



PLATFORMA 5 : OUTLINE PROGRAMME

The biennial Platforma Festival brings together artists, organisations, funders and others for discussions, workshops and the chance to share practice and showcase new work. Platforma 1 took place in London (2011), followed by Manchester (2013), Leicester (2015) & Newcastle and the North East (2017). Platforma 5 will take place across Kent & Medway in October 2019.

Platforma is a project managed by Counterpoints Arts, a leading national charity working on the arts, migration & social change.

More events will be added in the coming weeks. Programme, dates and times are subject to alteration. Check www.platforma.org.uk for detailed information, booking & updates.

All queries: tom@counterpointsarts.org.uk

September/October

No Direction Home : Stand-up comedy workshops & performances in Gravesend & Sheppey In partnership with Ideas Test, Woodville Theatre, Cohesion Plus

No Direction Home, produced by Counterpoints Arts & Camden People's Theatre, has been running since September 2018, with free coaching and paid performances for new stand-up comedians from refugee & migrant backgrounds. Led by award-winning comic Tom Parry, the group have performed at 10 gigs in London & Edinburgh and worked with guest headliners including Suzi Ruffell, Nish Kumar and Romesh Ranganathan.

For Platforma 5 Tom Parry and members of the No Direction Home group will lead a series of workshops and performances with people in Gravesend and Sheppey.

Hiphop and spoken word workshops with young people In partnership with Oliver Seagar, Pie Factory and Music for Change

Pie Factory Music is a charity set up to provide free accessible music and related arts workshops for young people across East Kent. Music for Change specialise in educational workshops, celebratory events and specifically targeted projects. Counterpoints Arts is working with both organisations as part of our PRS-supported Music for Social Change initiative, to bring brilliant hiphop and spoken word artists into existing youth music projects for exciting new collaborations.

14 September- 13 October Home - exhibition by People Utd / Anna Ray, The Beaney House of Art & Knowledge, Canterbury

Home was commissioned by People United in partnership with the Diocese of Canterbury and Ashford Borough Council in 2018. The project saw textile artist Anna Ray working with a group of women in Ashford, including recently resettled Syrian women, to explore the theme of 'home' through a series of art workshops. Work produced by the group will be exhibited as part of Platforma 5.

5-6 October: Platforma @ Custom Folkestone

A weekend of food and conversation led by Custom, an organisation “changing the world, one wheel at a time”

7 October: Platforma 5 Launch event at Kent County Council, Maidstone

17.00-18.30 : A special event in partnership with Kent County Council for the official launch of Platforma 5 (invitation only)

9 October: No Direction Home at Woodville Theatre

19.30-21.00: Stand-up performance featuring local people who have attended the workshops, plus special guest headliners. In partnership with Cohesion Plus & Woodville Theatre.

11 October: “Museums, Heritage, Refugees & Migration - Building long-term partnerships”: a free seminar at the Huguenot Museum, Rochester

12.00-16.00: A wide-ranging investigation into the role the heritage sector can play in engaging with people from refugee and migrant backgrounds, with guest speakers, networking and discussion. Counterpoints Arts in partnership with Huguenot Museum & Migration Museum

11 October: Swale Festival of Light in Sittingbourne, with Cohesion Plus

Following workshops local schools to create lanterns around core values of respect, excellence, friendship and equality led by artists commissioned for Platforma 5, a parade as part of a colourful community festival.

Date to be confirmed: No Direction Home at Sheppey Little Theatre

19.30-21.00: Stand-up performance featuring local people who have attended the workshops, plus special guest headliners. In partnership with Ideas Test

16-27 October: Why Folkestone? by Aida Silvestri, Folkestone

A new exhibition for Platforma 5 by the internationally-exhibited photographer [Aida Silvestri](#) whose previous work includes *Even This Will Pass* and *Unsterile Clinic*.

21-25 October Platforma 5 takeover at Turner Contemporary & 101 Social, Margate

A week-long programme of artist-led engagement & talks linked to 2019 Turner Prize exhibition. Co-commissioned and co-curated by Counterpoints Arts, Turner Contemporary & 101 Social.

Including:

23 October - "Creating an Archive"

Exploring the history of arts, refugees and migration projects in Kent. How might we work collectively to bring this archive to life? Led by Julie Neville and Douglas Noble.

21-26 October: Platforma 5 at Gulbenkian, in partnership with Counterpoints Arts

21-22 October: Pop culture / Young People / Migration & Social Change - retreat, Gulbenkian

Pop Culture and Social Change is a pioneering project from Counterpoints Arts exploring how the power of pop culture can be harnessed to shift the way we talk, think and feel about migration and displacement. As part of Platforma 5, the fifth arts & refugees festival run by Counterpoints Arts, we are holding an event in partnership with Gulbenkian exploring how youth-focused pop culture formats can create positive social change relating to migration and displacement. (Invitation only)

21 October: Pop culture, arts & activism - Gulbenkian

18.00-19.00: A free session open to all, linked to our pop culture retreat.

Followed by:

7.30pm Matangi/Maya/M.I.A. - film screening, Gulbenkian

A 2018 biographical documentary film about English rapper, artist & activist M.I.A.. Directed by Steve Loveridge

22 October: Popjustice scratch!, Gulbenkian

17.00: A free performance, open to all, by participants in the pop culture retreat.

23 October: Tongue Fu, Gulbenkian

Tongue Fu is one of the UK's leading spoken word shows. It is a riotous experiment in live literature, music, film and improvisation.

24 October: No Direction Home stand-up comedy with guest headliner, Gulbenkian

After a sell-out gig at the Southbank Centre in London, and guest headliners including Nish Kumar and Romesh Ranganathan No Direction Home bring a hilarious line-up of comedians from refugee & migrant backgrounds to Canterbury for this one-off gig. Special guest headliners to be announced!

25 October: The Last Tree, Gulbenkian

A new feature film, written & directed by Shola Amoo. Presented as part of Black History Month by Kent University Union.

26 October: Family Day, Gulbenkian

Artist and performer-led workshops, performances and fun for the whole family, around themes of home, identity and migration.

26 October: Rafiki Jazz, Gulbenkian

Acclaimed by Songlines magazine as 'The best of British', Rafiki Jazz bring their diverse and eclectic sound to Kent for a unique Platforma 5 performance. A collective based in the north of England, comprising musicians from around the world, their latest album, 'Har Dam Sahara', draws on the beauty and poetry of Pakistan & Senegal's mystic Sufi traditions and ancient Middle Eastern Coptic, Arabic & Hebrew roots.

26 October: Shiva Nova presents Romany Diamonds, Quarterhouse Folkestone, 7.30pm

Three generations of one traditional Gypsy Roma family playing acoustic magic with fire and soul; amazing audiences with back-to-front violin playing and soul-searching ballads followed by musical Gypsy mayhem. Plus: The World in a Tent Roma exhibition will be in the foyer all day hosting workshops in Roma music from 4pm-5pm and dance from 5pm-6pm for everyone to join in!

27 October: Platforma 5 presents Quarterhouse, Folkestone

A series of presentations from artists who are part of the Platforma network in Kent and across England, followed by discussions and networking.

Music in Detention - Dover Date / Venue TBC

Music in Detention, in collaboration with artist Oliver Seagar are running a 3 day residency in Dover, with musicians they worked with whilst they were incarcerated in the UK's Immigration Detention System. Until 2015 there was an Immigration Removal Centre in Dover, sited in Dover's Western Heights Nature Reserve. Some of our musicians were held there. Music in Detention co creates soundtracks with people who are detained in Immigration Removal Centres. This time MiD are working with musicians after detention. The residency includes a concert and presentation which will be free and open to the public.