



EXUBERANT CONTRACT

Brixton; 40 years from 1981.

An opportunity to look back to inform how we move forwards together.

To offer solidarity in a moment of easily won separatism and “othering”.

To be part of a process that has been built slowly and carefully, ensuring that as many voices and experiences as possible have informed its path.

81 Acts of Exuberant Defiance

A radical reclaiming of heritage –
to imagine, experiment and create new futures

Working Agreement

This is an experiment in how we might work together.

All experiments need to have a shared understanding of the ingredients and the process. They are also driven by curiosity to know more afterwards than we knew before.

This working agreement is designed to make sure that everyone working towards 81 Acts knows the ingredients and process involved and has a shared understanding of the values that are driving it.

Central to our values and implicit in the project conception are the principles of justice, equality and anti-racism. It is a required commitment, as an explicit part of working with us/ creating your Act, to be working towards racial equity and building capacity and partnerships with Lambeth’s black communities.

Why?

We believe that, in 2021 we need more than ever to explore how conflict can build grounds for consensus; how justice has been served, and how healing from violent trauma occurs. **MAKING US WISER.**

We think that the best people to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Brixton Uprisings in 1981 are the people who live, breathe and fuel Brixton. **MAKING US TOGETHER.**



We believe that this is an important moment and a huge opportunity for the communities of Brixton to come together to connect, learn, share and dream together – building new strategies of resistance and resilience for the future. **MAKING US STRONGER.**

We think that telling the stories of this heritage from the ground-up, and examining whether lessons have been learned will inspire community ownership and activism in what happens next. **MAKING US THINK DIFFERENTLY ABOUT WHAT'S POSSIBLE.**

Terms of Reference

What is an “Act”?

- An Act is something that happens to bring people together.
- It can take many forms (musical performances on roof tops, poetry exchanges over a kitchen table, an app-based tour, a film screening, a workshop that teaches children how to build sound systems, a difficult conversation in a safe space...)
- It can be large or small, for many people or for just a few

What is a “Producing Partner”?

Organisations working in partnership with the Community Steering Group to create Acts for the community to be part of or to create the conditions *for other Acts to be created*

What is an “Act Maker”?

Any individual or Group working to create an Act of Exuberant Defiance (artists, activists, participating community groups, schools + residents associations)

HOW WE WORK TOGETHER

By Participating in 81 Acts of Exuberant Defiance as a Producing Partner or an Act Maker you are agreeing to work with the following themes and values.

The community-generated themes:

- **Respect**, a tribute to fallen and future activists;
- **Resist**, exploring strategies of resistance
- **Reform**, calls to Action;
- **Regroup & Renew**, exploring collective agency and the subversive act of togetherness;
- **Insight / Incite**, gaining Insight into the events of 81 and exploring the action that this incites;
- **Revolution**, effecting change for ourselves and our own communities.



You are agreeing to contribute to (an) Act(s) of Exuberant Defiance that is/are:

Creatively bold and daring, risk-taking in concept, and resourceful in pushing at the boundaries of 'official' narratives and disrupting complacent systems.

Without:

Risking tangible or intangible damage to persons or property either in making the act itself or repercussions afterwards e.g. legal

You understand that an Act of Exuberant Defiance:

1. Connects with one of the six themes and responds to the Humanifesto (attached)
2. Is driven by inclusivity and authenticity, working with people to bring people together in raised consciousness and connection, providing safe spaces for dialogue and reflection
3. Belongs to or grows out of Brixton
4. Gives voice to the voiceless and the marginalized, accommodating a diversity of expression
5. Looks to the future in creation of positive social change

Public Events

If your Act will happen in public space then we ask that you e-mail our contact at the Events Team for Lambeth Council to let them know the shape, feel and reach of your Act. If necessary, you will then be supported to submit an events application. This will make sure that you have any support/permissions needed and that we are working to keep members of the public safe throughout.

You can contact them here: events@lambeth.gov.uk - make sure to put 81 Acts in the subject.

This process has been built from the ground up with over 300 people giving their time and energy for free to make it possible. They have fed the process with open hearts and relentless optimism for what might be possible. In signing this agreement you are respecting everyone that has contributed to date, everyone who will contribute in the future and the giants on whose shoulders we all stand.