



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**26 April 2019**

**THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL  
TRUST ANNOUNCE  
LISTEN LOCAL'S MINI FOREST CINEMA TOUR  
AS PART OF WALTHAM FOREST LONDON BOROUGH OF CULTURE**

**Mini Forest Cinema Tour**  
**Friday 26 April – Sunday 28 April**  
**and**  
**Friday 3 May – Sunday 5 May**

**Listen Local** is a year-long collaboration between the Royal Court Theatre, The National Trust and local residents in Waltham Forest, commissioned as part of the Mayor's London Borough of Culture 2019 with support from the Airbnb Community Tourism Programme.

Listen Local's first project is **See the Real**; an open call for Waltham Forest residents to make a 100 second film about somewhere that's special to them.

Over 50 films were submitted and they will all be screened in the **Mini Forest Cinema**.

The **Mini Forest Cinema** is an installation designed by local artists in a repurposed caravan and built in Waltham Forest with help from a group of young people from the borough, including a group of SEND Young people from The Limes.

The **Mini Forest Cinema** will tour to locations in **Chingford, Leyton, Leytonstone** and **Walthamstow** over 2 weekends; Friday 26 April – Sunday 28 April and Friday 3 May – Sunday 5 May.

Tour locations will include Paradox Community Centre, Leytonstone Leisure Centre, Hollow Pond, Walthamstow Market, Asda Leyton Mills, Tesco Lea Bridge Road, Langthorne Park, Lloyd Park and Higham Park.

Over the last four months the Royal Court team met with residents of Waltham Forest; at football matches, supermarkets, leisure centres, colleges, schools, community centres, day centres, faith centres and council meetings through public stalls, meetings and workshops to engage with people and encourage submissions to **See the Real**. The team met with 2,800 people, drank 36 cups of tea, had 94 hours of meetings and took 124 bus and train journeys. The age range of people who submitted films was 8 – 93.

Further details of the exact touring locations and timings to be announced.  
Following the **Mini Forest Cinema** tour the films will be shared on the Royal Court & LBOC websites.

Airbnb is supporting the London Borough of Culture with funding to promote healthy tourism.



-ENDS-

For more information please contact Anoushka Warden on 0207 565 5063 / [AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com)

#### Notes to Editors:

##### **Airbnb**

Airbnb is supporting the London Borough of Culture with funding to promote healthy tourism. Airbnb's Community Tourism Programme, will support the Mayor's winning borough by funding the Listen Local project. The Airbnb Community Tourism Programme, launched in 2017, is a 3-year fund to support innovative projects across Europe that encourage and empower locals to shape and benefit from more sustainable tourism.

**MAYOR OF LONDON**



#### **The Mayor's London Borough of Culture Award**

The London Borough of Culture award is a major new initiative launched by the Mayor of London in June 2017 and inspired by the UK City and European Capital of Culture programmes. The Mayor's London Borough of Culture award brings Londoners together. Putting culture at the heart of local communities, where it belongs. Shining a light on the character and diversity of London's boroughs and showing culture is for everyone. Now more than ever, the Mayor wants Londoners to get to know each other and feel part of our great city. Thanks to this new award, all Londoners will now have the chance to be part of something extraordinary.

In total, 22 boroughs bid for £1million funding to stage a year-long programme of cultural events and initiatives, and to develop a plan to make culture an integral part of the borough's future. Waltham Forest will be London Borough of Culture in 2019 and Brent will be London Borough of Culture in 2020. A panel of experts and City Hall officers read and moderated the bids. Experts were from institutions including City Bridge Trust, Historic England, Arts Council England, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Heritage Lottery Fund and the City of London. Recommendations were made to the Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE and the Mayor, Sadiq Khan, who made the final decision.

The winning boroughs of Waltham Forest and Brent were chosen based on their artistic vision and ambition to deliver outstanding cultural initiatives in their local area, putting communities at the centre of the programme design and delivery. The



successful boroughs have demonstrated how winning the title will enable them to deliver their long-term ambitions, put local people at the heart of the programme, and showcase a diverse, vibrant and inclusive programme of work.



National  
Trust

The National Trust is a conservation charity founded in 1895 by three people who saw the importance of our nation's heritage and open spaces, and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. Over 120 years later, these values are still at the heart of everything the charity does. Entirely independent of the government, the National Trust looks after more than 250,000 hectares of countryside, 778 miles of coastline and hundreds of special places across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. More than 24 million people visit every year, and together with over 5 million members and over 65,000 volunteers, they help to support the charity in its work to care for special places forever, for everyone. For more information and ideas for great seasonal days out go to: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk).



### **Waltham Forest London Borough of Culture 2019**

Waltham Forest is the Mayor's first London Borough of Culture. The award, the flagship programme in his culture strategy, was a major new initiative launched by Sadiq to put culture at the heart of London's communities. More than 15,000 people backed Waltham Forest's bid, which aims to inspire 85% of households to participate in the cultural year, engage every school in the area in arts and culture, and to attract over half a million new visitors to the borough.

The year will explore the themes 'Radicals', 'Makers' and 'Fellowship' in a collaboration between local residents, artists and creatives creating a once in a life time celebration of the place we call 'home'. Waltham Forest, London Borough of Culture 2019 will shine a light on the character, diversity and cultures of the borough,



the things we have in common and the things that make us different, a year-long celebration of the real cultures of London by the people who live here