

In 1961, Joan Littlewood and architect Cedric Price conceived the Fun Palace as a ‘laboratory of fun’, ‘a university of the streets’. It was to be a temporary and movable home to the arts and sciences that would welcome children and adults alike. It was never built, so we have remade that 1960s vision for the 21st century, with a weekend of events, locally curated and attended – linked nationally and internationally, virtually and actually.

On 3rd & 4th October 2015 there will be over 130 locally-led, community-driven Fun Palaces, across the UK and beyond, each one created by, for and with the local community, all part of the network of Fun Palaces.

2015 is our second year. We are an ongoing campaign for the democratisation of all culture, with an annual event at the beginning of October, putting cultural participation and public engagement at the heart of what we do. Many of us already work with public engagement and participation – with the Fun Palaces weekend, we come together simultaneously and internationally, in a huge shout for everyday artists and citizen scientists, for community.

We believe public participation is the key to building great communities and empowering individuals. Through the Fun Palaces network, we encourage dialogue between the local and the national, the individual and the establishment. And – because we celebrate arts, technology, sciences and everyday culture – it’s FUN to join in. It’s in the name.

If you want to get involved next year, let us know – www.funpalaces.co.uk