

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION PACK

YOUTOPIA

10-11 JUNE

CONTACTUS

If you are interested in participating in Youtopia Festival, please RSVP via email at youtopiafestival@gmail.com.

More information will soon be available regarding the technical support on hand, photos of the space and details regarding an participant Meet & Greet event prior to the festival.

Come and imagine Youtopia with us.

The Youtopia team.

Email: youtopiafest@gmail.com

Twitter/Instagram: @youtopiafest

Facebook: http://tiny.cc/youtopiafacebook

Website: youtopianow.co.uk

OUR MANIFESTO

"Imagine independent spaces where all individuals would be free to come and work ... without the pressure of expectation. This could be revolutionary for art." - Li-E Chen

"Uprising is a moment that springs up and out of Time, violates the "law" of History ... Such moments of intensity give shape and meaning to the entirety of a life." - Hakim Bey

A utopia is an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect <u>or</u>

A utopia is impossible to create, because when its made it falls apart <u>but</u>

why not try?

WHAT IS IT?

We would like to invite you to take part in our festival Youtopia, a process-focused experiment at the Green Rooms, a new hotel in Wood Green.

Youtopia is a series of scattered islands which make up our world. On these islands we attempt to generate our personal utopias. We think of what we keep private and what we perform publicly. Perhaps we will invite others into our utopias, perhaps our desire is to be alone. We observe and we create. Our festival is your festival. There is no programme, there is only the space, time and money. Workshops will naturally occur, pieces of art will be made and torn down.

There are no rules as to what cannot be brought in, but we suggest that you enter with a fresh and open mind. In the festival there will be no screening process, it is free for everybody who wishes to join.

We don't believe that a person is not an artist.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

From the 10th to the 11th of June we will be occupying the Green Rooms, a newly refurbished arts hotel in Wood Green (Zone 3, Piccadilly Line) London. There is no cost of entry. The festival will begin at 10am on Friday the 10th of June and will end at 5pm on Saturday the 11th of June. At 10pm on the Friday evening the space will be locked and anyone inside will stay with the YOUTOPIA team until 8am the next morning. You can leave the space after 10pm, but you will not be allowed re-entry. Bring bedding if you want to the stay the night. The space is fully accessible.

On both mornings we will have a communal breakfast.

In the space we have access to five small hotel rooms, and a large exhibition space on the top floor. The exhibition space will be the main area where materials and tech support is on hand, if needed. Two hotel rooms will be places of rest, and the other two can be impromptu, fluid spaces for workshops and showings. The fifth room is a space in flux and will be used on an adhoc basis.

WHAT CAN WE OFFER?

WE HAVE SPACE

- We are situated in the Green Rooms (http://www.greenrooms.london) an arts hotel in Wood Green: 13-27 Station Road, N22 6UW.
- We have one large exhibition space at the top of the building, on the third floor. This is the communal hub. Inside this space will be the materials, a space for creation, an archive space, a bar and the Queen of Capital. It is a space to create, collaborate, and build Youtopias. It will also be the communal space of rest and, in the morning, breakfast. It is fully accessible via a lift, which has a capacity of 8 people.
- We have five small hotel rooms on the first floor. Two hotel rooms will be used as site responsive studio spaces and two
 hotel rooms will be rest spaces. The fifth room can be decided upon in an ad-hoc basis. The hotel rooms are all accessible.
- The communal areas of the hotel are the lift (capacity 8), corridors, communal bathrooms, garden/patio area, reception and cafe area on the ground floor. These spaces are not part of our event, but can be used for spontaneous showings and interventions. The festival can even spill out into the streets. Be aware of the situation, but don't feel constricted.
- Guests will be staying in the hotel at the same time. We ask that you respect their privacy and space. However, don't feel like engagement cannot occur judge the situation, create interesting interactions and allow conversations to happen.
- There will be a cloakroom onsite which participants and audiences can use throughout the festival
- Technical support can be provided for participants. More information will provided if requested.

WE HAVE TIME

- 10- 11 June, for over 30 hours.
- The festival launches on Friday at 10am.
- Open from Friday 10am until Saturday 5pm. This includes overnight YOUTOPIA from 9:30pm Friday evening until 8am Saturday morning.

WE HAVE MONEY

- We are able to offer participants expenses for materials relating to their process(es).
- For more detailed information see: EXPENSES

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

DIGITAL

<u>www.youtopianow.co.uk</u> is an open-source website. It is currently a blank space, but we invite anyone in the festival to add ideas, inspirations and questions. It runs alongside the physical festival and is an important part of it. The website is at once archive and process, and is made by the participants.

Before the festival, feel free to use the website as a place to make callouts, share your practice, or put down relevant links or works that you would like people to see.

During the festival we will have laptops in the space so that participants can access the website. We encourage people to document what they are making or seeing, write down thoughts and comments, or simply do whatever you want with it.

The website will exist after the festival as an archival site. We encourage people to archive the events happening around them during the festival. We also encourage people to add their opinions and own versions of the event.

It is your space to make of it what you will.

PHYSICAL

Before the festival, get in touch with us at youtopiafestival@gmail.com if you feel like your process needs to begin before the on-site festival itself opens. We will do our best to accommodate your requests for materials/technical support to be prepared. For more information about participant expenses see: EXPENSES

We invite you to create and experiment with style and form using materials we provide onsite and your personal sourced materials using an allocation of participant expenses. We also invite you to share your work at any point throughout the festival to any audiences you deem appropriate (this could also include the general public using the hotel beyond the Youtopia festival).

During Youtopia, we will propose a basic schedule for the day which will change and adapt according to your specific interests. This schedule may include spontaneous themed workshops that the Youtopia team and participants want to explore with you, alongside discussions and a collection of films. These have been considered to potentially further the creative process, which can be 'scheduled' on an ad-hoc basis. If you know you want to lead a workshop during the festival in advance, please contact the Youtopia team on youtopiafestival@gmail.com.

During the festival: be present, make things. It's your space. Good luck. Utopia is possible.

GUIDELINES

In order to make Youtopia a positive experience for all involved, we politely ask you to familiarise yourself with the set of guidelines the Youtopia team has created below. These guidelines are to ensure the venue is respected, as well as the guests staying at the hotel beyond and for the duration of the Youtopia festival.

- Upon arriving at Youtopia, please ensure you sign in and out at the front desk.
- At 10pm on Friday Youtopia will be locked down until 8am. You can leave at any point, but no-one will be able to enter the space.
- The bar will close at 10pm. After that there is no alcohol allowed in the space.
- You can be in the space for the entire duration of the festival.
- There will be a free communal breakfast each morning. Let us know if you have any dietary requirements via email at youtopiafestival@gmail.com.
- BYOB (Bring Your Own Bedding) if you wish to stay at YOUTOPIA overnight.
- Be careful of noise levels after 10pm.
- No drilling or painting the walls.
- There is a strict capacity on the venue. If we hit capacity audience management strategies may be put into place for your health and safety.
- There will be other guidelines created collaboratively during the festival.

Materials and Expenses:

- The money is not limitless.
- The money is for everybody.
- At intervals that will be determined each day, the Queen of Capital will be in the main exhibition space. At these points discussions can take place about the expenses that you require. If approved, make purchases, bring the receipts of your expenses on that day to the Queen of Capital, and you will be reimbursed.
- If you require technical assistance and equipment for your process, please advise the technical team on hand as soon as possible to help them manage their schedule.
- The technical team are there to support you, but not just you.

Please respect the space, respect everyone in it. Communication is key. The YOU is a plural you.

EXPENSES

Our participants' expenses budget will be divided into two sections.

One section will aim to cover expenses for materials bought prior to the beginning of the festival, and another section will focus on expenses that occur during the participants' process at the venue.

Please be aware:

- The money is a shared collective resource.
- The participants' expenses budget is not limitless.
- The distribution of money relating to participants' material expenses will be decided on an ad-hoc basis in dialogue with both the participant(s), facilitators, and the Queen of Capital.
- Any resources and materials brought into the space or purchased during the festival will be a shared collective resource.
- Once the budget has run out there will be no more money.

Pre-Youtopia

An allocation of money will be available for participants to cover material expenses relating to their process prior to the festival.

All expenses must be agreed with the Queen of Capital beforehand to ensure that it doesn't exceed our budget and that it is possible for us to reimburse you whilst also ensuring that the money is divided fairly between all participants.

In order to claim expenses, any materials and receipts will need to be brought to the venue and receipts given to the Queen of Capital upon arrival. Any remaining funds from the Pre-Festival participants' expenses budget will then be transferred into the collective festival budget.

Bursaries for travel expenses may be available. Email youtopiafestival@gmail.com for more information.

Youtopia Festival

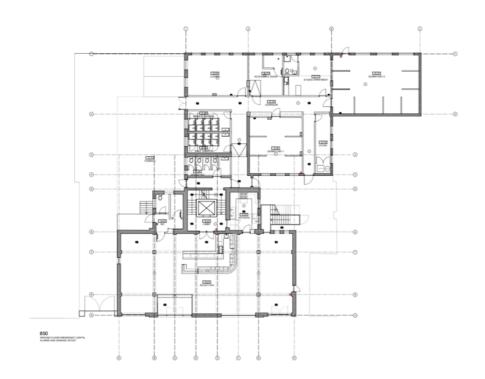
There will be a budget available for 'on the day' participants' material expenses if the process requires it. Any materials must be approved by the Queen of Capital before purchase.

Any items that wish to be reimbursed will need to be brought to the venue with the relevant receipts, and given to the Queen of Capital.

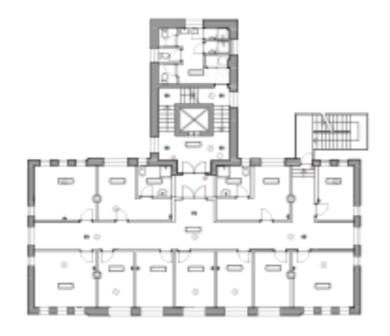
Please be aware when sourcing materials that this budget will be a shared resource for all artists involved throughout the whole three days of the festival.

FLOOR PLANS

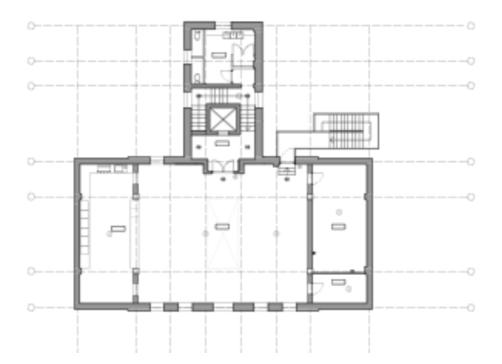
GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR



SCHEDULE

During Youtopia festival, the Youtopia team will collectively propose a schedule for the day. The schedule will be very open to change according to your interests.

Activities could include; discussions, artist led talks, showing of digital material and content via the archive and workshops led by the Youtopia team and/or participants. These collective activities will be scheduled on 'as requested' basis and the Youtopia team encourage you to lead your own workshops and discussions in the space.

If you want to lead a workshop or propose a discussion question please contact the Youtopia team on youtopiafestival@gmail.com.

THURSDAY 9TH JUNE	11AM - 1PM MEET AND GREET FOR PARTICIPANTS (DROP IN SES- SION)			
FRIDAY 10TH JUNE	10 AM YOUTOPIA FESTIVAL BEGINS (FREE COMMUNAL BREAKFAST)	10 AM - 9:30 PM YOUTOPIA FESTIVAL HAS OPEN ACCESS TO PARTICIPANTS AND AUDIENCES	9:30 PM YOUTOPIA ENTERS 'LOCK IN' MODE AND PARTICIPANTS STAY OVERNIGHT (NO RE-ENTRY)	9:30 PM - 8AM YOUTOPIA CONTINUES OVERNIGHT WITH PARTICIPANTS SLEEPING IN THE EXHIBITION ROOM WITH THE YOUTOPIA TEAM
SATURDAY 11TH JUNE	8AM YOUTOPIA OVERNIGHT ENDS AND NEW PARTICIPANTS CAN ARRIVE (FREE COMMUNAL BREAKFAST)	10 AM - 5 PM YOUTOPIA FESTIVAL HAS OPEN ACCESS TO PARTICIPANTS AND AUDIENCES	5PM YOUTOPIA FESTIVAL ENDS	



What is Youtopia Festival?

Youtopia is a process-driven event, offering space and resources for creative experimentation, spontaneous discoveries, play and networking.

Where and when?

The Youtopia festival will be held at the Green Rooms Arts Hotel in Wood Green, London on the 10th and 11th of June 2016. There will be a meet and greet event for participants on the 9th of June where they can have the opportunity to see the space and meet the Youtopia team.

How much do tickets cost?

Entry is free for both participants and audience members but please RSVP to youtopiafest@gmail.com if you wish to be an participant.

If I leave will I be allowed in again?

From 10am-9:30pm on Friday the 10th and 10am-5pm on Saturday the 11th, participants and audiences are welcome to enter and leave the space as much or as little as they like. From 9:30pm on Friday, the space will enter 'lock in' mode for overnight Youtopia. This means those that those already in the space are allowed to stay overnight with the Youtopia team or leave at any point. However, no new participants or audience members will be allowed into the space and there is no re-entry permitted.

Do I have to participate in the making/discussions or can I just come and watch?

You are welcome to come to Youtopia to create work, spectate, observe others and collaborate with other artists if you wish. We welcome participants interested in engaging with process and audience interested in seeing new work. Observe, take notes, draw, make recordings and participate in as little or as much as you would like. Everyone is welcome.

You said 24h, does that mean there are rooms booked where we can sleep?

The main sleeping area will be in the exhibition space on the third floor. This space will also be used throughout the night by artists if they wish for praxis events. It is a 'bring your own bedding' policy but pillows and blankets may be available.

Is the space accessible?

Yes. There is a lift that provides wheelchair access to all floors. If you have any specific access requirements, please email youtopiafestival@gmail.com.

Will there be food and drinks in the venue? Will they be free for guests?

There will be a communal free breakfast in the hub on both Friday and Saturday morning. If you have any dietary requirements please email youtopiafestival@gmail.com. There will be a bar in the exhibition space which will close at 10pm but this will be run by the Greenrooms hotel and not the Youtopia team. Your are welcome to bring food and drink (non alcoholic) into the space.

I live outside of London, can I apply for travel expenses?

Unfortunately, we can not provide travel expenses on this occasion.