

FLATPACK PROJECTS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR 1 SEPTEMBER 2021 – 31 AUGUST 2022



THIS REPORT FINDS US LOOKING BACK ON ONE OF THE RICHEST AND MOST VARIED PERIODS IN FLATPACK'S HISTORY, A YEAR WHICH SAW PHYSICAL AUDIENCES RETURN WITH A VENGEANCE FOR A MIND-BENDING ARRAY OF PROJECTS AND EVENTS. THESE 12 MONTHS SAW US DELIVER: A YEAR OF POP-UP FILM HAPPENINGS IN COVENTRY; NOT ONE, BUT TWO EDITIONS OF FLATPACK FESTIVAL, BRINGING A RAFT OF ARTISTS TO BIRMINGHAM AND BREAKING BOX OFFICE RECORDS; A NEW HERITAGE INITIATIVE MAPPING OUT OUR CITY'S CINEMA STORIES AND A GROWING PROGRAMME OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITY, FROM IMMERSIVE HORROR TO INTIMATE COMMUNITY EVENTS.



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FLATPACK'S FIRST AUTUMN EDITION

After the pandemic kept us physically apart for our fifteenth festival, we delivered our first ever autumn edition in September 2021, a small programme of really special events that did justice to a joyous reunion with audiences. Including:

- World premiere of jazz musician and composer Xhosa Cole's first live feature film score.
- Otherworldly animation, sublime soundtracks and brilliant short films including the premiere of Jessica Ashman's AV show Dawta and interdisciplinary performance combining multi-screen animation, and contemporary/jazz music, co-produced and directed by Shiyi Li, Gloria Yehilevsky and James Owston of Sounding Eye Collective.
- A sold out evening of mind blowing performances at Centrala Tarik Barri and Lea Fabrikant's latest collaboration Zo Live, Paul Prudence's Cyclone and Zach Walker's exploration of cymatics.





FLATPACK 2022

Then just a hop, skip and a jump later we arrived at our sixteenth festival in May 2022. The first physical festival in three years, during which we launched a brand new comedy strand and explored Birmingham's cinema stories - alongside a family programme, films of all shapes and sizes, and some memorable live cinema events. Highlights:

- World premiere of Birmingham comedian Joe Lycett's short film, part of a special evening of screenings and discussion featuring Joe and Sean Keaveny.
- Punk puppet live art show Laguna Beach, presented for the first time in the UK by Belgian collective Frankie.
- Austrian sound artist Jörg Piringer's live AV show, which received the following audience feedback "I came here from Paris to see this artist.
 Well worth the trip (even if it's the only thing I see)".
- A major new commission and collaboration between Derbyshire trio Haiku Salut and pianist extraordinaire Meg Morley, later touring to the Barbican in London.



FLATPACK 2022 ON FILM







SCREENINGS AND EVENTS - 360

TOTAL AUDIENCE FIGURES - 48,000

AUDIENCE FOR WONDERLAND EXHIBITION - 250,000

NUMBER OF ARTISTS & FILMMAKERS WORKED WITH - 250

NUMBER OF BIRMINGHAM CINEMAS DISCOVERED - 150+

NUMBER OF BIRMINGHAM CINEMAS RESURRECTED - 1 (so far!)

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS





GHOSTBUSTERS AT DUDLEY CASTLE

Over 800 people returned for a screening of Ghostbusters at our popular horror spectacular Beware the Moon. This one came complete with slime projections, a gathering of Ghostbusters from across the Midlands and a 30ft Stay Puft Marshmallow Man.

BALSALL HEATH FILM FESTIVAL

We launched a new festival in Balsall Heath working with local communities on a programme of talks, walks, screenings and outdoor events, including:

- A Bollywood Bazaar featuring market stalls, mehndi, spoken word, live music, arts and crafts and a dance workshop in collaboration with Sähëlï Hub and South Asian Arts Collective.
- Waldorf Revival a joyous afternoon filled with smiles, singing and collective reminiscing as the Waldorf became a cinema again.
- A Joyful Noise a conversation event exploring music, faith and Balsall Heath as a cultural hot spot.
- Don't Eat My Brain short films and discussion exploring themes of mental health and wellbeing in South Asian communities.





CINECOV

We wrapped up our year in Coventry, turning cemeteries, parks and cathedrals into cinemas right across the city. Highlights included:

- Five sell-out immersive screenings at London Road Cemetery.
- Pop up screenings in parks and outdoor spaces across the city, including a screening of A Bug's Life for 350 Canley residents under the night sky.
- A brand new live score to classic silent horror film Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, performed by multi-instrumentalist Stephen Horne and pianist Meg Morley.
- · Bringing the BFI London Film Festival to Warwick Arts Centre.
- Working with We Are Parable to support the film strand of the CVX
 Festival, a pioneering arts activism programme curated by young
 people from Positive Youth Foundation and the Boys and Girls Club.
- A weekend of workshops and screenings by and for D/deaf filmmakers, the result of a joint venture between Deaffest, MASSIVE and CineCov.







TOUCH SCREEN

We've been working with charity Sense and artist Sarah Hamilton Baker for the last few years developing touch screen, an inclusive, interactive and sensory film experience that premiered at last year's festival.

"Exploring how we make films inclusive, accessible and a unique sensorial experience has been an inimitable opportunity for all involved and opens up further conversations on how the film industry can be supported as a whole to include people with complex disabilities and those with deafblindness."

- Sunney Sharma, Arts & Well-being Manager at Sense TouchBase Pears

OPEN CALL

After the success of our inaugural open call for curators and programmers from underrepresented groups at our Autumn Edition, we launched a second iteration for Flatpack 2022, resulting in two projects:

- AIDS on Film, two screenings exploring the AIDS epidemic with special guests including human rights activist Peter Tatchell - curated by film programmer Mickey La Rosa
- A Time To Rebel, exploring aspects of South Asian identity through the screening of two short films, both directed by British South Asian women - programmed by curator Juwairiyyah Wali







CINECOV MINI FUND

Eight community exhibitors were selected to deliver events with funds being used towards event costs as well as support and guidance from the CineCov team. Exhibitors included:

- CV Film a not for profit group whose objectives are to provide information, support and activities for the benefit of the African Caribbean community;
- Open Theatre an organisation developing work with young people with learning disabilities through non-verbal physical theatre;
- Sahyadri Friends Group diverse mix of approximately 250 Indian families with a passion to respect the difference and celebrate the diversity.





WONDERLAND

2022 saw the official launch of Wonderland, a project mapping Birmingham's picture-palaces past and present and exploring the stories associated with them.

A series of community events and a huge amount of volunteer research all fed into an exhibition at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery which reached over 400,000 in total.

We went on to produce a rich, vibrant publication gathering some of the stories which emerged from the project, and the Wonderland online resource keeps on evolving.

Everyone has their own filmgoing story, and cinema heritage can play an important part in reaching new audiences and encouraging a conversation about community space - as shown through our Balsall Heath activity.

Wonderland will continue to underpin the work we do with different groups across the city.





THANK YOU

Flatpack Projects is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, reg no 1162754

Our core funders are Arts Council England and the British Film Institute. In partner-ship with Broadway in Nottingham, Flatpack also co-lead Film Hub Midlands as part of the BFI Film Audience Network.

Along with core funding and earned income, Flatpack's work would not be possible without the support of a huge range of partners, trusts & foundations and cultural institutes. In 2021/22, these included:

- National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Birmingham 2022 Festival
- Birmingham Museums Trust
- John Feeney Charitable Trust
- Spaceplay
- · Midlands Arts Centre
- Dishoom
- Staying Cool
- Royal Society of Chemistry
- Dudley Zoo
- The GAP
- Moseley Road Baths
- Sähëli Hub
- Birmingham Indian Film Festival
- South Asian Arts Collective



CHARITY INFORMATION

Charity Name: Flatpack Projects (CIO)
Registered charity number: 1162754
Address: Unit 304, The Custard Factory

Gibb Street, Birmingham B9 4AA

NAMES OF THE CHARITY TRUSTEES WHO MANAGE THE CHARITY

Daniel Lawson Chair

Jake Grimley

Lisa Page

Leighann Thomas

Edwina Quansah

Katie Lucas

Phil Foxwood

Ian Francis

Rachel Carter

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS

Name Type of Advisor

CJM Associates Accountants St Thomas House, 83 Wolverhampton Rd, Cannock WS11 1AR

DESCRIPTION OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTS

Type of governing document Constitution

How the charity is constituted Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee selection methods Trustees appointed by resolution passed at properly

convened meeting of charity trustees

Address



CHARITY INFORMATION

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

SUMMARY OF THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY SET OUT IN ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENT

- 1. To promote appreciation of and education in the arts and their associated technologies, especially but not exclusively those of the cinema, film and other forms of moving images, through the production and performance of festivals, workshops, seminars, projects, events, online resources, new media and in any other ways as the CIO may decide from time to time.
- 2. To advance the education of the public in the history, culture, aesthetics, practice and theory of arts, cinema, film and other moving images.

STATEMENT OF THE CHARITY'S POLICY ON RESERVES

It is the policy of Flatpack Projects (CIO) to retain sufficient reserves to cover the organisation's overheads for a 3 month period should there be any unexpected costs or delays in receiving any funds owed.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the charity commission on public benefit.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 1 June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Dan Lawson - Chair of Trustees

CHARITY INFORMATION

