

hARTslane



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

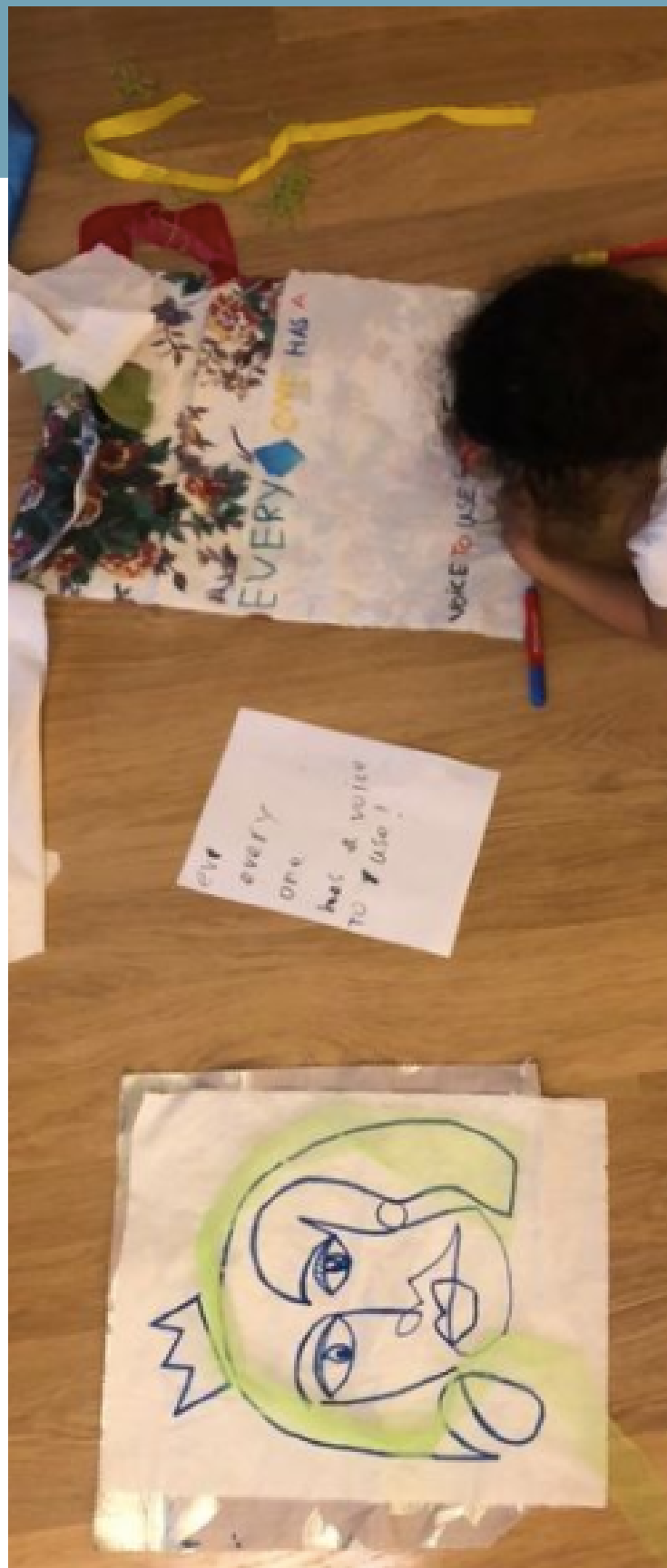
During times of crisis, artists become conveyors of emotions that go beyond what can be read in textbooks or newspapers. Art plays a role, perhaps similar to religion, in that it helps us understand things that are too big to understand.

Patrick Moore, director of The Andy Warhol Museum,

With a third, tougher lockdown announced by PM Boris Johnson on the 19th of December 2020, 2021 didn't really start under the best auspices. All the projects and events in the calendar for January, February and March were cancelled at once and we were left again with a feeling of frustration and uncertainty for the future of hARTslane, let alone of everyone on this planet.

There was only one project that was Covid safe enough to break through the strict guidelines of many funders and when the opportunity came by, thanks to The Friends of Eckington Gardens and the National Lottery Community Fund, we took it promptly. The [Bunting of Hope at Eckington Gardens](#) in March 2021, was not only an occasion to engage with local residents, but also to spread kindness, joy and creativity around during a very difficult time, when again social contacts were restricted and fear of catching the virus was rife.

In April, as the situation improved (only temporary as we know now) and the government finally announced a road to re-open, enquiries from artists who wanted to plan their exhibitions and events in the summer started to flock in again and we



realised how important and timely making the gallery space available to artists really is.

From an idea by Nikos Akritidis, member of our Advisory Board, we decided to welcome back our audience in a safe and magic way through a programme of outdoor artist film screenings. From May to September, every Friday night the makeshift screening of **Moving Harts** went up in Harts Lane and neighbours and friends joined bringing their own chairs, drinks and the desire to get together again. From then it's been a constant flow of events and exhibitions throughout the summer and autumn, when we finally managed to slow down and work on our cultural and refurbishment plans for 2022.

2021 will also be the year when we finally made some important progress in the process of repairing the fabric of the building that hosts hARTslane. We started drawing the plans, seeking guidance on the planning permission aspect, submitting (and subsequently withdrawing) the planning application, engaging and consulting the neighbours and got on with the fundraising campaign for the renovation cost.

The year finished with three very positive developments: Rachel Lonsdale, who co-curated Moving Harts, joined our team on a more permanent basis; we recruited 3 new fantastic Advisory Board members and last but not least, our funding applications to the Arts Council England and Lewisham Council for Come Dine in Blue, part of Lewisham London Borough of Culture 2022 were successful!

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- We produced 2 **Bunting of Hope** participatory art installations in the community in New Cross.
- We commissioned our first ever site specific permanent installation: **Retina** by Clive Burton
- We produced **Moving Harts**, a 5 month programme of outdoor screenings
- We organised the first **Mini Clay Club**, a short series of clay workshops for local residents.
- We continued the work on the **Be Seen, Be Heard** forum for young black creatives from Lewisham, which is now a permanent platform coordinated by the amazing young creatives Jada Perry and Flynn Richards!
- We expanded our network: became part of Lewisham Visual Arts Network and of the Social Art Network-London
- Goldsmiths placement and volunteers
- We recruited 3 new **Advisory Board** members
- Our **Come Dine in Blue** funding applications to the Arts Council England and Lewisham Council were successful!
- We started the consultation and refurbishment process.

AT A GLANCE

3

COMMUNITY
PROJECT

10

OUTDOOR
ARTIST FILM
SCREENING

25

EVENTS &
EXHIBITIONS

45

PARTICIPANTS
@ THE BUNTING

148

ARTISTS IN THE
GALLERY SPACE

50

YOUNG BLACK
ARTISTS @
BE SEEN BE HEARD

3

NEW BOARD
MEMBERS

1

PERMANENT ART
INSTALLATION



BUNTING OF HOPE

ECKINGTON GARDENS & FEED THE HILL (DEPTFORDX)

hARTslane's Bunting of Hope is inspired by the Tibetan prayer flags typically carrying mantras (sacred words) for peace, compassion, good fortune, strength or wisdom. They are an essential part of Tibetan buddhism and can be found over mountain passes and along mountain ridges. Tibetans believe that these flags bless the air with their mantras and its messages of goodwill are carried with the wind and spread to the rest of the world.

The first Bunting of Hope installation took place during the Covid-19 Lockdown in Autumn 2020, when physical and social interaction was

restricted and it's now an evolving continuous project taking place in various in- and outdoor venues across South East London.

Locations:

Hilly Fields Park, Brockley, Lewisham, 2020

Eckington Gardens, New Cross, Lewisham, 2021

Feed the Hill Social Supermarket, Lewisham, 2021 – part of DeptfordX Fringe Programme

Partners:

Friends of Hilly Fields Community Group, Pistachos Cafe, Friends of Eckington Gardens, Feed The Hill Social Supermarket, Deptford X and all local residents and artists who made and donated their flag artworks.

Funded by The Arts Council England (2020), The National Lottery Community Fund (2021).



MOVING HARTS

A programme of Covid safe, walk-through art video projections to enjoy the arts and get together again.

Every Friday evening Moving Harts showcased a different collection of short films from artists from around the world, with screenings starting at dusk, and lasting roughly 1 hour.

On from Friday 7th of May – 15th October 2021 (except August). A series of interviews by Rachel Lonsdale was also released as part of the programme.

Curated by:

Nikos Akritidis
Rachel Lonsdale &
hARTslane

In collaboration with:

VideoWords

HARTSLANE.ORG



Moving Harts

INTERVIEW TO SUSO PHIZER

Suso Phizer is a Philadelphia based artist and social worker who specializes in group process. In her artwork she uses performance and video to explore relational dynamics, often involving herself and her collaborators. Her most recent work, Utopia, documents an unscripted fight

MINI CLAY CLUB

A mini gathering to make mini clay things!

The first edition of the Mini Clay Club took place during summer 2021.

Thanks to artists **Rain Wu & Whynn Chandra** who facilitated the club and passed on a lot of clay pottery tips



BE SEEN, BE HEARD

A FORUM TO SUPPORT YOUNG (16-25) BLACK CREATIVES IN LEWISHAM AND SE-LONDON

Be Seen, Be Heard aims to introduce fresh voices into the visual conversations that echo round our cities as well as provide a forum to debate the roles of art, visual activism and change within the art world. Our intent is to create opportunities for exposure, paid work, networking and professional development for black creatives aged 16-25 in Lewisham and South East London.

2021: ART FOR POSTER-ITY IN HARTSLANE

Supported by Lewisham Council, the exhibition organised by the Be Seen, Be Heard Youth Forum, brought together 50 young black artists and creatives from Lewisham & South East London celebrating black lives as well as addressing disparity, marginalisation and the need for change.

ART AND DESIGN TALK

A webinar to discuss and share helpful tips and tricks on design processes and ways to achieve successful outcomes.



*Detail of the BSBH Art for Poster-ity exhibition at
hARTslane, June 2021*

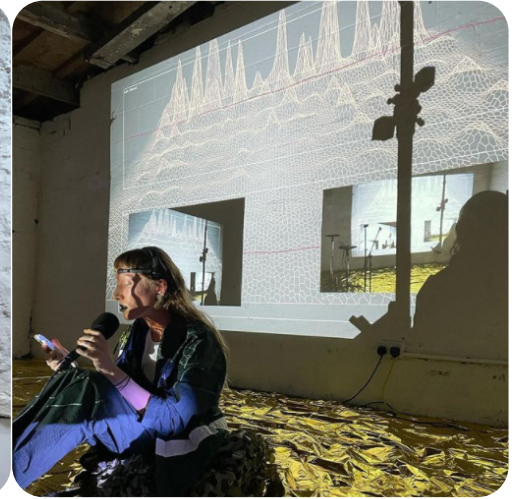
Last Minute



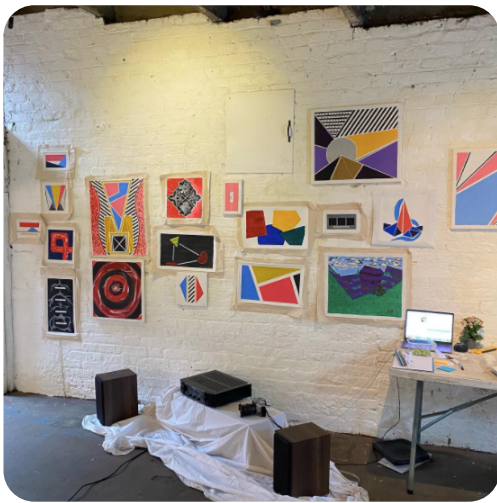
Auto-Gibberish



Reference Point 01 & 02



Inside Music by Scheme



Sara Lima's book launch & exhibition



Where do you keep your cups?



OTHER EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS IN HARTSLANE

Ghost Show



Heartfelt City by Nikolaos Akritidis



Relay Residency - final exhibition





Moving Harts night

ABOUT HARTSLANE

DIRECTORS

Cristiana Bottigella
Sigrun Sverrisdottir
Tisna Westerhof

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Rachel Lonsdale

ART FACILITATOR

Mary McInerney

BE SEEN, BE HEARD

Coordinator Jada Parry

Assistant coordinator: Flynn Richards

ADVISORY BOARD

Fred Agbah
Nikos Aktridis
Guy Forrester
David Holloway OBE
Martin Okoli
Shamina Peerboccous
Sara Willett

ACCOUNTANT

Martin Connell