**Circulate**

**Free Outdoor Art Across London**

**July – September 2016**

**Brought to you by - *Watermans Arts Centre – Hounslow,***

***The Albany – Deptford, Millfield Theatre – Enfield and Stratford Circus Arts Centre – Newham***

From a mesmerising trip on a fantastical boat to a teeming city made of moving blocks, Circulate brings outstanding outdoor art to your neighbourhood this summer, through a series of spectacular performances across London.

Circulate takes leading national and international companies away from central London and into neighbourhoods where Londoners live with three very different performances – ***Block, Lifeboat*** and ***Île O***

***Block,*** by *NoFit State Circus* and *Motionhouse Dance Company,* is a revolutionary collaboration that melds the world of circus and dance. During this precarious, fast-paced performance, seven performers and 20 oversized blocks are deconstructed and reformed into an infinite variety of shapes. ***Block*** is a brand new show that looks at life in the modern city. Watch as the performers and blocks create different atmospheres, as buildings go up and are pulled down and as waves of people move, disperse and form intricate patterns of interaction.

In ***Lifeboa***t we find a counterpoint to the speed of life in London as we join the slowest ride on earth. In this meditative antidote to a funfair attraction, audiences are invited to disrupt the flow of city life and see the world from another perspective. The ***Lifeboat***‘s bizarre structure of wood and canvas gently rocks and rotates, taking us on a contemplative journey of reflection.

French circus performers *Compagnie Barolosolo* use humour and physical theatre to create **Île O** –a surreally comic performance that takes place in and above water. Drawing on acrobatics and music, the narrative revolves around two opposing characters. This watery performance twists reality to create a poetic universe that combines, outstanding physical theatre, balance, agility and invention.

With three distinctive acts performing across four different boroughs, Circulate brings free outdoor art to the streets, parks, shopping centres and squares of London this summer.

*'London is no stranger to spectacular outdoor arts but Circulate brings these extraordinary events into local communities – not as one-off performances but as a programme designed to have lasting impact. Circulate is now in its fourth year and will be coming to new locations each year. Ultimately we will create an outer a ring of venues in locations around the city bringing the best of outdoor arts to a broader range of people.' – Jan Lennox, Director, Watermans Arts Centre*

*‘I’m determined that all Londoners should benefit from and have the opportunity to get involved in our city’s world-renowned cultural life. I’m delighted to see festivals like Circulate bringing spectacular and free outdoor art to our local neighbourhoods. London’s cultural hotspots extend far beyond the city-centre - that’s why I’m planning a new London Borough of Culture competition so that each year a different borough is the focus of an ambitious arts and culture programme.’ - The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan,*

 *‘The Arts Council is pleased to be supporting Circulate through its Strategic Touring Programme. The project will connect artists and audiences through outdoor art created by and for communities, and it is exciting to see such high-calibre talent involved. Circulate offers an exciting potential future model for arts engagement with currently under-served audiences in our outer boroughs.’- Joyce Wilson, London Area Director, Arts Council England*

**Notes to Editors**

**About Circulate**

Circulate is a group of four London venues working together to bring outstanding Outdoor Arts to outer London. As well as putting on free outdoor arts events, we are building outdoor arts audiences and outdoor arts capacity in London, through community engagement and an artist development programme. The consortium is funded by Arts Council England's Strategic Touring Fund and in 2016 won a further 3-years funding to continue the programme until 2018. The consortium partners are: Watermans, The Albany, Millfield Theatre and Stratford Circus Arts Centre, with GLA and the Independent Street Arts Network (ISAN) as partners. Our three year touring programme will appear in Hounslow, Lewisham, Enfield and Newham from summer 2016 with new locations added every year.

**Listings Information**

All events are Free of Charge

Performances in South East London

July 9 2016 - Life Boat, Mountsfield Park, Catford 12.00 – 20.00

July 30 2016 - Île O, Giffin Square, Deptford 12.30 – 3.00

September 3 2016- BLOCK, Fordham Park, Deptford 1.00

Performances in West London

July 16 2016- Île O, Bell Square, Hounslow 13:00, 15:30

August 13 2016 - Life Boat, Bell Square, Hounslow 11:00-18:00

August 27 2016 -BLOCK, Bell Square, Hounslow 12:30, 15:30

Performance in North London
August 2 2016 - Île O, Edmonton Green Shopping Centre, North Square 12:00, 14:00

August 9 2016 – BLOCK, Edmonton Green Shopping Centre, North Square 11:00, 14:00

August 16 2016 -Life Boat, Edmonton Green shopping Centre, North Square 11:00-17:00

Performances in East London

August 28 2016- Life Boat Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park,

Timber Lodge Café, North Park 11:00-16:00

August 28 2016 -BLOCK, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park,

Timber Lodge Café, North Park 13:00, 16:00

August 28 2016 -Île O, Theatre Square, Stratford 17:30

**www.circulate.london**

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