



## THE WHITE HOUSE

884 GREEN LANE, RM8 1BX

JULY 2017

### Dear Resident,

The White House is approaching its first birthday and we have had a fantastic first year. Since opening in August 2016 we have had four different artists living and working at the house, creating new art work in collaboration with the local community. We have received an extremely warm welcome from everyone in the neighbourhood and made many friends in the process.

**Ève Chabanon** finished her residency by holding *The Anti-Social Social Club: Episode One The Chamber of the Dispossessed* inviting Barking & Dagenham residents to participate in a public debate in Barking Town Hall council chambers. The audience was made up of a diverse cross section of the borough's community including members of the Women's Institute, students from Eastbury Community School and a local poet. The debate was led by the performance artist Chloe Cooper and allowed local residents a chance to debate whether we are each truly independent people, how much we need to work together to survive, and what kind of people make up a community – sitting in the same seats, using the same microphones that councillors do on a regular basis.

**Christina Ford** spent her residency exploring the stigmas associated with and challenges faced by single parents. Her performance *Another Single Mother* led audiences around the house following the stories of local lone parent families. The piece was performed by women and their children that attended Christina's Gingerbread Dagenham social group, that began in January with group outings and workshops at the house. The performance

was both hilariously funny and equally moving, confronting the audience with the realities of caring and providing for a family on your own.

*'The play was superb, the content, production, writing and performance were all brilliant. The team at The White House in Dagenham and the various events and workshops that they have managed over the last few months, since their inception have been of an excellent standard. Long may they continue.'*

**Local resident Doreen Sims**

We have lots of new exciting projects on the go over the next few months, with two new artist residencies and more workshops in the Front Room Programme. We look forward to seeing you all again, or meeting you for the first time.

Hope to see you soon!  
**All at The White House**

### Your New Neighbours

Current resident artist **Alice Theobald's** artwork draws upon a mixture of pop cultural references to develop multi-media installations that incorporate sculpture, music, performance, and video.

During her residency at The White House, Alice will be drawing on her long-term research into cliché, language and the spectrum of acting and performance present in our everyday lives to create a new art work exploring ideas around stereotype, empathy and inter-generational relationships. Keep an eye out for activities and how to be involved.

Also in residence are artist collective **They Are Here – Harun Morrison & Helen Walker**. This Summer they will initiate the transformation of a car park behind The White House into a community garden. They will create a garden that provides a 'residency' space for wildlife, mirroring The White House as a residency site for artists and echoing the creation of the Becontree housing estate.

A series of structures will be made that house and support the residency of different animals (including insects and birds) and robots. Each micro-structure will be designed by a different architect of world-class standing, so the garden evolves into a 'micro-architecture' park.

Beginning with planting & carpentry workshops on **Sunday 9th, 23rd & 30th July, 2pm – 5pm**. All are welcome - come along to a workshop to find out more.

## The Front Room

Alongside the artist residencies, the house hosts the Front Room Programme, a series of workshops, classes and events designed in collaboration with and led by people living in the area.

### Opening Times

We are open to the public on Wednesday's, between **10am – 5pm**, & **6.30pm – 8.30pm** and Friday's between **10am – 5pm**.

All welcome to drop in during these times either for a class or for a coffee to find out what is going on.

### Dates for Your Diary

**Poetry Circle** with local artist Lorna  
First Wednesday of each month **11am – 1pm**  
(Adult group)

**Lino Printing** with local artist Keren  
Second Wednesday of each month, **11am – 2pm**  
(Adult class)

**Art Class** with local artist Miro  
Wednesday evenings, **6.30pm – 8.30pm**  
(Adult class)

**Gingerbread Friendship Group**  
Meet up for single parent families, days/times differ depending on the activity and/or event.

Soon to begin a health & well-being series! Please email Christina on [gingerbreadlbbd@gmail.com](mailto:gingerbreadlbbd@gmail.com) or pop into the house during the opening times to find out more.

### Supporting Local People

At The White House, we believe in supporting local people.

If you are interested in setting up an activity or want to participate in a specific workshop then please do get in touch; either email Christina at [xtinalesley@gmail.com](mailto:xtinalesley@gmail.com), or pop into the house during the opening times.

**And remember: like @thewhitehousedagenham on Facebook to be kept up to date with all of our events in real time!**



CHRISTINA FORD'S 'ANOTHER SINGLE MOTHER'



CAST OF 'ANOTHER SINGLE MOTHER'



AT ÈVE CHABANON 'S 'ANTI-SOCIAL SOCIAL CLUB'

Images from 'Another Single Mother' courtesy Indre Neiberkaite. Images from 'The Anti-Social Social Club' courtesy via students at Barking & Dagenham College.