

factory
international
presents

25-30 JUN



FACTORY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS TAKEOVER

AVIVA studios

Water Street, Manchester avivastudios.co.uk

TAKEOVER

OUR PARTNER SCHOOLS TAKE OVER AVIVA STUDIOS FOR AN END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION. DROP BY FOR FREE EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS AND MUSIC CURATED BY 181 BRILLIANT YOUNG PEOPLE.

Takeover is the end-of-year celebration of Factory International's year-round schools partnership programme. Over the last year, 181 young people across five partner schools have created exciting artistic work, public products and performances to share with you alongside a curated selection of artists and artwork co-created with a leadership collective of 20 young people.

Artists LayFullStop, Reece Williams, Femi Tahiru and Tallulah Millington are embedded into five partner schools – Levenshulme High School for Girls, Falinge Park High School, St Peters RC High School, Parrs Wood High School and Melland High School. Each week, our artists led two-hour creative interdisciplinary workshops that align with both a social and emotional framework and international commissions produced by Factory International. Over the course of the last year, young people have learned alongside the commissions and then visited Aviva Studios to watch the performances.

Beyond doing art and creativity in schools, we are interested in how to share power with young people. In January, we established a 'Collective' of leaders from each of our 10 groups. We have spent the last six months co-designing and co-creating what a youth-led takeover of the building could look like.

The young people chose 'Imagination' as the theme for their takeover and decided on a process for sharing information across five schools. After each meeting, the young people presented options to their peers and took votes on which option to move forward with. They wanted 'to transform different areas of the building into themes' and have 'workshops where you can make things to take home with you' as well as 'a doodle wall, dance workshop, chill out space, DJs playing RnB, local drill, and professional performances'. Most importantly, they said, 'we want to celebrate all the things we have done with other young people'.

We have taken their wants, wishes and hopes and turned them into a celebration of joy, imagination and boundless potential. We are so proud of everything they have achieved in the last year and hope you enjoy the exhibition.

“WE WANT TO CELEBRATE ALL THE THINGS WE HAVE DONE WITH OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE”

EXHIBITIONS



BRUCE ASBESTOS: HOOBOOS

25-30 JUNE | ALL DAY
THE SOCIAL AND UNDERCROFT

Explore giant, playful sculptures in the Social and outside in the Undercroft from Nottingham-based artist Bruce Asbestos.

During our co-creation session, one of the artforms that kept arising was sculpture. We presented the young people with three artists and across our five schools the resounding winner was Bruce Asbestos. The young people met Bruce and he responded to their brief with an exciting new work *Hooboos*.

Bruce Asbestos' work draws from a rich history of painting, sculpture, popular culture, folklore and fairy tales. Witty, seductive and extravagant, Bruce's work

feels unique yet strangely familiar. His playful use of popular culture, commerce and high art puts his own personal brand firmly within the realm of participation, play and pop art. The work uses spaces such as social media, the catwalk and virtual realities to create an accessible path through contemporary art.

Recent projects and exhibitions include *Mega Bunny & Friends* (SPILL Festival), *Bootleg Shreg & Friends* (Humber Street Gallery), *Eye of Newt 2.0* (Derby QUAD), *New British Informal* (Browns East, London), *Burple Purple* (Recent Activity, Birmingham) and *Ok! Cherub!* (Bluecoat, Liverpool).



POWER

25-30 JUNE | ALL DAY
THE SOCIAL

What does 'power' mean to young people today? Flick through zines created by our partner schools to find out.

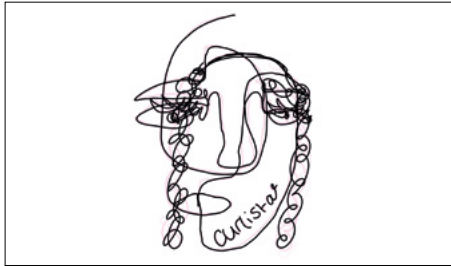
The word 'power' is thought to come from the Latin verb 'potere', which means 'to be able'.

Our understanding of the word 'power' is influenced by social, political and economic conditions as well as our understanding of self, community, structures and systems. When we asked adults what 'power' meant, they referenced force, control, authority and strength exerted over something or someone.



Over five weeks, we worked with five schools, 181 young people aged 12 to 14 and six artists on a project to create a zine on the topic of 'power'. We focused on three themes: what power means to the self (you and your skills), what power means to your community and what power means to structures (knowledge, science, technology and nature). Each young person created an A4 poster of mixed media using words, images and collage. Each young person also created a 'to be able to' or 'power is' statement which formed a piece of poetry or creative writing.

EXHIBITIONS



ON BRAND

25-30 JUNE | ALL DAY
THE SOCIAL

Our partner schools set off on a mission to create a brand inspired by community, adventure and friendship – see the results in this exhibition.

On Brand is a project designed to help young people explore and develop their personal brand and identity. The first part, led by Meme Gold, involved a guest workshop where participants reflected on their own values and identity. In the second part, young people collaborated with graphic designers Jasmin Issaka and MikeSian to create a brand inspired by themes of community, adventure and friendship. They developed their brand's ethos, slogan, visual identity and logo. This project provided valuable opportunities for participants to enhance their teamwork, communication, decision-making and leadership skills.



JUNGLE BOOK

25-30 JUNE | ALL DAY
THE SOCIAL SCREEN

Watch Melland High School's short film inspired by puppets and our production of *Jungle Book*.

"Can we dress up with Animal heads?"
Jack, Melland High School

Young people from Melland High School collaborated with puppet artist Caroline Daly to create large-scale masks of an eagle, tiger, elephant and snake – inspired by our production of *Robert Wilson and CocoRosie: Jungle Book* (March 2024) and Jack's provocation to dress up with animal heads. They then teamed up with Night People to explore movement and puppet manipulation, which was captured in a short film using motion capture technology.



MY STOMPING GROUND

25-30 JUNE | ALL DAY
THE SOCIAL

Manchester-based photographer Alina Akbar joins forces with our wonderful students for a photography exhibition on identity and self-expression.

Factory International and Football Beyond Borders worked with 170 young people over three weeks, across the five schools. With a brief set by Manchester-based photographer Alina Akbar, young people had the opportunity to learn and apply skills in photography while reflecting on identity and self-expression.

My Stomping Ground is a collaborative project between The WOW Foundation, Football Beyond Borders and photographer Alina Akbar, developed and delivered by Factory International's Creative Learning Team.



"My Stomping Ground came from the ambition for young people across all of the schools to feel they can occupy space within the parameters they spend so much of their time treading. We often don't think of the school grounds as ours and the life we bring to them as well as the creativity we can generate using only what's available. Without the cloud of authority, I wanted to encourage boldness, co-creation with peers and an opportunity to begin to develop their ideas. With an encouragement for the young artists to see the images presented in a book as their personal work in a world where we often only consider phone images ours if we appear in them."
– Alina Akbar

EXHIBITIONS



HOME IS A FEELING NOT A PLACE

25-30 JUNE | ALL DAY
THE SOCIAL SCREEN

Watch two short films featuring outstanding poetry from students – directed and produced by MMU's School of Digital Art.

Home is a feeling not a place is a collection of two short films directed and produced by students from the School of Digital Art at Manchester Metropolitan University, featuring performances by God'svictory from Parrs Wood High School and Dwayne from St Peter's High School.

Inspired by *The Welcome* – a nine-day cultural celebration to mark the opening of Aviva Studios in November 2023 – young participants wrote poetry centred around the theme 'home is a feeling, not a place'. Poems by God'svictory and Dwayne were

shared with the digital art students, who then developed pitches to transform these poems into short films.

Mark Thomas – Project Lead
Lauryn Pedley – Director
Nathan Povall – Director
Beck Cooley – Mentor
Lily Bisseker – Mentor

With thanks to Manchester Metropolitan University – School of Digital Art and Soup Collective.

PERFORMANCES



MINDFUL MUSIC WITH MANCHESTER CAMERATA

25, 29 AND 30 JUN | 12-3PM
THE UNDERCROFT

Take a moment to relax and let Manchester's experimental orchestra serenade you in the Undercroft.

For our takeover, Manchester Camerata will serenade you with soothing sounds to enhance your inner peace – curated by their Principal Oboe Rachel Clegg. Take a moment out of your busy schedule to reconnect through the joy of music.

Manchester Camerata is the UK's most relentlessly pioneering orchestra. They constantly challenge and redefine what an orchestra can be.

YOUNG PEOPLE

25 JUN | 10AM-12PM
THE SOCIAL

Celebrate our partner schools with a special performance cooked up with some of this city's most exciting creatives.

Young people from our five partner schools have prepared a very special sharing of a performance they have been working on with Reece Williams, Nasima Bee, LayFullStop, Femi Tahiru and Tallulah Millington.

STUDIO88 RAP CYPHER

25 JUN | 12-3PM
THE SOCIAL

Join Studio88 for a rap cypher in the Social – will you join in?

Studio88 present a rap cypher hosted by Tilly with rap performances by LayFullStop, Madi\$on and Millz, and DJ LeeLee.

WORKSHOPS



MOVEMENT AND MINDFULNESS WITH COMPANY CHAMELEON

25, 29 AND 30 JUN | 12-3PM
THE UNDERCROFT
FREE, ONLINE BOOKING
REQUIRED

Embrace creativity through the power of movement in this free workshop from local dance stars Company Chameleon.

Join Company Chameleon to experience the power of dance and movement. Fun and physical, this session will explore how we can get active through movement and how creativity can help to calm our minds.

Company Chameleon makes original, inspiring dance theatre in Manchester, and performs across the UK and the world.



PRINTING WITH IBUKUN BALDWIN

25 AND 29 JUN | 12-3PM
THE UNDERCROFT

Design your own stencils and tote bag in this free printing workshop.

Join Textile Artist Ibukun Baldwin in a colourful, hands-on printing workshop, where you get the chance to design your own stencils and print on a tote bag to take away.

This workshop is drop-in, so come when you can.



DOODLE WITH PETE OBSOLETE

25, 29 AND 30 JUN | 12-3PM
THE UNDERCROFT

Contribute to a giant collaborative mural outside in the Undercroft.

Join Pete Obsolete and doodle on a giant collaborative mural. Think street art meets doodle wall with accompanying mindful activities.

WITH THANKS

Falinge Park High School

Adam Kayci
Ainsha Lamia
Amelia Leah
Amina Lucas
Ana-Maria Maaria
Aroosa Maira
Asia Maliha
Aysha Maryam
Ayzah Mohammed
Bethel Nitasha
Corey Oliver
Ethan Oscar
Farzana Sameera
Hiba Sayf
Inaya Shama
Iqra Sienna
Isaac Sophia
Jackson Tahmina
Kainaat Tasmin

St Peters RC High School

Adeenah Jayden
Alfie Jeslyn
Alice Jorja
Alice-Mary Kaiser
Angel Keira
Anisa Layna
Ashley Lily
Candice Lindsey
Chizalum Mabel
Christobel Nana
Dado Nitai
Derrick Oluwatemlora
Dwayne Peyton
Eyob Shania
Harley Shay
Humphrey Tommy
Isabella Tresor
Jaiden Veronica
Jakisha Wilonja

Levenshulme High School for Girls

Abby Myar
Aishah Naayma
Aleena Nandana
Alison Neha
Aliyah Sanaz
Aliza Sara
Brooke Saroosh
Darein Seher
Eshal Seher
Fareeha Sejeela
Hamna Sheza
Inaayah Siyana
Isabella Tamilini
Kawsar Yusra
Layan Zainab
Lazya
Lily May
Maryam

Parrs Wood High School

Alara Jasmine
Amina Joe
Ariadna Katie
Ayad Leyla
Cameron Logan
Cora Martha
Cuba Maya
Edie Michael
Eleanor Molly
Elliot Pratik
Emily Riley
Emma Sade
Fergus Seth
Finn Shannayah
Flossie Sofiya
God'svictory Sookie
Hamna Thomas
Hano Zara
Imaan Zuzanna
Imogen

Melland High School

Abdullah Mariam
Adam Matab
Aishah Meerab
Asfa Ruhma
Dzatsins Saabir
Gavin Sanad
Helena Shojoon
Jack Willian
Lana Yasemin
Malik Zahreen

Guest Artists

Alina Akbar, *Photographer*
Boy Blue, *Dance Artists*
Caroline Daley, *Puppet Artist*
Jasmin Issaka, *Graphic Designer*
Maya Cross Odemudia, *Collage Artist*
Meme Gold, *Performer and Fashion Designer*
MikeSian, *Graphic Designers*
Nasima Begum, *Poet*
Night People, *Dance and Film Artists*
Owen Smith, *Rapper*
Tina Ramos Ekongo, *Collage Artist*

Teachers

Aisha Mian
Danyella Otosio
Emma Rainford
Miss Bowie
Mr Hughes
Mr Morgan
Serene Phillips
Simon De Courcey

Factory International Schools team

Sameed Rezayan, *Head of Creative Learning*
Amber Calland, *Creative Learning Manager*
Femi Tahiru, *Artist Facilitator*
Lay Juma, *Artist Facilitator*
Reece Williams, *Artist Facilitator*
Tallulah Millington, *Artist Facilitator*
Rawan Yousif, *Creative Learning Assistant*

ABOUT US

Factory International is the organisation behind Manchester International Festival (MIF) and the landmark new cultural space Aviva Studios – helping to put Manchester on the map as a world-leading destination for art.

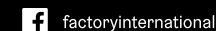
Producing an ambitious year-round programme of original work and one-of-a-kind events, Factory International builds on the magic of MIF – hosting the Festival every other year at its new home and venues across Greater Manchester.

Rooted in the city, Factory International creates space for the world's most exciting artists to invent tomorrow together, while supporting the next generation of local talent into the creative industries.



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