



# PEOPLING THE PALACE

In a twenty-first century take on its original ethos, the People's Palace at Queen Mary University of London opens again, with eight days of public events for the refreshment of bodies and souls with...

**Performances** in the newly-refurbished theatre, including work by leading London artists **Geraldine Pilgrim** (Handbag) and **Simon Vincenzi** (Luxuriant) and by **2BoysTV** from Canada (Phobophilia).

The return of the live art and performance platform, now called **(Re)Fresh**, including commissions in which younger and older artists create new works together.

A series of post-work discussions about **Life After Work**, in which artists, activists and thinkers will reflect on the nature of life and work and how we might imagine their relationship in new ways.

Films and exhibitions including an on-going exhibition of the Geography Department's **Poster Project**, that recount the history of the People's Palace and the installation of the Film Department's **Working Day**, a compilation film composed of extracts selected from the archive of British film.

On the opening weekend, an **Intergenerational Tea Dance**, a **Social Cinema** screening and a launch party to kick things off in an appropriate style.

**Peopling the Palace** is a collaboration between staff and students in the Drama, Film, Geography and Media and Arts Technology Departments at Queen Mary University of London and the Live Art Development Agency. Produced by AiR Project and funded by the Centre of Public Engagement, Queen Mary University of London.

Ticket booking

[WWW.AIRPROJECT.QMUL.AC.UK](http://WWW.AIRPROJECT.QMUL.AC.UK)

## Ongoing Exhibitions - Sunday 17 - Sunday 24

### People's Palace Poster Project

A series of posters produced by undergraduate students in the Geography Department that explores the context in which the People's Palace developed, the key people that made it happen, the activities that went on in the Palace and its history up to the present.

### Working Day

A compilation film composed of extracts selected from the archive of British film. Inspired by Christian Marclay's project, *Clock*, Working Day edits together a mélange of activities into a 'day' of labour. The film has been made by students on the MA Film and MA Documentary courses.

## Sunday 17 February

### Peopling the Palace Intergenerational Tea Dance

Hosted by **Ragroof Theatre**, this is a happening for all ages and levels of experience complete with glamorous performing dancers, instant dance classes and of course, tea and cake! Encounter a recreation of the glamorous heyday of ballroom dance with sounds from the roaring 20s, 30s and 40s with a dash of luscious Latin and scintillating swing.

**With a special installation of Sound Mapping London Tea Houses by G.Hack**

2 - 5pm Tea Dance - Tea and cake at 3pm

Tickets: £5 (£4 concessions) including tea and cake

\*\* Special offer FREE to under 21 & over 60 tickets on the door ( proof required)

### Social Cinema presents Deep End

An event that recalls the year 1970 through a mix of live performance, period refreshments and the screening of the the film, *Deep End* (1970). The film echoes the social history and use of the People's Palace in its former days as a cinema, and as a swimming pool. Digitally restored in 2011 by the BFI, *Deep End* is an atmospheric rendition of an East End world on the brink of change, with a dazzling performance from Jane Asher and a cameo role from Diana Dors.

**With special appearances by Figs in Wigs**

5.30 - 7.30pm

Tickets: £5 (£4 concessions)

### Peopling the Palace Opening Drinks Reception

8pm - 9pm

FREE all welcome

## Wednesday 20 February

### Life After Work 1: What's it worth?

Join us and our guest speakers for a relaxed post-work conversation about what we might do with our lives after, before or instead of work. What sort of work do we value and how do we value it? Can we think differently about how we value what we do? Includes happy hour refreshments.

5.30pm - 7pm - Studio

FREE all welcome

## Thursday 21 February

### Life After Work 2: Working Lives

In the second of three after work conversations we'll talk about our 'working' lives. Why should you stop doing the work you love? Or, on the other hand, why should you have to go on working every day of your life, just to be able to stay alive? Includes more happy hour refreshments!

5.30 - 7pm Studio

FREE all welcome

### (Re)Fresh

Inspired by questions of AGE and WAGE, (Re)Fresh is an evening of new intergenerational live art commissions and dialogues, invited performances, and top tips for younger artists. Contributors include **Sheree Rose & Martin O'Brien**, **Bette Bourne & Paul Shaw**, **Franko B & Jamie Lewis Hadley**, **Julia Bardsley & The Famous Lauren Barri Holstein**, **Tim Etchells & Hester Chillingworth**, **Scottie**, **Andy Field**, and **Mel Evans**.

(Re)Fresh, an ongoing collaboration with the **Live Art Development Agency**, marks the beginning of the Drama Department's new relationship with the beautifully renovated People's Palace. It represents a shift in curatorial focus by relating the collaborating artists and practices to some of the key research issues being undertaken by the Drama Department - specifically issues of Age and Wage.

6.00pm - 11.00pm

Tickets: £10 (£8 concessions)

## Friday 22 February

### **Life After Work 3: Utopia**

In the third of three after work conversations we'll celebrate the fact that it is Friday with some utopian thinking. Is a life without work a shared dream? And if so, when did we accept its power to determine the meaning of our lives? What are the alternatives to a working life, and what would happen if we just didn't go to work? Is a life without work imaginable, dystopian, utopian? TGIF refreshments provided.

5.30 - 7.00pm Studio

FREE all welcome

### **2boystv: Phobophilia**

Twenty-four spectators are led to a secret location to witness a peculiar interrogation. Created by 2boys.tv, a collaborative, transdisciplinary art duo from Canada, Phobophilia unfolds through a complex meshing of sound, action, ritual and video projection. Using its micro-cinema of Cocteau-inspired projections shown on an elaborate, ever-shifting pop-up book, Phobophilia is a surrealist and dreamlike experience that poses the question:

What is the role of the poet in an age characterized by fear?

5pm, 6pm and 9.30pm

Tickets: £10 (£8 concession)

£12 (£10 concession) combined Phobophilia & Luxuriant

### **Simon Vincenzi: Luxuriant**

This is the London premiere of one of the two final pieces in 'radical theatre visionary' Simon Vincenzi's Operation Infinity series.

In Luxuriant, the fictional cast Troupe Mabuse install themselves in the newly refurbished People's Palace using it as part film studio, part repository, in which they make a desperate and absurd bid to reconstruct the classic musical film Gold Diggers of 1933, a movie of a back-stage musical show mounted at the height of the depression that bankrupts itself during rehearsals.

8pm

Tickets: £10 (£8 concession)

£12 (£10 concession) combined Phobophilia & Luxuriant

## Saturday 23 February

### **2boystv: Phobophilia**

Using its micro-cinema of Cocteau-inspired projections shown on an elaborate, ever-shifting pop-up book, 2boystv's Phobophilia poses the question: What is the role of the poet in an age characterized by fear?

4pm, 5pm, 6pm & 9.30pm

Tickets: £10 (£8 concession)

£12 (£10 concession) combined Phobophilia & Luxuriant

### **Simon Vincenzi: Luxuriant**

In Luxuriant, the fictional cast Troupe Mabuse install themselves in the newly refurbished People's Palace using it as part film studio, part repository, in which they make a desperate and absurd bid to reconstruct the classic musical film Gold Diggers.

8pm

Tickets: £10 (£8 concession)

£12 (£10 concession) combined Phobophilia & Luxuriant

## Sunday 24th February

### **Geraldine Pilgrim: Handbag**

In an empty ballroom, a caretaker sweeps away the remnants of a previous event. A woman enters the space and puts down her handbag. A beat begins, a mirror ball turns and the sound of a classic dance track fills the air...

Handbag is a gem of a performance with great music, a hundred dancers and as many handbags. It's just made for a room like the Great Hall in the Peoples Palace and a great way to celebrate the closing of the Peopling the Palace Festival.

"A witty and wistful performance that, in a few delirious moments, succinctly makes the point that no woman needs a man when she has got her handbag in tow." Lyn Gardner, The Guardian

Handbag was commissioned for the Grand Hall at BAC and has subsequently toured to ballrooms, civic halls, unusual spaces and festivals around the UK.

Duration: 15 minutes.

4.30pm, 5.00pm, 5.30pm, 6.00pm, 6.30pm, 7.00pm

Tickets: £4 for each show no concessions



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## FEBRUARY 17-24 2013

QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON  
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