

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Black History Month at HOME programme revealed



HOME have announced their Black History Month programme, with events including live and online theatre, a specially-curated film programme and a new exhibition in the Inspire Gallery.

And this year the programme will extend beyond October, with the return of HOME Comedy Club and HOME Sound Sessions to Theatre 1.

From 11 to 17 October, Complicité have partnered with Fehinti Balogun for *Can I Live?* a journey into the world of environmental activism, as Fehinti tells the story of how, as a young Black British man, his path has been forever changed by what he's learnt about our planet. This online show is available on a pay what you decide basis.

A post-show discussion on 14 October will focus on the response to climate change from people from Global Majority ethnicities.

# HOME

In the cinemas, a specially-curated film season will include *The Story of a Three Day Pass*, *Barbershop*, *No Place Like Home*, *Waiting to Exhale*, *The Story of Lovers Rock*, *Hollywood Shuffle* and *Amazing Grace*.

Also in the cinema will be the return of *A City Seen*, HOME's quarterly film programme exploring the creativity of our city's most essential charities, community groups and voluntary organisations. To celebrate Black History Month, the guest selection will be curated by Rainbow Noir, who provide a voice for LGBTQI people of colour in Greater Manchester.

In HOME's Inspire Gallery, Michelle Ayavoro is working with Recovery Pathways for an exhibition designed and delivered online during lockdown to create a powerful testimony from those who have lived experience of mental ill health and recovery. The resulting works will be displayed in HOME's café bar from October 1.

And on Whitworth Street West, there's still the chance to enjoy Venessa Scott's joyful mural, *Together We Are*.

Throughout the month, there will be the chance to enjoy online events including a female-focused Black Creatives: In Conversation and Storytime Sessions, where families can join Steely the Steel Drum on his musical journey to discover the beauty of how he was made and what he was made from, narrated by Carla Henry who was recently seen at HOME's outdoor popup venue, Homeground, in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The sessions will be accompanied by a storytelling workshop during the October half term.

Continuing beyond the end of October, on Saturday 13 November there will be *A Night of Positive Laughter*, in association with Laff Til Ya Fart.

The brainchild of local actor, MC and comedian Trevor Dwyer-Lynch, the evening will present comedy lovers with a stellar line-up from the UK's Black comedy circuit. Headlining the event is Vince Atta, creating on-the-spot musical entertainment with loop pedal and beatboxing. Support is from Annette Fagon, nominated as Best Newcomer at the 2006 Black Entertainment Comedy Awards, and Roger D, a regular performer at Jongleurs, The Glee and major comedy clubs throughout the UK. Completing the line-up is Clayton Jones, whose observational comedy covers everyday topics of marriage, kids, being mixed raced, school life and living in Wigan.

Then to round off the year, on 11 Dec HOME Sound Sessions features soul singer Yemi Bolatiwa, SheBeKeke, who has supported the likes of Kae Tempest, The Last Poets, Saul Williams and OSHUN, and Nigerian-born, Manchester-based, alternative soul and pop artist Zahyón.

For more information about the programme, visit [homemcr.org/bhm2021](https://homemcr.org/bhm2021)



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### Notes to editors

For further information, please contact Kat Harrison-Dibbits, Head of Communications at HOME, on 07833523295 or email [kat.harrison-dibbits@homemcr.org](mailto:kat.harrison-dibbits@homemcr.org).

**HOME** is Manchester's centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in May 2015, HOME has welcomed over three million visitors to its two theatres, five cinemas, art gallery, book shop and restaurants. HOME works with international and UK artists to produce extraordinary theatrical experiences, producing an exciting mix of thought-provoking drama, dance and festivals, with a strong focus on international work, new commissions and talent development.

HOME's ambition is to push the boundaries of form and technology, to experiment, have fun, take risks and share great new art with the widest possible audience. The patrons of HOME are Danny Boyle, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay CBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. [www.homemcr.org](http://www.homemcr.org) | @HOME\_mcr | Facebook HOME\_mcr

