

# Programme

*How Near is Here?* is a collective enquiry centred on locality – a complex term that refers to geographical surroundings, the people occupying an area, or the buildings and spaces that define it.

The programme brings together artists, organisations and academics working across the field of art and/in 'the urban', examining why locality is a contested and widespread concern.

Key questions posed will be:

What constitutes the local now?

What role does art (and culture) play in constructing a locality? Or How do artists and organisations articulate, generate and occupy space?

These questions are tied to a broader question of answerability or social responsibility:

What role do artists, producers and art organisations play in society?

What shapes (what stories, policies, buildings...) your locality? Is it yours?

How do buildings shape a locality? How do these structures govern behavior in a city?

What impact can you have on the locality, neighborhood or city you live in?

What is the difference between locality and community?

## ***How Near is Here? Symposium***

**8 September | Meadowbank Sports Centre | 10am – 6pm**

**What constitutes the local now?**

### **Morning Session | Hall Six**

A series of presentations – case studies and approaches to working 'locally' - from 10am til 1pm : with grouped questions and answers (chaired by Julie Crawshaw).

Registration at 9.30am

**Kate Gray (Collective)**

10.00 – 10.20am (20 mins)

**Alexandra Baudelot (Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers, Paris)**

10.30 – 11.00am (30 mins)

**Janna Graham (Centre for Possible Studies / Edgware Road)**

11.10 – 11.40am (30 mins)

Questions for Kate, Alexandra and Janna | 11.40 – 12.00pm (20 mins)

**Break: 12.00 - 12.30pm**

**Keynote: Fulya Erdemci (tbc)**

12.40 – 1.30pm (40 mins talk, with 10 mins questions)

**Lunch: Indoor Running Track | 1.30 – 2.15pm**

**Afternoon Sessions:**

Using the indoor Running Track as a base, with some activities taking place throughout Meadowbank.

**Breakout Sessions x 3**

Practice focused, discussion-based or active – pulling out strands from the morning sessions - 3 groups of 20 people.

**Mitch Miller**

2.30 – 3.30pm

Walking tour / discussion (details tbc)

**Dennis McNulty (tbc)**

2.30 – 3.30pm

**Julie Crawshaw**

2.30 – 3.30pm

Reading Group | *Does the City Have Speech?*

**Tea break 3.30 – 4.00**

**Keynote: Albena Yaneva** (The University of Manchester)

4.00 – 4.50 (40 mins, with 10 mins questions)

**Discussion at the end of Day: Chair Julie Crawshaw + selection of speakers (5 – 6)**

## ***How Near is Here? Intensive Programme***

Over the course of the week we will think about scales of encounter, from the infrastructure of the city to the way we understand and locate ourselves in our surroundings as individuals. We will take part in, trial and discuss art practices that actively question how we live in and understand our locale – particularly considering the relationship between buildings and users, how cities and planning governs behavior and do or don't allow for 'urban capabilities'; and practices that invite us to use, move through and understand a city in new ways.

### **Day Two: Infrastructure**

**9 September, Collective – Calton Hill at 10am**

**Ultra Red (tbc)**

**Group Reading (2 hours)**

45-mins reading, 45-mins discussion of text and 30-mins reflection split over the course of the day

### **Day Three: Architecture and the physical make-up of your local area**

**10 September 2014, Collective – Calton Hill at 10am**

**Chloe Cooper**

**Respondent:**

**Charlotte Knox-Williams**

**Group Reading (2 hours)**

### **Day Four: Inhabitation and Enclosures**

**11 September 2014**

**Eastern Surf**

**Respondent: Emma Balkind**

**Group reading (2 hours)**

### **Day Five: Co-operation and community**

**12 September 2014**

**Kristina Norman**

**Respondent: Harry Weeks**

**Reading Group (2 hours)**