



Press Release 23 February

PORTAVILION 2010

an **up projects** production for London's parks

May – September '10

Building on the success of *Portavilion 2008*, **up projects** are proud to launch a newly commissioned project for 2010 as part of their series of temporary pavilions for London's parks. *Portavilion: ROSY (The Ballerina)* by German Art & Architecture collective **Raumlabor-Berlin** is a mobile, bubble-shaped pavilion that will tour the capital from May to September, transforming over fifteen parks and green spaces and playing host to a dynamic programme of events by London's leading cultural organisations, including Sadler's Wells, Tate Modern and the Roundhouse.

Raumlabor have been experimenting with "bubbleecture" since 2006, developing a series of mobile sculptures that consist of a 'container' such as a box, van, trailer or even a bicycle, from which an air supported, translucent membrane inflates to create a temporary social space. This translucent bubble can squeeze under bridges, wrap around trees or nestle into corners, providing a nomadic, inside/outside space in which people can perform, debate, eat or simply hang out.

The **Portavilion Events Programme** taking place inside the bubble-pavilion will bring a range of high quality cultural experiences to park visitors across the capital, including dance performances, workshops and open stage dance jams produced by up projects' five dance partners **East London Dance, English National Ballet, Greenwich Dance Agency, Sadler's Wells** and **Siobhan Davies Dance**. These events will take place in a variety of London's green spaces including Potters Fields Park, the grounds of Eltham Palace and Bruce Castle Park (May – July 2010) and form a key part of the **T-Mobile Big Dance** festival. The first event will launch in Potters Fields Park on **Thursday 20th May**.

The pavilion will then tour East London parks, bringing cultural events to the five Olympic host boroughs as part of **Create 10** before visiting central London spaces including Burgess Park, Regent's Park and Kensington Gardens. This part of the programme will include architecture events for the **London Festival of Architecture** and performances, debates and music events led by organisations such as **Tate Modern** and the **Roundhouse**.

Portavilion Curator, Emma Underhill said:

"Portavilion is a mobile, expanding public art project and Raumlabor's proposal is a fantastic addition to our series of artist's pavilions for London's parks. Its mobility and flexibility will enable us to take the work of a broad range of cultural organisations out of the museum, theatre or performance space and into some of the city's most treasured green-spaces in an innovative and accessible way."

Portavilion 2010 will form an important strand of the cultural participation programme in the lead up to the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and connects three pan London initiatives; T-Mobile Big Dance, Create 10 and the London Festival of Architecture.

Portavilion 2010 has been funded by Arts Council England and T-Mobile Big Dance – London's Legacy Trust UK programme.

Further announcements about the Portavilion Events Programme and cultural partners will follow soon....

For press information or images please contact UP Projects on t: 020 7033 3568 e: laura@upprojects.com

www.portavilion.com



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



MAYOR OF LONDON



ENDS

Notes to Editors

Raumlaborberlin are a collective of architects and artists based in Berlin, Germany who began working together on the issues of contemporary architecture and urbanism in 1999. In various interdisciplinary working teams they investigate strategies for urban renewal. Raumlabor do urban design, architectural design, and create interactive environments. They first began their series of inflatable social spaces in 2006 with a project called Kitchen Monument which has toured globally hosting a variety of different events from tea dances to lectures to banquets and dinner parties. www.raumlabor.net

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. 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. Portavilion 2010 with Raumlabor takes the project to a new level, pushing the potential for mobile, artist designed structures towards its logical conclusion. 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

T-Mobile Big Dance (3- 11 July 2010) is a biennial pan-London celebration of dance and dancing in unusual places throughout the city - shops, parks, galleries and museums - showcasing the diversity of dance styles and cultural attractions across the capital. T-Mobile Big Dance is London's Legacy Trust UK programme led by the Greater London Authority in partnership with Arts Council England and supported by major organisations including: Sport England, NHS London, London Councils, Museums, Libraries & Archives, London and the British Council. Big Dance, originated by the Mayor of London in 2006 in partnership with Arts Council England, is the world's biggest and most influential dance initiative and is delivered through a network of London's leading dance organisations: East London Dance, English National Ballet, Greenwich Dance Agency, Sadler's Wells and Siobhan Davies Dance. www.bigdance2010.com

Create 10 (19 June – 31 July 2010) takes place across the five Olympic host boroughs. It is the cultural partnership of the five London Boroughs and leading venues, arts organisations and festivals – its aim is to become the next major, international arts festival and a legacy for the Olympic and Paralympic Games that will have a lasting impact on the cultural life of London and the UK. www.createlondon.org

London Festival of Architecture (19 June - 4 July 2010) There will be three main hubs of activity: West End (Portland Place/ Regent Street), High Street 2012 (Whitechapel, Bow and Stratford in the East) and the Bankside Urban Forest (Southbank and Bankside Cultural Quarter). The Festival will incorporate many initiatives including the International Architecture Student Festival, the International Architecture Showcase, Love Your Street, My City Too and Open Studios. Affiliated talks, installations, exhibitions, pavilions, walks, bike rides, performances and Big Breakfasts will take place. The theme of the festival is *The Welcoming City*, a reference to the design of cities, which are amenable, tolerant and engaging, as well as to the Olympic slogan for 2012 that "London welcomes the world". Follow the London Festival of Architecture on Twitter to find out all the latest news: www.twitter.com/LFA2010
www.lfa2010.org