

# FUN PALACES

Theatre director 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 all, not just as audiences, but as active participants. Our version of that never-built 1960s vision is an ongoing campaign for culture created by, with and for all, community-curated and locally-led. The campaign has an annual weekend of events in the first weekend of October, linked nationally and internationally. 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.

In 2014 and 2015 there were 280 Fun Palaces, across 11 nations, each one created by, for and with the local community, led by over 5000 Fun Palaces Makers, with 90,000 participants. In 2016 there were an extraordinary 292 Fun Palaces in 9 nations, led by 4800 Makers, with 124,000 people taking part.

We welcome interest from potential Fun Palaces Makers with years of experience in creating community events and those with no experience at all. We believe that public participation is the key to building great communities and empowering individuals, and that arts, science, craft and tech are a great catalyst for all to join in.

Through the Fun Palaces network, we encourage dialogue between the local and the national, the individual and the establishment.

If you want to get involved, let us know – [hello@funpalaces.co.uk](mailto:hello@funpalaces.co.uk)