

Press Release 6th June 2011



# The Floating Cinema by Somewhere and Studio Weave

an **up projects** production for the waterways of East London in partnership with the Olympic Delivery Authority and CREATE11.

## EVENT PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED AND WEBSITE LIVE: [www.floatingcinema.info](http://www.floatingcinema.info)

**1 July – 18 September 2011**

**The Floating Cinema** will be navigating the waterways of the Olympic host boroughs this summer, launching on 1 July. Created by Hackney-based team of architects *Studio Weave* and artist duo *Somewhere* (Nina Pope and Karen Guthrie), this extraordinary, customized narrow boat will host a varied and vibrant programme of on-board screenings, quirky canal tours, talks and workshops. The Floating Cinema will also present larger scale outdoor film events for canal side audiences and informal drop-in Open Thursdays where visitors can meet the crew, relax and watch rare films selected especially for the Floating Cinema by artists *Somewhere*.

Studio Weave are working closely with local makers to create the interior seats, fixtures and fittings for the 12 seat, on-board cinema auditorium, featuring intricate smocking details to create the sense of cinema luxury and glamour. In contrast to the utilitarian, crisp structure of the existing boat, the architects are creating a soft, quilted, patterned canopy to create a semi-outdoor area and entrance to the cinema room that mixes opulent picture house with the roses-and-castles language of canal boat decoration.

The Floating Cinema will offer a vibrant and varied events programme devised by artists Somewhere which includes;

**1 July 7.30-10pm The Floating Cinema launches** outside Lea Rowing Club, Spring Hill, Clapton, E5 9BL Kick off your weekend with our outdoor movie night of DJs, live music (featuring I am The Mighty Jungulator), and water-themed film footage including the premiere of Floating Cinema artists Pope & Guthrie's remix of a rare 1920's *Barging Through London* film. Other films to be screened will include shorts made by Olympic borough teenagers, featuring athletes from both the 1948 and London 2012 Olympic Games, and a film by director Sasha Andrews (also a Lea Rowing Club member). Audiences can bring a picnic or enjoy food and drink supplied by the Sandwich Barge.

**9 July 2-8pm Canal Graffiti tours at Folly for a Flyover**, Hackney Wick. The boat will moor up at CREATE Art Award winners Assemble's 'Folly for a Flyover' project to host a drop-in programme of canal archive film shorts as well as guided graffiti tours of the local area with Cedar Lewisohn.

**15 July 'It Could Only Happen Here', live**, specially commissioned performances aboard the Floating Cinema, in the heart of Canary Wharf, produced in collaboration with the Live Art Development Agency.

**16 – 22 July The Floating Cinema visits Shoreditch Festival** (Waterhouse Restaurant, Orsman Road, N1 5QJ) hosting expert film history tours with screen historian Ian Christie (Saturday and Sunday) and featuring onboard artists' film screenings each evening.

**21 July 11am & 3pm The Golden Machine – A Tour of the Olympic Park** with Hackney-based author **Iain Sinclair**, who will offer a poetic, alternative, travelogue to this exclusive canal trip into the Olympic Park.

**29 July 8.30-11pm What Have You Done Today Mervyn Day?** An outdoor screening of acclaimed, locally-shot film, by **St Etienne** in the yard of Forman's Smokehouse, Stour Rd, E3 2NT. Presented in partnership with Films on Fridges, the event will form part of the Hackney Wicked Art Festival.

**24 August 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm A Botanical Busk** by Britain's leading nature writer **Richard Mabey** (*Weeds, Food for Free*) will offer a live, floating commentary on the diverse feral vegetation of the East End cut. Starting from Regent's Canal, Old Ford Lock, E2 9JG

**16 & 17 September The Green East** will offer a guided waterborne tour of some of East London's beautiful and productive green spaces, including Abbey Gardens, designed by Somewhere, the Floating Cinema's artists. Films will also be shown on board.

**Floating Cinema Open Thursdays** through July and August: informal, drop in open days (2-8pm) where visitors will have a chance to meet the crew, relax and watch rare films made by artists, filmmakers and historians specially selected for the Floating Cinema to celebrate the unique character of the canal and waterways network.

**All Floating Cinema events are FREE but booking for tours and performances is essential.**

For event information, locations, timings and how to book visit: [www.floatingcinema.info](http://www.floatingcinema.info)

This commission is part of UP Projects' **Portavilion 2011** programme of temporary pavilions for London's parks and public spaces that have brought high quality sculptures and cultural events to a broad public audience since 2008. For 2011, the project will focus on waterways that connect the boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Newham, Waltham Forest, and Hackney with the new Olympic Park.

Portavilion 2011 will form an important strand of the cultural participation programme in the lead up to the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It is commissioned by The Olympic Delivery Authority as part of their Arts and Cultural Strategy, funded by Arts Council England and will form part of the CREATE11 summer festival.

For information please contact UP Projects on t: 020 7377 9677 e: [laura@upprojects.com](mailto:laura@upprojects.com)

[www.portavilion.com](http://www.portavilion.com)

**ENDS**

## **Notes to Editors**

**Somewhere** is a multi-disciplinary, collaboration run by artists Nina Pope and Karen Guthrie. They produce ambitious, innovative and challenging projects spanning film, the web, installation, live events and public art. Recent work includes “What Will the Harvest Be?” a project at Abbey Gardens in Newham which transformed a former waste ground into a unique open access Harvest Garden. [www.somewhere.org.uk](http://www.somewhere.org.uk)

**Studio Weave** is a young energetic design practice working on art and architecture commissions across the country. They are currently working on a diverse set of projects from creating the world’s longest bench along the south coast, to enhancing a number of high profile and heritage public spaces in the City of London, and they recently completed two allegorical pavilions at Kielder Water and Forest in Northumberland. They aim to create places through playing into and exploring the quirky and eccentric characteristics that make somewhere distinctive. [www.studioweave.com](http://www.studioweave.com)

**Studio Weave** has worked with a number of makers to fabricate the Floating Cinema including: Boat Refurbishment - Will Austin, Puff Fabric - Jeckells The Sail makers - [www.jeckells.co.uk](http://www.jeckells.co.uk), Puff Steel Structure - AB3 Workshops – [www.ab3workshops.squarespace.com](http://www.ab3workshops.squarespace.com), Timber Furniture - Simon Jones - [www.simon-jones.info](http://www.simon-jones.info), Curtains and Upholstery - Georgia Bosson – [www.georgiabosson.com](http://www.georgiabosson.com) , Puff Pattern - Jill Tytherleigh – [www.jilltytherleigh.com](http://www.jilltytherleigh.com).

**Portavilion** is one of the most ambitious contemporary art projects to take place in London's public realm. Curated by **Emma Underhill** of **up projects**, it launched in 2008 with four temporary pavilions by internationally renowned artists in some of London's most popular parks. In 2010, raumlaborberlin developed a mobile, inflatable pavilion that toured thirteen London parks and public spaces presenting a diverse programme of cultural events and activities produced in partnership with leading cultural organisations. This ongoing project explores the possibilities for temporary, large scale public art, and is as much a celebration of the city's most treasured open spaces as it is a cultural event. For 2011, the Floating Cinema with Somewhere and Studioweave takes the project into a new, water based territory, curated and produced by Emma Underhill with Laura Harford [www.portavilion.com](http://www.portavilion.com)

**up projects** believes in challenging perceptions of what public art can be. Operating as if a gallery without walls, they are inspired by the complexities of the public realm to create a programme of artists' commissions, projects, strategies and multi-disciplinary events for a broad public audience. Since their first project in 2002, their work has consistently attracted considerable public attention. [www.upprojects.com](http://www.upprojects.com)

**The Olympic Delivery Authority** has commissioned The Floating Cinema for Portavilion 2011 as part of their Inside Out series of art-led community engagement projects. As part of their strategy to integrate art into the Olympic Park, the Arts and Cultural Strategy team at the ODA has devised 'Inside Out' to complement the permanent commissions in the Park and focus on artists working with communities in the host boroughs. The first Inside Out commission *Memory Marathon* was conceived and produced by Film and Video Umbrella with artist Simon Pope, commissioned by the ODA and funded by the London Development Agency and Arts Council England. [www.london2012.com](http://www.london2012.com)

**CREATE** is the annual summer festival that celebrates Europe's largest cultural quarter: the Olympic Host Boroughs where over 12,000 artists live and work. Now in its fourth year, CREATE takes place between 24 June and 25 July in East and South East London. The festival will stage major commissions including the Bank of America Merrill Lynch CREATE Art Award worth £40,000, which this year has been awarded to Assemble 'Folly for a Flyover'; the CREATE11 Music series including Re:Definition, and Blaze, presented with the Barbican; CREATE11 Talks & Walks including The Midnight Run, a nocturnal walk across east London, and Alina Ibragimova / The Quay Brothers a co-commission with the Manchester International Festival and the Barbican. In addition CREATE11 will include over 200 art, design, film, music, and theatre events in galleries, outdoor spaces, music venues and pop-up spaces including The Floating Cinema, Canary Wharf, Gillett Square, Hackney Empire, Rich Mix, Theatre Royal Stratford East, the Vortex, Wilton's Music Hall and the Whitechapel Gallery. Global investment bank Deutsche Bank continue as main sponsor for the 2nd year.

[www.createlondon.org](http://www.createlondon.org)