

Press release: for immediate publication

May 2007

The march of the Human Rights Jukebox

March with the Human Rights Jukebox on the streets of Camberwell and Peckham on Saturday 16th June 2007 and take part in a unique live event with composer and sound artist Isa Suarez and Southwark residents.

Follow the Human Rights Jukebox as it travels on a float along the streets, starting at 12pm in front of Camberwell Magistrates Court and ending at 2.30pm at Peckham Library.

Listen to songs and sound pieces on The Jukebox created over the past year by local residents and groups including; **Charterhouse in Southwark, Corazon Latino, Creative Routes, St Giles Trust Homeless Group, The Maroons, Southwark Pensioners Centre, Southwark Muslim Women's Association and Southwark Refugee Project. The Dulwich Choral Society** will be singing words expressed by participants, with music composed by Isa Suarez.

Focussing on the theme of human rights in everyday life and looking at the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Isa has worked with local residents and groups to create sound and text works through discussions, interviews and music sessions.

The term "jukebox" originated as a slang term for "jook house", meaning "disorderly or wicked" and "joot" meaning to dance. The jukebox provided the only outlet for black recording artists in the 30s, 40s and early 50s, when mainstream radio was still considered a medium for white musicians. This Human Rights Jukebox acts as a "voice transmitter", speaking people's thoughts on freedom and rights. It expresses frustrations and questions from the many different cultures, generations, languages, social backgrounds and religious beliefs that make up the Southwark community.

Participants will march alongside the float with banners demonstrating their views on human rights, with a performance from live art group **mmmm - Adrian Fisher & Luna Montenegro** and other special guests.

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The live event has been created by Isa, who was awarded a one-year artist's residency in 2006 as part of a new initiative to develop art within Southwark.

The Southwark Artist-in-Residence programme is based at Acme Studios' Galleria Studios in Peckham. It is funded by Acme Studios and London Borough of Southwark and supported by South London Gallery.

The live event is funded by Arts Council England and is part of Camberwell Arts Festival June 16 – June 24 2007, a partnership between local artists and art organisations and initiated by Camberwell Arts, Camberwell College of Arts and South London Gallery.

(ENDS)

About the artist

Originally from the Basque region of South West France, Isa Suarez has lived in Southwark for the last 13 years, an area she describes as: "lively, culturally mixed and vibrant". Trained as a musician, Isa is a composer for film, a song writer, a performer and a sound artist. Music forms a crucial part of her sound art work. She recently completed a major **Platform** commission, producing a compelling collision of thriller, opera and a guided walk about climate change, incorporating London's 'Square Mile', available as an MP3 download, www.andwhilelondonburns.com

Quotes from participants

"Freedom to express oneself: a right but not an obligation: make use of it" (Member of Creative Routes)

"The media is manipulative because the government encourages it"
(quote by a member of the Maroons)

"I have the right to eat food, I have the right to read a book"
(Children from Corazon Latino)

"Right to Freedom"
(Member of Southwark Muslim Women's Association)

Press Information

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