



PRESS RELEASE
22 April 2016

Platform Press House goes to print at Peckham Platform **Youth Platform and Harold Offeh | 2 June – 31 July 2016**

Peckham Platform announces *Platform Press House* – a brand new publishing house formed and run by young people from the gallery's Youth Platform programme in collaboration with artist Harold Offeh. Together they form the editorial board of a publishing house that will present work from within the group alongside contributions from the wider Peckham community.

Platform Press House aspires to build on the rich legacy of radical, small independent publishing houses in London and beyond that have created opportunities for artists, writers and creative thinkers.

From 2 June to 31 July 2016 the project will transform Peckham Platform into *Platform Press House*. This summer residency and exhibition will redefine and question the contemporary role of the publishing house, animating the gallery as a live publication in text, image, video and audio. The content will reflect the editorial board's diverse interests across poetry, art, music, dance, politics and social issues and will exhibit material produced by the editorial team alongside guest publications including local zines, reproductions of books and articles and political pamphlets. A live production space will encourage visitors to contribute to the development of a run of new publications that will take shape across the exhibition. Visitors to the gallery will be able to explore the resources and respond to provocations from the editors as they make their own contributions to the project.

Developed through a series of workshops with Offeh, the group's initial conversations were framed by the cultural practice of Call and Response. Call and Response is a form of communication and dialogue associated but not exclusively from Africa. Most commonly occurring in musical genres like: Jazz, Blues, Gospel & Hip-hop, it sets up a framework to look at forms of communications, knowledge, power and agency.

Harold Offeh said:

"This project emerges out of a series of conversations and activities with the Youth Platform. Its collective aim is to use both the traditions and current forms of alternative and radical publishing to give voice to the concerns and interests of the Youth Platform members.

We hope to send out a series of calls: invitations to audiences that will allow us to capture their creative responses. Platform Press hopes to redefine the exhibition as an open and ongoing publication, a site and platform for the production and distribution of ideas and practices."

Platform Press House will exist in dialogue with visitors. Its publications, outputs and events are calls eliciting a response from audiences who will be invited to contribute, starting further conversations with the editors.

The programme will be complemented by a series of events including a Zine Fair, artist talk, an open editorial session and contributions from Fine Art students at Central St Martins.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Peckham Platform

Peckham Platform is a creative and educational charity located in a public gallery on Peckham Square, SE15. Founded as Peckham Space in 2010, it re-launched as an independent organisation in January 2014 and only seven months later was awarded prestigious 'NPO' status by Arts Council England. As an organisation it believes that communities can inform and shape their engagement with their locality by working with contemporary visual artists. Its programme of commissions creates meaningful and accessible social arts practice for Peckham and beyond, providing an expansive platform for different voices and debate and bringing contemporary social practice alive.

www.peckhamplatform.com

Youth Platform

Youth Platform are a group of 13 – 19 year olds who meet at Peckham Platform every other week to develop creative projects, meet artists and designers, go on visits and help organize events in the gallery space and surrounding area. The sessions are free of charge and run in parallel to Peckham Platform's aims of increasing accessibility to the arts and strengthening our community. Members learn new skills, take on responsibilities that will enhance their CVs, meet like-minded people from the community and gain experience in producing projects and events. <http://www.youthplatform.tumblr.com>

Harold Offeh is an artist working in a range of media including performance, video, photography, learning and social arts practice. Often employing humour as a means to confront the viewer with an assessment of contemporary culture. Offeh's current project 'Covers' sees the artist embody images from popular culture in a series of attempts to transform music album covers from the 1970s and 80s by black singers. He continues to work in a number of diverse and situational contexts. He studied at the University of Brighton and the Royal College of Art, London. He lives in Cambridge and works in London and Leeds.

Recent exhibitions and projects include:

THE SHADOWS TOOK SHAPE, Studio Museum Harlem, NYC, USA, 2013-14.

RADIOCITY, An Early Years and Families Learning project at Tate Britain London UK, 2014/15

JUST LIKE A WOMAN curated by LADA at Abrons Arts Center, New York & Chelsea Theatre, London 2015.

For full events programme and press images contact:

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