



Yesterday, Together, Tomorrow: Personal and Public Archives from Brixton

16 September - 17 October 2021

Reflecting upon these recent times of isolation, where gathering with loved ones or strangers became forbidden, and drawing from the history of the Loughborough Hotel both as a pub and a dancehall, 'Yesterday, Together, Tomorrow' opens a conversation on the act of coming together in public spaces in Brixton.

The exhibition works across two lines of investigation, evolving and blending throughout the course of its duration. A showcase of archival material on loan from the Lambeth Archives and Blak Outside, works as the first attempt to highlight a few moments of coming together in public spaces in Brixton. After digging into the rich records of social gatherings in the area in recent decades, the gallery space will host photographic and oral material that reflect the coming together of people in various contexts: protests, parties, celebration, jams, storytellings, queues. A call to personal archives constitutes the other part of the show, a collaboration with anyone willing to share their personal records of gatherings in Brixton. Whether shot on analogue cameras or on a phone, the gallery will scan or print the images and then hang them on the exhibition walls.

The exhibition, highlighting unseen moments of both personal and public archives, aims to create and further develop community ties, using the images and audio records as a springboard for further discussion and connection. The public programme will be an essential part of the show, a place to create further discussion around the social history of Brixton and to keep rewriting the exhibition itself.

The exhibition will be a space for hanging out, consulting books on display, or browsing the archives online, chatting, drawing, screening and debating.

Blak Outside is a grassroots led, intergenerational project, supportive of social housing residents and QTIBIPOC (queer, trans, intersex, Black, indigenous people of colour). The project will build on existing work, particularly the thirty years of community work of founder Carole Wright, which began on Angell Town in 1990 documenting the work of Dora Boatemah and her Angell Town Community Project (ATCP) until 1997. In 2021, Blak Outside was selected for the 'Support Structures for Support Structures', a fellowship programme initiated by Serpentine, that supports up to ten artists and collectives working at the intersection of art, spatial politics and community practice.

Images on Ioan from Lambeth Archives and Blak Outside.



Public programme

Throughout the exhibition: a call to archive for pictures of people coming together in Brixton: the images will be printed or scanned by the gallery staff and hung on the gallery walls alongside the exhibition works.

Loughborough Road Histories: Stories of a south London street (Talk and Book launch)
Thursday 16 September

DJ & open mic night

Friday 24 September

LEAF Tenants and Residents Association AGM

Tuesday 28 September

Photography Workshop

Saturday 2 October

Scrapbooking workshop for families

Saturday 9 October

Blak Outside squats San Mei Gallery

Friday 15 October

Blak Outside squats San Mei Gallery: Q&A with social housing activists ${\sf Gallery}$

Saturday 16 October

Blak Outside squats San Mei Gallery + closing event with food and music Sunday 17 October