13:30,
14:30, 15:00, 16:00 and 16:30

STORYTELLING WITH WENDY SHEARER

Running time: 30 minutes each performance

Wendy Shearer is an amazing professional storyteller who has previously worked as an interactive producer for children's television. Performing in schools, children's centres and public venues, Wendy uses props and music to complement her gripping oral storytelling for both children and adults. A great family storytelling experience.



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SATURDAY 18TH JULY BARKING ABBEY GREEN

ARTREACH NANOPLEX

A former touring caravan converted into surround sound moving image gallery!

Enjoy a series of short moving image screenings - each programme is approximately **20 minutes long**

11:30
MARIA AND OSMEY
Run time: 7:54 minutes

PAPER PLANE
Run time: 11:38 minutes

12:00
MISS DEMOCRACY
Run time: 9:10 minutes

DON'T SHOOT
Run time: 11:14 minutes

12:30
FEMININ, MASCULIN
(features strong language)
Run time: 8:41 minutes

12:30
YOU CANNOT HIDE FROM ALLAH
Run time: 12:30 minutes

13:00
MY BODY, MY WEAPON
Run time: 9:00 minutes

INTERFERENCE
Run time: 11:46 minutes

13:30
KINSHASA 2.0
Run time: 11:07 minutes

COMING OF AGE
Run time: 11:45 minutes

14:00
FAMOUS LAST WORDS
Run time: 6:48 minutes

MY HEADSCARE, MY FREEDOM
Run time: 2:40 minutes

THREE BLIND MEN
Run time: 6:57 minutes

DUST
Run time: 7:45 minutes

14:30
Animation Screening
DEMOCRACY IS...
Run time: 1:01 minutes

THE POWER OF EMPATHY
Run time: 2:53 minutes

BLAME
Run time: 3:14 minutes

ANYONE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
Run time: 1:56 minutes

CAMERA OBSCURA
Run time: 5:43 minutes

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SUNDAY 19TH JULY BARKING ABBEY GREEN

PERFORMANCE DOME



11:00 4X4 BHANGRA

Running time: 40 minutes

An established and hugely successful bhangra dance group, 4 x 4 Bhangra has brought its performances of traditional folk bhangra and bhangra fusion, with dhol drummers and singers, to various locations in Europe, the Middle East, and North America. Don't miss this vibrant and colourful start to the Sunday entertainment at *Night of Festivals* Barking.



12:00 and 12.40 GREEN CANDLE DANCE

Running time: 15 minutes

Green Candle is a specialist dance company which believes everyone has the right to practice, learn, watch and appreciate dance, regardless of age. Its dance work with older people is widely acclaimed, bringing freedom of movement expression to older generations. For *Night of Festivals* the Green Candle Senior Dancers will be performing 3 Dances to *Gottschalk* (1. Ballade 2. Polka 3. Jota) choreographed by Fergus Early to music from Louis Moreau Gottschalk.

Come and enjoy the freedom of dance as experienced and shared by older members of the community.



13:00 NGOMA

Running time: 50 minutes

This vibrant African band comprises members from various different nations from Angola to Zimbabwe. NGOMA plays a versatile range of music incorporating Afro ethnic rhythms and Western styles in its lively and robust performances.



14:30 2 MAGPIES THEATRE

Running time: 60 minutes

2 Magpies is a theatre production company that specialises in devising live performances for unique and quirky site-responsive locations, such as restaurants and motorway underpasses! Its latest production; 'The Litvinenko Project' explores the mysterious and controversial circumstances surrounding the death of Alexander Litvinenko; a fugitive officer of the Russian FSB secret service. With its direct relationship to issues of freedom and democracy the show makes a perfect ingredient for *Night of Festivals* Barking.



16:00 MUHA

Running time: 60 minutes

East Midlands based fusion group, Muha, is comprised of members from Ukraine, Latvia and the UK and this exciting mix of cultural influences are reflected in the diversity of the band's music. Muha plays an eclectic mix of Eastern European folk, North Indian Kathak rhythms, Cuban beats and Western European influences. The music features original lyrics ranging from Hindi to Old Russian and modern Ukrainian. A stimulating way to complete your *Night of Festivals* experience!



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STORYTELLING WITH REZ KABIR

Running time: 30 minutes each performance

Rez Kabir is an actor, storyteller, drama tutor and also the artistic director of Tamarind Theatre Co. Rez performs stories in English but also incorporates other languages such as Bengali into his performances and features elements from both traditional and modern sources. Rez is an accomplished storyteller who grips and engages children and family audiences with his oral tales, characterisation, movement and mime.

NIGHT OF FESTIVALS BARKING

has been made possible by



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Thanks also for support for the Magna Carta procession and Freedom Comic project from:



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