



**PLATFORMA  
FESTIVAL**

**LEICESTER  
NOVEMBER 2015**

**platforma**

Arts + Refugees Network

# WE WELCOME YOU TO THE 2015 PLATFORMA FESTIVAL IN LEICESTER

'WELCOME' HAS BECOME A HUGELY URGENT GESTURE IN THESE EXCEPTIONAL TIMES WITH OVER 60 MILLION PEOPLE FORCEFULLY DISPLACED ACROSS THE GLOBE. PLATFORMA FESTIVAL 2015 ENGAGES THE THEME OF 'WELCOME' THROUGH THE PRISM OF ARTS AND CULTURE. IT PROVIDES RICH OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE THE INCREASINGLY VITAL ROLE ARTS, CULTURE AND ARTISTS PLAY IN WHAT IS A DRAMATIC GLOBAL STORY OF DISPLACEMENT THAT IS PLAYED OUT LOCALLY.

IN LESS THAN FIVE YEARS, PLATFORMA HAS GROWN TO BE AN EFFECTIVE SUPPORT AND CATALYST FOR DEVELOPMENTAL AND PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARTISTIC PRACTICE LED BY REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS. SUPPORTED FROM THE OUTSET BY THE BARING FOUNDATION AND ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND IN 2010, PLATFORMA ARTS + REFUGEES WAS ENVISAGED AS A NATIONAL INTERVENTION AIMING TO IMPROVE NETWORKING AMONG ARTISTS AND GROUPS WHO WERE CREATIVELY AND CRITICALLY EXPLORING REFUGEE AND MIGRANT EXPERIENCES. IN 2010 THE IMMEDIATE ISSUES WERE THE ARRIVAL OF RELATIVELY INCREASED NUMBERS OF REFUGEES TO THE UK; THE LOCAL IMPACT OF DISPERSAL POLICY; AND A DESIRE TO RESPOND PROACTIVELY AND INNOVATIVELY TO NEGATIVE MEDIA COVERAGE OF REFUGEE AND ASYLUM ISSUES.

THE PLATFORMA FESTIVAL'S TWO-YEAR CYCLE ALLOWS US TO EXPAND AND DEEPEN NETWORKS, EACH TIME IN A DIFFERENT CITY IN COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS, GROUPS, VENUES AND ACROSS SECTORS. WITH ALREADY TWO PLATFORMA FESTIVALS IN THE ARCHIVE (LONDON 2011 AND MANCHESTER 2013), LEICESTER 2015 PROMISES TO CONTINUE A TRADITION OF SHOWCASING EMERGING WORK, TO GENERATE EXCITING COLLABORATIONS, EXCHANGES AND DISCUSSIONS AROUND AN ARRAY OF PRACTICE-BASED ISSUES AND TOPICS.

THIS YEAR WE ARE PLEASED TO BE COLLABORATING WITH ARTREACH AND HAVE THE SUPPORT OF DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER, LEICESTER CITY OF SANCTUARY AND A RANGE OF OTHER PARTNERS. BECAUSE OF THESE PARTNERSHIPS, 2015 COMPRISES A BRILLIANTLY ECLECTIC PROGRAMME OF WORKSHOPS, PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS, PRESENTATIONS, FILM-SCREENINGS AND LEARNING LABS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE LEICESTER PLATFORMA

FESTIVAL WILL INCLUDE A HALF-DAY SEMINAR FOCUSING ON DEVELOPING THE PLATFORMA MODEL INTERNATIONALLY, REFLECTING THE INCREASINGLY INTERNATIONALISED NATURE OF THE WORK THAT WE ALL DO.

BUT WHAT MAKES THE PLATFORMA FESTIVAL SO URGENT THIS YEAR IS WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS - AND WITH DIFFERENT TIMES COME NEW CHALLENGES. THE LEICESTER 2015 PROGRAMME MEETS THESE NEW TIMES WITH A COMBINATION OF ENERGY, DARING AND PASSION. THE ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PRACTITIONERS AT PLATFORMA FESTIVAL REFUSE TO TURN THEIR HEARTS AWAY FROM THE SHEER SCALE OF THE CURRENT LEVELS OF HUMAN DISPLACEMENT. MANY OF THE ARTISTS AND CONTRIBUTORS CARRY THEIR OWN PERSONAL HISTORIES OF MIGRATION. OTHERS TAKE THEIR CUE FROM THE EXTRAORDINARILY MOVING RESPONSES SHOWN BY LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WHERE 'SOLIDARITY AND COMPASSION' ARE TRIGGERS FOR ACTION AND DISQUIET AGAINST WHAT MANY PERCEIVE TO BE LESS THAN GENEROUS IMMIGRATION POLICY.

PLATFORMA 2015 IN LEICESTER ENCOURAGES US TO RE-CLAIM OLD-FASHIONED WORDS LIKE SOLIDARITY, EMPATHY, FRIENDSHIP, KINDNESS, GENEROSITY AND PUT THEM TO DIFFERENT USE THROUGH NEW CREATIVE VENTURES.

IN ALL OF THIS YEAR'S CONTRIBUTIONS, THERE IS A DESIRE TO SHARE AND COLLABORATE. TO LISTEN TO THE 'VOICES' OF MANY COMMUNITIES ON THE MOVE, OR HALTED IN-BETWEEN BORDERS OR THOSE WHO HAVE FINALLY LANDED AND ARE FACED WITH THE OBSTACLES OF STARTING LIFE ANEW. TO ALSO LISTEN AND WORK WITH 'HOST COMMUNITIES' LIVING IN THOSE VERY LOCAL PLACES THAT GLOBAL MIGRATION IS SHAPING ANEW.

PLATFORMA CONFERENCE 2015 INVITES US TO EMBRACE THE POTENTIAL OF THE ARTS AS A CATALYST FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN WHAT ARE TOUGH TIMES; BUT TO ALSO THINK NEW IDEAS AND WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER IN THE IMAGINING AND CREATION OF BETTER FUTURES.

COUNTERPOINTS ARTS, 2015

# JOURNEYS EXTRA

JOURNEYS EXTRA IS A NEW INITIATIVE, DEVELOPED BY ARTREACH IN COLLABORATION WITH LEICESTER CITY OF SANCTUARY.

## VISUAL ART AT LCB DEPOT, RUTLAND STREET, LEICESTER, LE1 1RE

### **HONG DAM 'DREAMING OF HOME'**

HONG USES CONTEMPORARY MEDIUMS TO BRING TOGETHER THE DIFFERENT FACETS OF HER CHILDHOOD MEMORIES - THE FEELINGS OF HOPE AND THE DREAMS OF A CHILD WHO HAD TO FLEE HER HOMETLAND AS A REFUGEE. (BELOW "DREAMING OF HOME" BY HONG DAM)

### **BEHJAT OMER ABDULLA 'LOOK UP, LOOK BACK'**

IN AUGUST 2015, AS PART OF JOURNEYS FESTIVAL AND FOR THE 'LOOK UP' GALLERY, BEHJAT'S INCREDIBLE DRAWINGS WERE ENLARGED TO HUGE SCALES AND PASTED ONTO THE SIDES OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AROUND LEICESTER. 'LOOK UP, LOOK BACK' TAKES A 'LOOK BACK' AND RESPONDS TO THE ORIGINAL EXHIBITION.

### **ALI AGAYEV (IN COLLABORATION WITH LEICESTER ARTS ZONE) 'FIGHTING TO STAY ALIVE'**

FEATURES PAINTINGS PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ATTENDEES OF ALI'S LEICESTER ARTS ZONE PAINTING CLASSES, AS WELL AS FILM AND INSTALLATION PIECES. THE POWERFUL AND THOUGHT PROVOKING EXHIBITION DOCUMENTS A FAILED MIGRANT CHANNEL CROSSING.

### **SHORT FILMS IN THE NANOPLEX**

THE COURTYARD, BEHIND THE LCB DEPOT, RUTLAND STREET, LEICESTER, LE1 1RE (ACCESSED VIA GRAY'S CAFE)

A MINI CINEMA, CLEVERLY CONVERTED OUT OF A CARAVAN, SHOWCASING A SERIES OF SHORT FILMS MADE BY OR ABOUT REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS. THE FILMS RANGE FROM SHORT DOCUMENTARIES TO ANIMATION AND ACTED SHORT FILMS AND ARE SHOWN ON AN 'ON DEMAND' BASIS.

2-6 NOVEMBER





## MUSIC & PERFORMANCE AT DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY

### **HAYMANOT TESFA, 5TH NOVEMBER, 2PM**

ETHIOPIAN-BORN SINGER AND ARTIST HAYMANOT TESFA GIVES A SHORT PERFORMANCE ON 5TH NOVEMBER. HAYMANOT RETURNS TO PLATFORMA AS PART OF JOURNEYS FESTIVAL'S COFFEE SHOP CONVERSATIONS, NEW PROJECT OF INFORMAL 'IN-CONVERSATION WITH' TALKS IN A NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT COFFEE SHOPS ACROSS LEICESTER CITY CENTRE ON THE THEME OF 'UNITY THROUGH CREATIVITY'.

### **'A JOURNEY OF UNBELONGING', 5TH NOVEMBER, 4PM**

THIS PERFORMANCE PIECE COMBINES LIVE ACTION PAINTING AND IMPROVISED MUSIC COMPOSITION, ORIGINALLY COMMISSIONED BY JOURNEYS FESTIVAL. THE PERFORMANCE IS BEING RE-IMAGINED FOR JOURNEYS EXTRA BY MINA MIKHAIL SALAMA (EGYPTIAN COMPOSER/ INSTRUMENTALIST), AYSEGUL BALKOSE (TURKISH PERFORMANCE & VISUAL ARTIST).

### **DANTO AYA, 6TH NOVEMBER, 2PM**

DANTO IS A BOLTON-BASED, TUAREG MUSICIAN & SINGER. HE PLAYS ELECTRIC AND ACOUSTIC GUITAR IN A STYLE SOME DESCRIBE AS 'DESERT BLUES'. HE COMPOSES SONGS IN 'HIS PEOPLE'S LANGUAGE' - TAMASHEQ.

### **PHOTOWORKS PROJECT - PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS AND EXHIBITION**

A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHY BASED PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS WITH A GROUP OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS, LED BY THE ARTIST ANNA SHERBANY. THE RESULTS WILL BE EXHIBITED AT THE PLATFORMA CONFERENCE.

CITY OF SANCTUARY IS A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT ACROSS THE UK AND IRELAND PROMOTING A CULTURE OF WELCOME FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES. CITY OF SANCTUARY WORKS THROUGH THE PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS TO RAISE AWARENESS AND CREATE SAFE SPACES TO CONNECT REFUGEES WITH LOCAL PEOPLE. LOCAL GROUPS CAN HELP TO PROMOTE ARTISTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS WHICH RAISE AWARENESS OF REFUGEE ISSUES. CITYOFSANCTUARY.ORG.  
COLLEEN@CITYOFSANCTUARY.ORG

JOURNEYS EXTRA, 5-6 NOVEMBER

# PLATFORMA INTERNATIONAL

PLATFORMA INVITES ARTISTS, ORGANISATIONS, ACADEMICS AND OTHERS (INCLUDING POLICY MAKERS AND FUNDERS) WORKING IN THE ARTS RELATING TO REFUGEES AND MIGRATIONS, TO OUR FIRST INTERNATIONAL EVENT. PLATFORMA INTERNATIONAL IS PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION AT UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

**CURVE THEATRE, 60 RUTLAND STREET, LEICESTER, LE1 1SB**

THE AIM WILL BE TO SHARE PRACTICE OF THOSE WORKING ENTIRELY, OR IN PART, OUTSIDE ENGLAND (WHETHER BASED IN ENGLAND OR ELSEWHERE) AND TO EXPLORE THE POTENTIAL FOR NEW COLLABORATIONS AND NETWORKING. SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE:

**CAROLINA TRIANA, ARTS AND CULTURE COORDINATOR AT SETTLEMENT SERVICES INTERNATIONAL (SSI).**

SSI IS THE LARGEST NOT-FOR-PROFIT HUMANITARIAN SETTLEMENT ORGANISATION IN AUSTRALIA, SUPPORTING AROUND 12,000 CLIENTS PER YEAR ON REFUGEE AND BRIDGING VISAS.

**LALYA GAYE (ATTAYA).**

FOUNDED IN 2013, ATTAYA PROJECTS IS A CREATIVE PLATFORM FOR DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS COLLABORATIONS. RUN BY LALYA GAYE, A SWEDISH AND SENEGALESE-MALIAN DIGITAL MEDIA ARTIST AND INTERACTION DESIGN RESEARCHER BASED IN NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

**DIMA SABER (BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY).**

DIMA IS SENIOR RESEARCHER AND LECTURER AT THE BIRMINGHAM CENTRE FOR MEDIA AND CULTURAL RESEARCH. SHE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LEADING AND DELIVERING PROJECTS IN CITIZEN JOURNALISM IN THE ARAB REGION, WITH A FOCUS ON THE ROLE OF DIGITAL MEDIA IN FOSTERING SOCIAL CHANGE.

**ZODWA NYONI.**

PLAYWRIGHT AND POET. ZODWA WAS ANNOUNCED AS THE 2014 WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE AT THE WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE VIA THE CHANNEL 4 PLAYWRIGHTS' SCHEME. PLAYS INCLUDE NINE LIVES AND BOI BOI IS DEAD.

4TH NOVEMBER, 1-5PM



# NATASHA DAVIS – INTERNAL TERRAINS

WHAT CRACKS, WHAT DENTS APPEAR IN THE DENSITY OF EVERYDAY PRESSURES AND AGEING? WHY IS THE BODY SOMETIMES SENSITIVE TO EVERY SOUND?

INTERNAL TERRAINS EXPLORES LIFE AS A CHOREOGRAPHY OF DECADES, IN SEARCH OF WHAT'S AT STAKE AS WE MOVE FROM ONE DECADE TO THE NEXT. DEVELOPED PARTLY IN THE STUDIO AND PARTLY THROUGH WORKSHOPS; DMU STUDENTS WILL BE SHARING STORIES AND WORK WITH PERFORMANCE ARTIST NATASHA DAVIS TO TRANSLATE THEM INTO VISUAL METAPHORS AROUND BODY, MEMORY AND IDENTITY.

CREATED, WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY NATASHA DAVIS. DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH: BOB KARPER (SOUND), BRANISLAVA KUBUROVIC (WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION), ELISA GALLO ROSSO (OBJECTS), LUCY CASH (MOVEMENT) AND MARTY LANGTHORNE (LIGHTS).

ORIGINALLY COMMISSIONED BY CHELSEA THEATRE LONDON, COLCHESTER ARTS CENTRE AND LIVE COLLISION DUBLIN. FUNDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND, HOSKING HOUSES TRUST AND THEATRE STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK. SUPPORTED BY LITTORAL.

THIS PERFORMANCE COMMISSIONED BY DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY, COUNTERPOINTS ARTS, ARTREACH AND CITY OF SANCTUARY LEICESTER/JOURNEYS EXTRA FOR THE PLATFORMA FESTIVAL 2015

FREE TO ALL. SUITABLE FOR AGES 16+ (UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

**THE VENUE, DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY,  
WESTERN BOULEVARD, LEICESTER, LE2 7BU**

4TH NOVEMBER, 7.30PM



# PLATFORMA CONFERENCE

THE THIRD BIENNIAL PLATFORMA CONFERENCE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DMU, BRINGS TOGETHER ARTISTS IN ALL DISCIPLINES, ORGANISATIONS, ACADEMICS AND ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN THE ARTS BY, ABOUT AND WITH REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS.

FEATURING A SELECTION OF PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS FROM ARTISTS INCLUDING POET KAYO CHINGONYI, SOMALI LULLABIES FEATURING MARYAN ANSHUR, MUSICIAN AND DANCER RACHEL DE GARANG, ARTISTS JONATHAN RAISIN AND NAIROUZ (TALKING ABOUT THEIR WORK FOR SOLA ARTS' FESTIVAL 31), MUSICIAN MICHAEL CRETU, AND VISUAL ARTIST HONG DAM

**THE VENUE, DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY,  
WESTERN BOULEVARD, LEICESTER, LE2 7BU**

**5-6 NOVEMBER,  
10.30-5PM**

## 5TH NOVEMBER

BOBBY LLOYD AND JESS LINTON - INHABITING THE UNINHABITABLE, ART REFUGE UK IN CALAIS AND KATHMANDU.

COUNTERPOINTS LEARNING LAB 'ROUND TABLE' - ECONOMICS, PEOPLE AND PLACE: POLICY V PARTICIPATORY ARTS PRACTICE IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION. EXPLORING THE CRITICAL SPACE BETWEEN ECONOMIC POLICY, INEQUALITY, PARTICIPATORY ARTS AND COMMUNITIES OF PLACE.

SIMONA SCOTTO - MIGRATION THROUGH MOVEMENT. ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF COUNTERPOINT DANCE COMPANY, TALKING ABOUT HER NEW WORK, MIGRATIONS EUROPA EXCHANGE.

NATASHA DAVIS - BODY, MEMORY AND IDENTITY EXPLORED THROUGH INSTALLATION BASED PERFORMANCE INTERNAL TERRAINS.

POD COLLECTIVE - DISPERSAL PROJECT. IN RESPONSE TO THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASYLUM DISPERSAL PROGRAMME POD COLLECTIVE HAVE LED ART, PRINT AND WRITING WORKSHOPS WITH AFFECTED WOMEN AFFECTED THROUGHOUT GREATER MANCHESTER.

DASH ARTS - TWISTOV. A PRACTICAL WORKSHOP EXPLORING THE THEMES OF ARRIVAL AND SURVIVAL AND SHARING DASH ARTS APPROACH TO MAKING WORK.

VALENTINA ZAGARIA, ILARIA VECCHI AND AGNES WOOLLEY - STORYTELLING ON AND ABOUT LAMPEDUSA. SUPPORTED BY THE HUMANITIES

AND ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE, ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

COMMUNITY ARTS NORTHWEST - HIDDEN HISTORIES: BRINGING REFUGEE NARRATIVES TO LIFE. COMMUNITY ARTS NORTH WEST (CAN) WILL SHARE PRACTICE AND LEARNING FROM ITS ORAL HISTORIES PROJECT LISAPO - THE CONGOLESE TALES

COFFEE SHOP CONVERSATIONS - UNITY THROUGH CREATIVITY. A PRESENTATION ABOUT THE NEW PROJECT FROM JOURNEYS FESTIVAL IN LEICESTER.

## 6TH NOVEMBER

KOOJ CHUHAN, ANDREW BALDWIN AND ALEX RANDELL - FOOTPRINT MODULATION: ART, CLIMATE AND MIGRATION.

MICHAEL CRETU - GIPSY MUSIC AND THE INFLUENCE OF EXILE.

ISMAIL EINASHE AND AGNES WOOLLEY - ART, OCCUPATION AND CITIZENSHIP IN ITALY. SUPPORTED BY THE HUMANITIES AND ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE, ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

ANNE SMITH - CREATIVE ENGLISH; FROM PARTICIPANT TO VOLUNTEER THROUGH DRAMA.

MUSSARAT RAHMAN AND BEATE DEHNEN - THERAPEUTIC ARTS OFFERING REFUGE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

MARIA ROVISCO (UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER)

AND EMMA COX (ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON) - PERFORMING NON/CITIZENSHIP. HOW CONCEPTS OF CITIZENSHIP AND NON - CITIZENSHIP ARE NEGOTIATED, REIMAGINED OR EMBODIED THROUGH CONTEMPORARY ARTISTIC PERFORMANCE AND IN PERFORMATIVE INTERVENTIONS

DOMENICO SERGI (HORNIMAN MUSEUM; PHD CANDIDATE, UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA) - CONNECTING MUSEUMS WITH REFUGEE AND ASYLUM-SEEKER ORGANISATIONS.

**COUNTERPOINTS ARTS LEARNING LABS - SYRIA ON THE ROAD: STORIES OF CONFLICT, MIGRATION AND PLACE**

WITH TWO WORKSHOPS AND TWO CINEMA SCREENINGS (FROM 6PM AT PHOENIX CINEMA)

**FILMING SYRIA, LED BY YASMIN FEDDA**

11:40 - 1:00pm

THE WORKSHOP FOCUSES ON FILMS MADE IN OR ABOUT SYRIA, EXPLORING THE NOTION OF 'HOME' THROUGH THE LENS OF FIRST AND SECOND-TIME FILMMAKERS. LOOKING AT FILMS PRODUCED

WITHIN AND AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF THE CIVIL WAR, DISCUSSING RECURRING THEMES THAT FILMMAKERS HAVE GRAPPLED WITH AND THEIR FILMMAKING LANGUAGE AND APPROACH.

**STORIES FROM 'ON THE ROAD', LED BY GILLIAN GORDON**

2:40 - 4:00pm

A PRACTICAL WORKSHOP FOCUSING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCREEN STORIES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN TO BE 'ON THE ROAD'. PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE BROUGHT AN OBJECT OR AN IMAGE TO WORK WITH AS PART OF THE STORYTELLING PROCESS.

A PARTNERSHIP FILM PROGRAMME COMPRISING COUNTERPOINTS ARTS' LEARNING LAB, HIGHLIGHT ARTS, RHUL, OUTGRAIN AND THE PHOENIX CINEMA, LEICESTER WITH TWO WORKSHOPS AND TWO CINEMA SCREENINGS (SCREENINGS FROM 6PM).

# NOTES, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS:



# THE EDGE BY TRANSPORT THEATRE

DEvised AND DIRECTED BY DOUGLAS RINTOUL, A TRANSPORT/  
NEW WOLSEY THEATRE CO-PRODUCTION. THIS PERFORMANCE  
IS COMMISSIONED BY COUNTERPOINTS ARTS.

**'THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THE EDGE: THE EDGE OF THE LAND AND WATER. HERE  
POSSIBILITIES AROUND THAT DON'T EXIST IN THE SECURITY OF THE INTERIOR.'**  
SUNAND PRASAD, ARCHITECT

AWARD-WINNING THEATRE COMPANY TRANSPORT RETURNS WITH A MULTI-MEDIA SEA  
SAGA. A WOMAN STEPS INTO THE ENGLISH CHANNEL. FIVE THOUSAND MILES AWAY IN  
WEST BENGAL A MAN IS SWEEPED UP BY A GREAT STORM SURGE. TWO DECADES LATER  
THEIR CHILDREN MEET ON A BEACH BY AN ENGLISH TOWN THAT'S BEEN ABANDONED TO  
THE SEA. SHE'S TRAINING TO SWIM THE CHANNEL. HE'S A CLIMATE CHANGE REFUGEE.  
SET IN THE NEAR FUTURE, 'THE EDGE' TAKES US ON A TOUCHING AND FANTASTICAL  
JOURNEY THROUGH WEATHER, TIME AND FRIENDSHIP EXPLORING THE MYTHICAL PLACE  
WHERE THE LAND MEETS THE SEA, POSING VITAL QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR FUTURE IN A  
RAPIDLY CHANGING ENVIRONMENT.

'A COMPELLING AND CREATIVE PRODUCTION' EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES

**THE Y THEATRE, 7 EAST STREET, LEICESTER, LE1 6EY**

5TH NOVEMBER, 7.30PM



# UPSTAIRS AT THE WESTERN

70 WESTERN ROAD LEICESTER LE3 0GA



## NINE LIVES

LEEDS STUDIO IN ASSOCIATION WITH WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS NINE LIVES BY ZODWA NYONI, PLAYING IN LEICESTER AS PART OF THE PLATFORMA FESTIVAL.

ISHMAEL IS SEEKING A NEW LIFE. HE KNOWS OF VILLAGES AND THE SOUND OF A GUN. BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW BURNSALL HEIGHTS ESTATE. HE DOESN'T KNOW ARMLEY, THE PLACE WHERE THEY HAVE DISPERSED HIM TO. HE IS WAITING FOR HIS PAPERS. HE IS WAITING FOR HIS NEW LIFE TO BEGIN AMONGST THESE STRANGERS. THROUGH ISMAEL'S EYES WE SEE THE LIVES OF RESIDENTS OF ARMLEY, NEW AND OLD.

WRITTEN BY ZODWA NYONI, DIRECTED BY ALEX CHISHOLM AND PERFORMED BY LLADEL BRYANT.

6TH NOVEMBER  
7.30PM

## QUITE RIGHT THEATRE PRESENTS SANCTUM

A KOSOVAN MAN RETURNS TO SHEFFIELD 15 YEARS AFTER ARRIVING AS A REFUGEE IN 1999. THROUGH THE LEAKS AND DUST OF HIS OLD, GROTTY ROOM, GJERGJ RECOUNTS HIS JOURNEY FROM CITIZEN TO REFUGEE AND WHERE WAR FORCED HIM TO CONFRONT THE UNIMAGINABLE: EVACUATING HIS HOME AND BEING SEPARATED FROM HIS FAMILY. ALL HE HAS TO BATTLE HIS DEMONS ARE THE BRIGHTER MEMORIES OF AN UNLIKELY SANCTUARY.

THE STORY IS BASED ON THE ACCOUNTS OF REFUGEES AT THE TIME INCLUDING THE FAMILY OF PERFORMER, ARDI MEJZINI.

7TH NOVEMBER  
7.30PM



# SCREENINGS AT PHOENIX CINEMA

## SYRIA ON THE ROAD: STORIES OF CONFLICT, MIGRATION AND PLACE

**6:00PM ON THE BRIDE'S SIDE** DIRECTORS, ANTONIO AUGUGLIARO, GABRIELE DEL GRANDE, KHALED SOLIMAN AL NASSIRY - PALESTINE, ITALY | 2014 | 89 MIN

A DOCUMENTARY FILM AND AN IRREVERENT POLITICAL ACT, ON THE BRIDE'S SIDE IS A VISIONARY PROJECT ABOUT WAR, BORDERS, CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE, AND THE FANTASTICAL JOURNEY OF FIVE SYRIAN AND PALESTINIAN REFUGEES FROM MILAN TO STOCKHOLM. AN INCREDIBLE VENTURE FUNDED, DISTRIBUTED, AND PUBLICISED BY WORD OF MOUTH ACROSS EUROPE, THE FILM BOLDLY RECASTS THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND EUROPE FROM A GRAVEYARD OF ITS TRAVELLERS TO A SPACE OF POSSIBILITY. (POST-SCREENING Q/A)

**8:00PM - QUEENS OF SYRIA** DIRECTOR, YASMIN FEDDA | JORDAN/UAE/UK | 2014 | 70 MINS

WHILST THE CONFLICT IN SYRIA CONTINUES AND THOUSANDS HAVE BEEN DISPLACED, YASMIN FEDDA'S POWERFUL DOCUMENTARY 'QUEENS OF SYRIA' FOLLOWS A GROUP OF WOMEN LIVING IN EXILE IN JORDAN AS THEY PREPARE TO PERFORM EURIPEDES' TRAGEDY, THE TROJAN WOMAN. THOUGH SEPARATED BY TWO THOUSAND YEARS AND MORE, THE UPROOTING, THE ENSLAVEMENT AND THE BEREAVEMENT SUFFERED BY THE FICTIONAL QUEENS OF ANCIENT GREECE MIRRORS THE MODERN SUFFERING OF THESE ORDINARY, YET EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN. (POST-SCREENING Q/A)

PROGRAMME INCLUDES A SCREENING OF JUAN DELGADO'S SHORT FILM-INSTALLATION FLECHES SANS CORPS ('ARROWS WITHOUT BODIES', 2003).

**PHOENIX CINEMA AND ART CENTRE,  
4 MIDLAND ST, LEICESTER, LE1 1TG**

6TH NOVEMBER







# SUMMING UP

THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF PLATFORMA 2015.  
PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE BY COMPLETING  
AND RETURNING THE SHEET BELOW.

WE HOPE YOU FELT ENCOURAGED TO JOIN DISCUSSIONS, EXCHANGE VIEWS, SHARE IDEAS. WHAT DID YOU SEE, EXPERIENCE, AND PARTICIPATE IN? WHAT LEFT THE BIGGEST IMPRESSION ON YOU?

TELL US MORE ABOUT YOUR NETWORKING AT PLATFORMA 2015. WHAT KIND OF NETWORK/S ARE YOU ALREADY A PART OF (SUCH AS, YOUTH, LEARNING, ARTS, AND COMMUNITY)?

HOW COULD THESE NETWORKS HELP PROMOTE THE GESTURE OF 'WELCOME' TOWARDS REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN THE COMING MONTHS AND BEYOND?

LASTLY, PLEASE COULD YOU WRITE THREE WORDS WHICH DESCRIBE YOUR PLATFORMA 2015.

THANK YOU!



# VIRTUAL MIGRANTS PRESENTS: CONTINENT CHOP CHOP

A STORY OF AUSTERITY, REFUGEES AND CLIMATE DESTRUCTION  
TOLD THROUGH POETRY, MUSIC, AND TRANSMEDIA.

CLIMATE JUSTICE STORIES FROM ACROSS THE WORLD WOVEN TOGETHER VIA AFROBEAT  
INFLUENCES, EXPERIMENTAL ELECTRONICS, ENGLISH FOLK AND DECONSTRUCTED  
IMPERIAL ANTHEMS.

CONTINENT CHOP CHOP ASKS: WHAT ARE THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND POVERTY? HOW DOES THE WIDER CLIMATE OF AUSTERITY AND SCAPEGOATING OF  
MIGRANTS CONNECT WITH CLIMATE CHANGE? AND WHY SHOULD ANYONE CARE WHEN  
THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT?

FEATURING COMMISSIONED FILMS FROM NNIMMO BASSEY AND ZENA EDWARDS.  
DIRECTED BY AMANDA HUXTABLE, AND CREATED BY THE VIRTUAL MIGRANTS COLLECTIVE  
(SAI MURRAY, AIDAN JOLLY, MAYA CHOWDHRY, TRACEY ZENGENI, KOOJ CHUHAN,  
JAYDEV MISTRY).

FUNDERS: ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND, THE LIPMAN-MILIBAND TRUST (IRENE BRUEGEL  
FUND), THE BARRY AMIEL AND NORMAN MELBURN TRUST, THE EDGE FUND, PLATFORMA  
ARTS AND REFUGEES NETWORK, COLLECTIVE ENCOUNTERS, MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY,  
PLATFORM

**HIGHFIELDS CENTRE, 96 MELBOURNE ROAD, LEICESTER,  
LEICESTER LE2 0DS**

7TH NOVEMBER, 6-8PM





The Baring Foundation



Supported by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
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