

# POPCHANGE

## Popchange - Platforma Retreat Programme

Venue: Gulbenkian, University of Kent, Canterbury CT2 7NB

Counterpoints Arts is delighted to welcome you all to the PopChange - Platforma Retreat.

From gaming and hop hip, to vlogging, film and much more, we're especially interested to hear from young people about what role pop culture might play in making social change happen.

The two-day programme is designed for interactive conversations and workshops to discover new ways of thinking, sharing and the building of unlikely solidarities and friendships.

In the room will be artists, activists, media makers, cultural actors and young influencers. We have deliberately invited a rich mix of people who might not have previously worked together but who are (ideally) open to new ways of connecting, collaborating and co-producing.

The PopChange Retreat will highlight and platform work that offers hope and the potential for change despite the current divisive and unsettled times.

### MONDAY 21 OCTOBER 2019

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**9.30 - 11.30: Arrivals & check in** Lobby (Ticket Desk)

**11.00 - 11.15: New Cultural Spaces and Who's in the Room?** (Theatre)

A brief welcome to PopChange - Platforma Retreat and an overview of the PopChange project by Nike Jonah (Counterpoints Arts) and Eleanor Cocks (Gulbenkian)

**11.15 - 11.30: Introductions**

Getting to know each other. What does pop culture and social change mean to you? What change would you like to see happen? Led by Dijana Rakovic (Counterpoints Arts).

**11.45 - 12.25: Online Storytelling & Games for Social Change** (Theatre)

Panel: Videogames presentations from Corey Brotherson (*Windrush Tales*) and Florent Maurin (*Bury Me My Love*). Led by Tom Green (Counterpoints Arts).

**12.25 - 12.40:** Discussion in groups to create questions & comments for the panel. (Theatre Stage)

**12.40 - 13.00:** Q&A and comments

**13.00 - 14.15: Lunch** (Café Stage)

**14.15 - 15.00: Role of Hip Hop and New Ways of Learning** (Theatre)

Panel: How are musicians using their platforms and music to engage in social issues? Presentations from: Awate (Rapper) and Shay D (Hip Hop Artist). Led by Sashwati Mira Sengupta (Independent Curator/Producer).

15.10 – 15.25: Discussion in groups to create questions & comments for the panel.

15.25 -15.45: Q&A and comments

15.45 – 16.00: **Break** (Café Stage)

16.00 - 17.00: **Open Space for Sharing Projects** (*Theatre Dressing Rooms One and Two*)

This open space is designed for you to share personal projects and test out your ideas with fellow participants in the room. Each group will get to share the outcomes in a short format

17:00 Dinner (Café)

18.30: **Risks and Challenges for Artists as Activists** (Café Stage)

Pre-screening discussion focusing on **Matangi/Maya/M.I.A** with Salma Ibrahim (Counterpoints Arts) and Momtaza Mehri (former Poet Laureate, London). Open to public.

19.30 – 21.10 **Matangi/Maya/M.I.A** (2018, 97 mins) film screening (Cinema)

## TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2019

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10.00 – 10.30: **Reflections on Day 1: Voices from the Floor** (Theatre)

A summary of the previous day and open discussion.

10.30 - 11.50: **Workshop 1: Creative Challenges** (Theatre)

Interactive session: Pick one of the creative challenges with your group and develop a solution. Challenges led by Nike Jonah, Dijana Rakovic, Mo Afridi (Rize Up).

11.50 -12.10: Break (Café Stage)

12.10 - 12.45: Presentations from groups

12.45 – 14.00: Lunch (Café Stage)

14.00 - 15.00: **How to Find the Open Doors?** (Theatre)

Panel Discussion: Alternative models of creative activism - with Paul Bonham (Music Managers Forum); Hisham Hasan, Shay D and Awate. Led by Sashwati Mira Sengupta.

15:00 – 16:00: **Vlogging Workshop** (Theatre)

How to develop ideas into a mini **podcast**, which you will then produce in the session. Led by Samuel Kalejaiye (Activist).

16.00 -16.30 Closing remarks

16:30 – 17:00: Buffet food/drink (Café)

17.00 – 19.30: **Cabaret Performance** (Café Stage)

Poetry, spoken word, music from retreat participants