



CONNECTING ARTS
AND HOMELESSNESS WORLDWIDE

WITH ONE VOICE IS PRODUCED BY
STREETWISE OPERA
GIVING HOMELESS PEOPLE A VOICE

With One Voice – International Arts and Homelessness Summit/Festival November 12-18th 2018

Overview

With One Voice is the international arts and homelessness movement which seeks to connect and strengthen the sector worldwide. WOV will organise an International arts and homelessness Summit/Festival in November 2018 Greater Manchester. From 12th to 18th November arts and homelessness projects and events will be showcased in a Festival through Greater Manchester; from 15th to 18th November there will be a four-day International Summit at the Whitworth.

This will be the first event of its kind and will bring together arts projects working with people who have experienced homelessness, artists with experience of homelessness, practitioners, policy-makers, homeless agencies and academics. Greater Manchester has been chosen because of the exceptional arts/homelessness projects in the region, the way arts is becoming integrated into policy, including Manchester's homelessness strategy and the way the cultural sector is stepping forward to support homeless people.

The Summit/Festival will focus on **Performance, Practice, Policy, People** and **Partnerships**:

- Showcasing **Performances and exhibitions** from some of the best local, national and international groups such as Tokyo's Sokerissa dance company, Porto's Som da Rua, Chicago's Red Line Service and arts and homelessness groups from Greater Manchester. We will create a public mural created by homeless people from Manchester led by New York artist-activist Joel Bergner;
- Sharing **Practice** and methodology including Theatre of the Oppressed NYC's Legislative Theatre model; the launch of an International Literature Review of Arts and Homelessness and a Review of Cultural Spaces' Responses to Homelessness (how international galleries, museums, libraries and venues are working with homeless people);
- Discussing arts/homelessness **Policy** – from Manchester and GM's homelessness strategy which includes arts to Paris' *Pacte Parisien* which sees cultural institutions twinned with homeless centres
- The Summit will be co-produced with **people with lived experience** from planning to delivery. There will be discussions on how to involve the voice of homeless people more centrally in the sector, citing examples such as the Movimento População da Rua in Brazil where homeless people have direct access to policy makers. Half the delegate places will be reserved for homeless people.
- The Summit and Festival will build on the work of the Manchester Homelessness Partnership and Charter in creating **partnerships** between cultural and homelessness orgs. We will implement a programme inspired by the *Pacte Parisien* in Paris which pairs up arts organisations and libraries with local homelessness organisations and service providers. Through Greater Manchester, many arts/homelessness orgs are already partnered but we will expand this, creating a mechanism of how partnerships can work from collaborative projects, ticket schemes to artist in residencies.



ANDY BURNHAM
MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER



the Whitworth



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Dates – Festival starts from Monday 12th November. Summit from Thurs 15th to Sun 18th November 2018
Venue – In a variety of locations across Greater Manchester with the Whitworth as the Summit hub venue.

Delegates

We would like to get a truly global representation across arts/homelessness projects, policy-makers and people with a lived experience of homelessness, academics and funders. As well as well-known projects from Brazil, Colombia, USA, Canada, France, Portugal, Germany, UK, Japan and Australia, we would also like to include projects from developing countries particularly from Africa, the Far East and India. We anticipate the summit will attract 250 people of which 40 international delegates invited and fully funded by WOV. We are aiming to have an equal 50:50 split of people with lived experience of homelessness and those without.

Summit & Festival Programme highlights

- **Festival** (from Monday 12 Nov) to include theatre performances and exhibitions of visual art created by people with experience of homelessness; a public mural created by homeless people from Manchester;
- Day 1 (Thursday 15 Nov) of the Summit – **Practice Exchange Day** involving projects from GM and around the world sharing work and practices including projects working in film, poetry, music, visual arts and more
- Day 2 (Friday 16 Nov) – **Policy Day** including discussions about arts being involved in homelessness policy; legislative theatre from Theatre of the Oppressed NYC; workshops about artists living in squats, vehicle-dwellers, LGBTQ communities
- Day 3 (Saturday 17 Nov) – **Open Day** involving homeless centres and projects and cultural venues and orgs across GM opening their doors to the public to show art work, run workshops and free taster sessions.
- Day 4 (Sunday 18 Nov) – **Wrap-up Day** where we reflect on the events, consider ‘what next?’ and discuss legacy

Literature Review and Cultural Spaces papers

With One Voice will be launching two papers that have been commissioned:

- A global **Literature Review of Arts and Homelessness** (a collection of research and evaluation around arts and homelessness)
- A review of **Cultural Spaces’ Responses to Homelessness** (which brings together case studies and best practice of how cultural spaces are working with homeless people around the world).

With One Voice

WOV was launched in July 2016 at the Rio Cultural Olympiad to connect arts and homelessness worldwide. The movement aims to strengthen existing work, incubating new projects, raising awareness of the importance of arts and homelessness and influencing policy. This is achieved through exchanges of projects, policy-makers and homeless people, supporting new work and publishing papers.

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