

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024-5

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Peckham  
Platform

# ART AND SOCIAL ACTION

# IN THE HEART OF PECKHAM

In 2024—25, Peckham Platform continued our commitment to art and culture as a tool for social justice, community leadership and equity and co-creation. Through ambitious commissions, youth-led programmes, and grassroots partnerships, we embedded creativity in everyday life, on the streets of Peckham, in classrooms, and in neighbourhood conversations. Our work continues to be shaped by and for the people who call this place home.

## LEADERSHIP TEAM FOREWORD

This has been an important year for Peckham Platform. From launching Memories for the Future, a two-year programme of public realm commissioning, to ongoing school and youth-led programmes. We have continued to grow a cultural organisation built on long-term, embedded community relationships.

At the heart of our work lies a commitment to equity, care and co-creation. Over 16,000 people engaged with our programmes, reflecting and responding to local experiences of heritage, place, and identity. We are proud that 100% of our commissioned artists were from the Global Majority and/or held intersectional identities, ensuring that our programme authentically reflects the communities we serve.

We have seen young creatives step into creative roles, schools integrate cultural learning into the classroom, and local residents co-create social art in public spaces. As we prepare to open the doors of our new venue on Peckham Square, we extend deep thanks to everyone who has shared their time, creativity and vision with us this year.





## **COMMUNITY-LED ENQUIRY AND COMMISSION** **Reimagining diaspora, memory and place in Peckham**

We launched Memories for the Future, a two-year inquiry exploring the contributions of the diaspora in shaping Peckham's identity and heritage. The opening chapter of this project included a public realm event on Peckham Square and a public realm artwork on Peckham Rye co-created with local artists, residents and community groups, offering collective acts of making, remembering and imagining futures.

### **ARTISTS**

collaborated with a lead community group to deliver co-creation workshops, creating space for intergenerational exchange, artistic exploration, and cultural storytelling.

### **FAMILIES**

came together in artist-led sessions to explore memory and diaspora histories through creative, participatory experiences that invited reflection, dialogue, and connection.

### **IN TOTAL 82 INTERGENERATIONAL**

co-creators from Global Majority and working-class backgrounds shaped the project, contributing lived experience, creativity, and community knowledge throughout.

### **211 PARTICIPANTS**

joined community conversations, 40% new to the arts

### **44% OF CO-CREATORS**

reported benefits to skills, wellbeing and expression

### **70% OF AUDIENCE FEEDBACK**

described the work as accessible, high-quality and relevant

PROGRAMME STRANDS AND  
**IMPACT**

# THE TOPS



**Tolu Elusadé**

Peckham Platform partnered with Maximus and artist Tolu Elusadé for part of Memories for the Future, a hyperlocal and community-led programme that researches and responds to the intangible heritage of the people who shaped Peckham's iconic Rye Lane.

# YOUTH PLATFORM

## BUILDING CREATIVE AGENCY WITH 18–26 YEAR-OLDS

Youth Platform resources marginalised young people from 18–26 to take the lead on our programming, production and marketing and become Peckham's next generation of local, national and global changemakers. This year, we have introduced Co-Producers as a key progression opportunity for our youth platform, supporting young people with on-the-job experience while collaborating with artists, mentors and institutions. The Youth Platform was embedded into our project Memories for the Future where we worked with Southwark Youth Justice Service to foster connections between elders and young people.

**1 young Co-Producers and 1 Trainee Producer trained through placements**

**6 participants from Southwark Youth Justice Service**

**100% reported gaining relevant creative and professional skills**

**83% said the programme supported their next steps**

**83% improved wellbeing and confidence in cultural spaces**

**60% felt more connected to local creative networks**



Memories for the Future [Youth Platform] provided an opportunity for our young people to start the process of rebuilding relationships with their community and allowing them to feel useful and valued. Many of our young people, in fact, 4 out of the 6 attending, either no longer have grandparents who are alive or they have been removed from the family network due to living in care... Exposing them to a wider community network and being able to 'reminisce' and share our 'memories for the future' together, made for a positive and exciting chance to recreate that protective/ nurturing space.

**SOUTHWARK YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE –  
REPARATION & VOLUNTEERS OFFICER**



My six months [as Trainee Producer] has given me the chance to explore new avenues of work that I haven't had access to before... I've learned the importance of a strong foundation when producing such a full-on programme. It has been such a supportive environment. Their [the Peckham Platform team] support has helped me through the challenges I faced during this role. Teaching me ways to manage stress, navigate last-minute changes with good grace, and the ability to take everything in stride and adapt.

**TRAINEE PRODUCER**





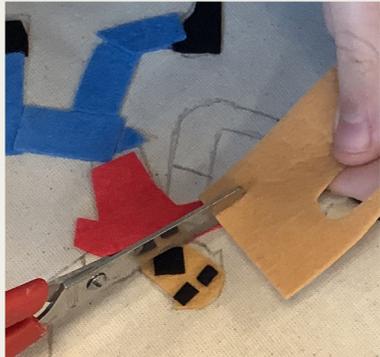
# Creative learning and belonging in Peckham schools

We took our Memories for the Future project out to children and young people in Peckham through our Arts Awards, in-school learning programme.

Sessions connected the themes of Memories for the Future to some of Peckham’s youngest residents linking themes of identity, heritage and community to build confidence and creative expression.

**“Because we were doing an Arts Award it validated us being able to do Art. It legitimized it because we were working with Peckham Platform. Art always gets cut back and during Covid it really got put on the back burner. This Arts Award meant that we could do it and get a qualification for them as well. It was no longer seen as indulgent and frivolous”**

Teacher from Highshore Secondary School



**2 local schools**

**40 students**

**1 new creative resource**

participated in 22 sessions

achieved Arts Award accreditation

co-designed with educators

**“I felt proud to do Art for an Award. I like learning new Art Skills”**  
Highshore Student Sixth Form

# SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Public symposium held in Peckham



and online

# SOCIAL GATHERING (In Theory)

**BRINGING RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY INTO PUBLIC CONVERSATION**

We convened artists, academics and community leaders for public conversations exploring memory, architecture, and diaspora in socially engaged practice.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

included:  
Dr Thandi Loewenson,  
Dr Charmaine Brown  
and Daniel Otunda

## 87 ATTENDEES

53% said it inspired new  
approaches

## 800+

Online engagements  
with recorded content

## CONTRIBUTORS

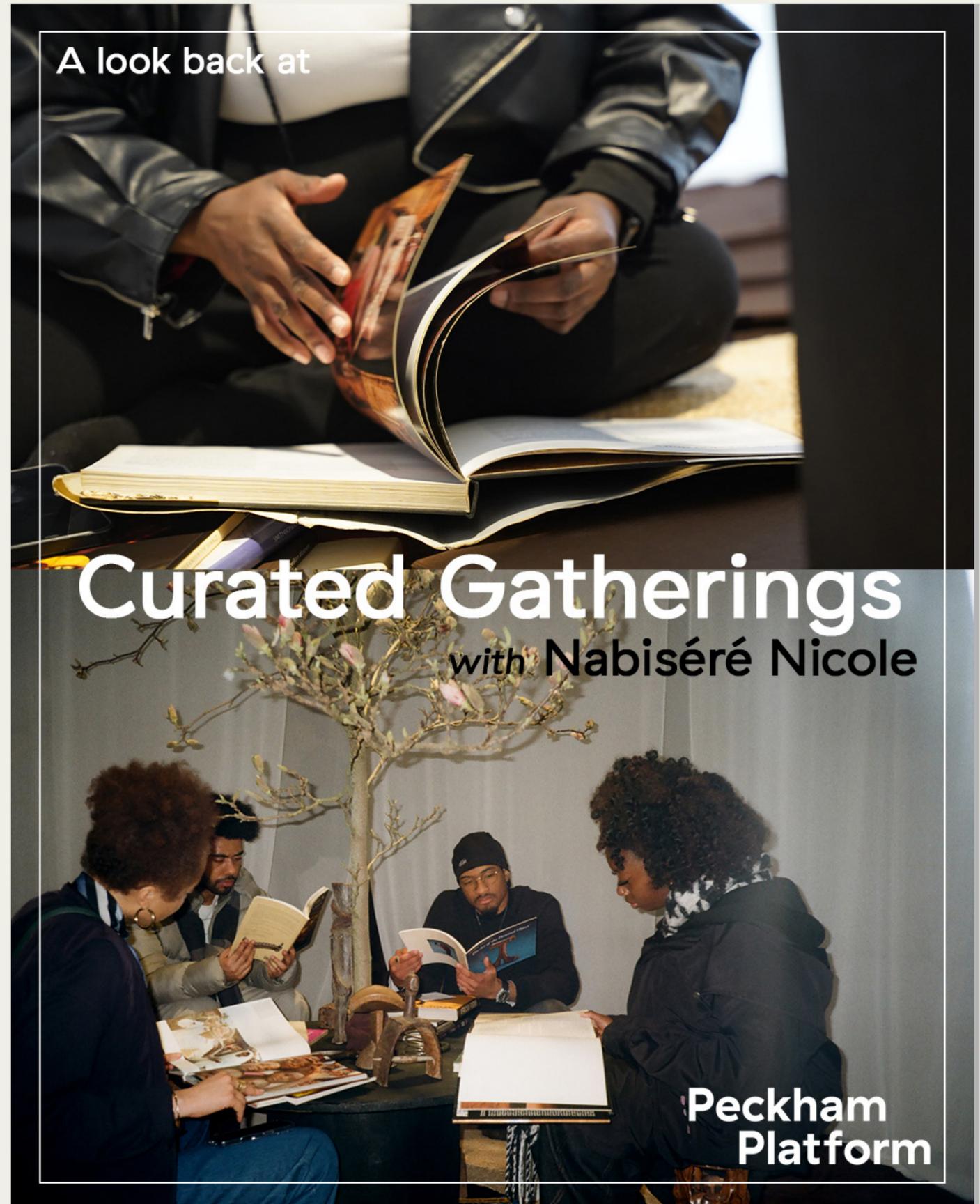
spanned grassroots and  
institutional voices



# LIGHT TOUCH MICRO-COMMISSIONS

ARTIST-LED EXPERIMENTS  
ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Our micro-commissions included Nabiséré Nicole series of workshops and an installation celebrating wisdom and lived experiences passed down through generations. Each session invited participants to engage with stories that honour the beauty of migration, community, and tradition. The commission invited engagement in intimate conversations that explored personal histories, embodied experiences, and the importance of oral storytelling in preserving cultural identity.



Secondary featured culinary artist Sisterwoman Vegan also known as Saifya Robinson

Supporting artists include Barbara Majek, Earth Tenders, Linett Kamala, Tyreis Holder, and Zethu Maseko.

Additional collaborating #artists/creatives include:

Adwoa Owusu-Barnieh, Christian Cassiel, Sauda Mabuye, Sula Douglas-Folkes, Trey-Joel Robinson, Tolu Elusadé and Vernetta Chukwu.

50% of artists self-identified as disabled, neurodivergent or self-taught

15,000+ engaged through web, social media and newsletter platforms

60% of community collaborators reported increased skills and confidence



**1 lead artist creative series supporting diverse artists**

Featured artist Nabiséré Nicole explored diasporic wisdom and memory

# THE IMPACT

# PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

**2 major**  
public realm  
commissions

reached over  
**16,000 people**

**82**

intergenerational  
community members  
co-created artwork  
and events

**40**

young people gained  
Arts Award qualifications

**1 Co-Producer &  
1 Trainee Producer**

developed creative  
careers

**1 public  
symposia**

connected local and  
global voices

**1 micro  
commission**

spotlighted new,  
underrepresented talent

**15,000+**

digital engagements

**100%**

of artists and producers  
reflect Global Majority  
or intersectional  
identities



# IMPACT SUMMARY

Peckham Platform is a cultural anchor in Southwark, delivering consistently high social impact and inclusive access to social art.

**83%** of youth participants report improved career readiness

**70%** of audiences found the programme relevant and cohesive

**44%** of co-creators experienced improved wellbeing or skill development

**74%** of audiences from priority local demographics

**27%** of audience from outside Southwark, showing wider impact

## Key Achievements

- Strengthened youth career pathways in the creative industries
- Improved access to creative learning in schools
- Created space for community-led public art and storytelling
- Fostered intergenerational exchange and cultural reflection through co-creation workshops led by artists
- Enabled families to engage with memory and diaspora histories through participatory sessions rooted in creativity and dialogue
- Preserved and shared lived experiences from diaspora elders through the beginnings of creating an oral history collection

# LOOKING FORWARD



AS PECKHAM PLATFORM CONTINUES TO GROW INTO ITS NEW HOME ON PECKHAM SQUARE, WE REMAIN ROOTED IN OUR MISSION: TO CO-CREATE SOCIAL ART WITH AND FOR COMMUNITIES THAT REFLECTS THEIR LIVED EXPERIENCES, CHALLENGES INJUSTICE, AND CELEBRATES LOCAL IMAGINATION AND SOCIAL COHESION.

OVER THE COMING YEAR, WE ARE COMMITTED TO DEEPENING OUR RELATIONSHIPS, EXPANDING OUR IMPACT, AND MAKING SPACE FOR NEW VOICES. BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF 2024–25, WE ARE SETTING OUR SIGHTS ON THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES:

### LAUNCHING OUR NEW HOME

Our purpose-built space will open its doors in Spring/Summer of 2027 to the public, becoming a beacon for collaboration, creativity and care. It will offer:

A welcoming, fully accessible creative home for community gatherings, exhibitions and learning

A permanent home for our Youth Platform and artist-led workshops

A vibrant public programme that brings visibility to underrepresented stories and talents

### STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

We will continue to work with schools, grassroots groups, and local service providers to co-design inclusive programmes. In particular, we aim to:

Expand our **Schools Programme**, offering more sustained support for under-resourced classrooms and SEND learners

Grow our **partnerships with local mental health and youth services** to ensure access and wellbeing are embedded throughout our offer

Continue collaborating with artists committed to social justice and community engagement

### CHAMPIONING EQUITY AND LEADERSHIP

Our organisational structure is designed to reflect our values. In the year ahead, we will:

Deepen our commitment to a **collaborative leadership model**, flattening hierarchies and investing in staff progression

Embed **youth voice and community leadership** in our programming, decision-making and evaluation

Provide pathways for **local employment, training and mentorship** in the creative industries

### SOCIAL ART WITH IMPACT

We will continue to commission bold, co-created work. Our public programme will:

Bring together artists, activists and community members through seasonal **Social Gatherings**

Support new **community-led commissions** that respond to place, history and heritage

Offer **Light Touch commissions** to emerging artists who work in more informal, responsive ways

### SUSTAINABILITY, LEARNING & REFLECTION

We recognise the importance of care, for people and our processes. As we grow, we will:

Embed reflective practice and evaluation across all our programme strands

Prioritise environmental sustainability in how we build, produce and share

Seek models of continued **fundraising, income-generating activities and long-term investment** that align with our mission, vision and values

# THANK YOU

To our partners, collaborators and funders – thank you. Your trust and support have made this transformative year possible.

We welcome new collaborators, supporters and partners to shape this vision with us. Let's build it together. Please contact us or join our mailing list for regular updates and call outs.

## WITH GRATITUDE TO:

Arts Council England, Southwark Council,  
National Lottery Heritage Fund, United St Saviour's Charity,  
and all our community, school and sector partners.

[WWW.PECKHAMPLATFORM.COM](http://WWW.PECKHAMPLATFORM.COM)



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