

# SONIC FUTURES

IDENTITY AND SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE

SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER - SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2 PM-5PM



*If you are a creative person with a passion for music, but you are struggling with academic life and you need to find a link between theory, practice and your interests, join us for these series of FREE workshops that combine Critical Theory, Hip Hop methodology and practice with gardening and notions of entrepreneurialism.*

*for more information please get in touch with [c.minestrelli@lcc.arts.ac.uk](mailto:c.minestrelli@lcc.arts.ac.uk)*

# SONIC FUTURES:

INTERSECTING CRITICAL PEDAGOGIES,  
MUSIC AND GARDENING TO PROMOTE  
STUDENTS' ACTIVE  
PARTICIPATION AND WELLBEING

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# AIMS

- To engage students from disadvantaged backgrounds/ disengaged students/students who are struggling with academic life
- To foster critical reflections and analysis of issues concerning diversity, social justice, collaboration and sustainability in the Arts, through the platform provided by Hip Hop;
- to prompt creative activities and provide students with the knowledge, skills and tools to pursue any entrepreneurial aspirations;
- to develop/hone critical thinking tools;
- to provide a template for future collaborative ventures between tertiary institutions and local communities.

# Reflecting on questions of Identity, sustainability and Hip Hop as a social movement



May Project Gardens, Morden



# Reflecting on the role of community organisations and wellbeing in the heart of London





Talking about regeneration,  
gentrification, urban planning and  
social inequalities



Elephant Park, Heygate



# Hip Hop around the Globe: Gender, race, class, politics and the role of the media





# Environmental justice, sustainability, gender and climate change



May Project Gardens , Morden

# PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES

- Collaboration (Lassiter, 2005), Partnership (Eisler, 1981)
- Hip Hop Critical Pedagogies (Akom, 2009,; Dimitriadis, 2001, 2007; KRS ONE, 2010; Martinez and Malone, 2014; Seidel, 2011) and Hip Hop as social change (Rose 1994; Chang, 2005; Minestrelli 2017)-based on Paulo Freire's critical Pedagogies → Notion of the 'Cypha', 'Each one teach one', 'flow', 'roots', etc.
- Best practices applied to higher education teaching methods (Boud, Cohen and Sampson, 2014; Keengwe and Kidd, 2010)
- Music as praxis (Regelski, 2005, 2009)
- ...



# THE STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES

## ➤ Did you enjoy the workshops? Provide details

- “I really enjoyed all the workshops. I learned so much at every workshop. The workshops also mainly became a space for me to self-reflect and to mentally grow in my views on my role as an international student in London— on how I can contribute to the community around me, and learn from the community around me. I found that everyone in the workshops became like family, and the workshops really felt like a safe space to be myself and express my views on our course, and our journeys with Hiphop. I also learned about certain plants and how they grow, and I particularly loved spending time in Ian’s garden and learning what permaculture truly is. I also enjoyed discussing gentrification at LCC and wondering about how communities evolve around this issue.” (Mariama W., 2019)
- “I absolutely loved the workshops. They surpassed expectations, becoming spaces where we not just engaged with nature and the world around us, but also looked inwards and got to know ourselves better. Unexpectedly, they became safe spaces for freedom and expression and I found myself leaving each session feeling peaceful and having learnt more about myself. C. and I. structured the workshops in a way that allowed participants to spend time together exploring an area (Elephant & Castle) or spending time in a garden, and then taking time to discuss personal learnings together, leading to larger questions. Each of the workshops gave me so much food for thought; I don’t think anything else could have caused this kind of enrichment”. (Rashmi, S., 2019)

## ➤ What is the value of the workshops in a city like London?

- “For me the main value of the workshops is the experience. London is such a big, complex, diverse, fast paced city; as a foreign woman and student living here for the first time, the workshops were a big chance to understand the complexity of the city. To walk around some neighbourhoods with my peers, to do gardening, to talk to local people about gentrification; was a significant and helpful chance to not feel as a loner and small tourist in a city. I can say from my experience that it helped me in emotional aspects since it was my first time in the city and I didn’t have friends living in here, but the workshops were a great chance to meet wonderful people, develop communication skills and open my mind to new perspectives of what it means London and its people”. (Ilse, B.C., 2019)



# CHALLENGES

- Recruitment
- Commitment
- Weather

# THE CONFERENCE

## SONIC FUTURES

PERFORMING IDENTITY IN THE 'GLOBAL CITY'

THURSDAY 25 APRIL 9:30AM-7PM @ LONDON COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:30

