Introduction

Welcome to issue number four of the Quarter, the Wood Green Cultural Quarter’s guide to all the great and good going on at the Chocolate Factories, in Haringey, and even further afield. In this edition, we welcome Frank Hutson and Louise Wallis, the new bright stars of Kabaret @ Karamel; a new world food restaurant with lots of wonderful and exciting events to add to our already exciting diary..

More music, including the introduction of classical nights with some world renowned performers like Kuljit Bhamra, and Carnatic Vocalists Kobiri Arianth and Yarlinie Thanabalasingam. With fabulous Jazz from Orquestra Mahatma, PigFoot, the return of Poetry and Poppadoms, an evening with the graphic novelists of SelfMadeHero publishing, and the raw food goddess Mimi Kirk, the diary is packed full of events all the way to December. So much choice, so much to do!

This issue also features an interview with one of The Chocolate Factory’s foremost artists Steven Gregory, one of many whose work you’ll be able to see in November 2014, at The Chocolate Factory’s 18th annual Open Studios.

So lots to enjoy at the Wood Green Culture Quarter this autumn and winter, come and try some great world food & real ales, come to the secret Halloween Party, celebrate World Vegan Day or just come and listen to great poetry, authors, music and so much more. It’s all happening in Wood Green.
It was the famous essayist and lexicographer Samuel Johnson that first said, “...when a man is tired of London, he’s blah blah blah”. As trite and cliché as that aphorism may be, there’s a reason it’s all over mugs, posters, and hats, and in every other article about our capital. No other phrase so readily encapsulates the way that we Londoners, both born and transplants alike, feel about the city. With a wealth and diversity of culture that’s practically unparalleled, it’s easy to see why so many are so eager to call London home. So why then do we so often feel like alienated tourists? Why don’t we recognise Home when seen through televisions?

In any conversation about the great metropolises, London will always be mentioned in the same breath as New York, Paris, and Tokyo, and so on, all bustling, thriving hubs of development, immigration, art and design, and each with a stereotypical USP they’re proud to wear on their sleeves. Tokyo is a centre of technological advancement like no other. Paris, the spiritual home of fine dining and high fashion, the number one destination for lovers since the fall of the Roman Empire. New York is a concrete Jungle where dreams are blah blah; if you can imagine it, it’s probably there somewhere, beneath a layer of industrious grime and sophisticated rudeness. When you think of our enduring image on screen, it’s a lot less certain. The old stereotypes have given way to new, but just as forced updates. No longer are we pearly kings and queens or bowler-hatted bankers, now we’re Pakistani rudeboys with Pitbulls and Gold teeth, ‘Yardies’, jovial West African nurses. And while it’s great that writers are going for variety over the tiresome Danny Dyer or Hugh Grant option, it’s still reductive. Not every prostitute or plumber is Eastern European, but you’d be hard pressed to find one in our recent media output without a ladled on air of Chekhov-esque detachment.

It’s tempting to blame Hollywood, but the sad truth is there’s more to it than that. While our colleges of fashion and communication produce some of the most creative and daring designers in the world, our biggest sartorial exports are all carbon copies of American streetwear, dripping with their slang, their aesthetic. Nowhere on Earth is the theatre scene as vital, but our directors of casting seem dedicated to overlooking homegrown talent. Possibly that’s because the best British actors are more interested in landing a contract with ABC, than playing King Lear on Shaftesbury Ave. But who can blame them? We’ll take any show going, every single Scandinavian noir, but leave our new writers to languish on unwatched BBC outposts, focussing only on how much there is to be made from the next exported series of Downton. As for music, it’s always the same; a brief spotlight on a genuinely innovative producer, then a hasty retreat into whatever prevailing trend. Dreary pseudo folk and indiscriminate dance noises, for now. All young, white men in either tweed or neon yellow. Meanwhile, Rimmel incessantly tries to sell us the London look, but based on what exactly? Austin Powers? Even that was over 15 years ago.

When you look at it from that angle, the hazard seems obvious. London was once at the absolute pinnacle of ‘cool’. Our streets teemed with hip celebrities, who were also great painters and songwriters, the tastemakers of their day, the aspirational gods of teenagers all over the world. But we let that spark diminish in the mass media, in favour of the dull homogeneity of populism. Somewhere in the past fifty years, we became the hipster parents of global culture, desperate to glom on to anything seen as cool. The defiance and spirit of liberation that has always made London appealing to the best artists and thinkers has given way to a desperate need to be liked by everyone, even at the expense of our reputation. It makes no sense to invite American sports teams to foist their heavily commercialised, made-for-tv sports on us, yet we do it anyway, because we so badly want to be involved in everything, and thought capable of doing so. Paris remains desirable because its people do not care even remotely what we think of them. In Tokyo, they take our western ideas, adopt and adapt and then sell them back to us, effortlessly, and with no hint of detriment to their culture on the whole. While all over Europe, youth movements gain traction, here everything seems so static, protests go ignored, laws go unchanged, and the whole world laughs at our embarrassing relic of a mayor. Is it any wonder all my peers are moving to Berlin?
On 1st September, Kabaret, the new restaurant @ Karamel opens its doors!

Kabaret will offer an imaginative taste-driven menu of World Food, drawing on the very best of authentic dishes from around the globe. Cakes and sumptuous desserts will feature strongly, and quality coffee is a top priority. Also on offer; fresh juices and super healthy smoothies, as well as gluten-free, vegetarian, vegan, and raw food dishes.

The Bar will specialise in craft beers (from award winning micro-breweries), fine wines, and ‘kocktails’. White Russians, the classic cocktail famously immortalised in The Big Lebowski and the Dr Feelgood song Milk & Alcohol, will be a house speciality.

Head Chef is Anarkali Sharpe, previously proprietor of Soul Café in Camden and before that, Chef at Vantra, an organic restaurant in Soho. Anarkali is a highly creative and talented chef, whose legendary ‘sinfully delicious’ raw chocolate truffles are already building a following.

Kabaret @ Karamel will also introduce ‘Guest Chef Nights’ such as Ethiopia Night with chef Abycina and African music from top DJ Guy Morley.

Kabaret Co-Directors Frank Hutson and Louise Wallis are locals, having lived in Wood Green for over 25 years. They co-front the band Luminous Frenzy, signed to Freeport Entertainment, and in that guise have played Bestival, The Big Chill, The Purcell Room, and this year closed the Crouch End Festival.

Frank is an award-winning musician, composer and DJ whose career took off shortly after he completed a Collage Arts Sound Engineering course. In 2000 he wrote the score for a new play called Resonances (with singer songwriter Sadie Jemmett) directed by Irina Brook and starring Irene Jacob (Three Colours Red). The play became a phenomenon and won a Molière award for best new show in France for the year 2000. He’s gone on to work with some of Europe’s top directors and talent including French actress Romane Bohringer in a production of Tennessee Williams’ The Glass Menagerie. In 2011 Frank was also lucky enough to collaborate with ‘King Eric’, footballer-turned-actor Eric Cantona, on a production of classic French text Ubu Enchaîné: “It was a privilege to work with Eric on his first theatre piece, but even better was the warm-up game of ‘football tennis’ we played every morning before rehearsal. The first time I played Eric, I won and I’ve been dining out on that story ever since! (Sadly this was a fluke – and I subsequently lost every other game with him)”.

Louise is an acclaimed DJ, and was voted one of the World’s Top 100 Female DJs. She also has a background in catering, having run Café Femmilia on Turnpike Lane in the late 90s, and previously cooked at Cafe Pushkar, in Brixton, and the East West Centre, on Old Street.

“We’re thrilled to be bringing Kabaret to Karamel, it’s a dream come true for us”, says Louise. “We chose the name Kabaret because it captures the multi-faceted and artistic nature of this unique venue: good food AND great live entertainment. We want to build on Karamel’s existing customer base and excellent reputation and expand the venue’s repertoire. Check the website every day because we’ll soon have a different event every night, as well as old favourites like ‘Poetry & Poppadoms’”.

Working in partnership with the team at Collage Arts, the duo aim to create a vibrant, arts-driven venue with imaginative programming: “A place where anything can happen and no two nights are the same. A place where you can meet friends for a drink, eat great food and see cutting edge acts”.

Their praises are already being sung on the web, with renowned blogger Fatgayvegan “barely able to sit still due to excitement levels”, and swiftly proclaiming “…Kabaret @ Karamel will change the way we eat, drink, and party in London”, a prediction we’re sure to see unfolding as Louise and Frank set up shop.

As the song famously put it: “Life is a Kabaret, old chum, Come to the Kabaret”
Every Friday - Luminous Frenzy Sound System is a DJ collective founded by Louise Wallis & Frank Hutson - aka DJ Luminous & Mr Frenzy – who’ve been DJ’ing for over 20 years in the UK and Europe. Together with DJs Supa B, DJ GM, Baroness Bamberforth, and 10 other guests on rotation, they’ll be spinning an off the wall, eclectic mix of house, disco, funk, soul, and reggae every Friday.

Saturday 20th September - Morton Valence
Morton Valence are a five-piece London-based rock band who describe their music as “urban country”. They have recorded three albums, one of which was accompanied by a 110 page novella, and are noted as being one of the first ever bands to successfully enter into a crowd funding agreement with their fans. Their 2009 single “Chandelier” was a BBC Radio 2 Record of the Week.
www.mortonvalence.com

Saturday 27th Sept and Friday 31st October - Society of Imaginary Friends Soiree
Society of Imaginary Friends import their Arty Farty Party from curious Clerkenwell to wondrous Wood Green. These infamous nights have become renowned for up-close, intimate guest appearances from acts who could fill the Barbican... These have included William D Drake of the Cardiacs, Edward Tenpole Tudor, Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly, Katy Carr, Antony Elvin and the Tudor Unit, Stars in Battledress, Mico, Keiko Kitamura, soloists from the Royal Opera House, Brodsky String Quartet, award winning film makers, poets, and the darkest comedy. The night weaves a spell...a magical experience.
www.societyofimaginaryfriends.co.uk

Monday 29th Sept - An Evening with Mimi Kirk
Mimi is a raw vegan chef and author, with a passion for food and a lust for life. Voted “Sexiest Vegetarian over 50″ aged 70, she immediately caused a media sensation because of her youthful looks. “Feeling like you’re in your 20′s at 75, is quite an amazing thing” she says. “I accredit this youthful look and spirit not only to my attitude, but really to my way of eating which is a raw vegan – living foods lifestyle” A global icon for the young-at-heart, Mimi is a raw vegan chef and author, with a passion for food and longevity and living a vibrant life” and will demonstrate how to make a recipe from her book ‘Live Raw’. Food is included in the £30 ticket price.
www.youngonrawfood.com

The zerOclassikal project, a partnership between zeroculture, Collage Arts, and Cockpit Theatre, is a radical approach to south Asian classical music, aiming to provide British born and trained musicians the voice and platform to explore what their identity brings to the ‘ancient’ musical genre. The Project facilitates progressions, experiments and developments of the genre, featuring commissions of new raags, new interpretations, compositions & improvisations.

Karamel is proud to host the project from this autumn with a once a month programme featuring artists willing to push the boundaries of south Asian classical music. Come join us for some exciting experimentations and fresh ideas!!
www.zeroclassikal.co.uk

October 15th
RAGANINI
Kuljit Bhamra Ensemble
A specially commissioned piece in development that embodies the spirit of zerOclassikal from music pioneer Kuljit Bhamra of a new raag composed from instrumentation of Celtic Harp, Clarinet, Marimba, Indian classical vocals, and, of course, his own unique set of tabla based percussion.

Raganini is Kuljit’s first foray into classical composition that explores melodic dialogue with pure rhythm, bringing the rich textures of his attitudinal approach. Brought up in Southall, Kuljit’s self-taught Indian music enterprise has earned him unprecedented accolades, distinctions, respect and recognition. His range has covered Bhangra production to high-end classical composition including musical direction on several productions such as Andrew Lloyd Webber’s Bombay Dreams.

November 19th
AN INNER VOICE
Kobini Ananth & Yarlinie Thanabalasingam
Indian Classical music is predominantly taught and performed as solo music and therefore harmonies can rarely be featured. Due to its complex rhythmic nature and raga structure, the genre has never used harmonics as a form of music composition. Kobini & Yarlinie, however, have different ideas. Together they explore harmonies as the basis to the music rather than structure and rules. Like people: some fit, some do not.
The two Carnatic vocalists have been learning South Asian classical music since the tender ages of eight, and have since achieved major accomplishments, recognitions, and awards within the sector.

December 17th
BITE
PROJECT12
Some of the finest young British Asian classical musicians assemble to create compositions on veena, violin, sitar, guitar, flute, tabla and more. Channeling their diverse musical backgrounds into passionate live performances, Project 12 are a mix of self-taught musicians from Western Classical, Carnatic and Hindustani backgrounds, combining influences from eclectic genres offering a new and dynamic perspective to British contemporary music.

“infectious energy, able musicianship and ability to inject a current vibe to traditional music….” Sajeevini Dutta, Pulse Editor.
Comic books have always been a staple of popular culture, with an almost immeasurably far-reaching effect. The success of current blockbuster *Guardians of the Galaxy* is testament to the underlying influence of die-hard fans on contemporary trends. Usually these smash hits are born with a built in audience, one that has had the characters lionised for them a million times on screens and lunchboxes alike. For the newer or less ubiquitous heroes, however, breaking through to the mainstream is a much harder feat that requires word of mouth to filter through the fan base and on to the general public. In an industry that is still inherently considered to be part of the American narrative, despite many of its greatest practitioners originating or settling in Britain, breaking through to the public consciousness can be impossible altogether for the home grown artists and writers trying to truly develop the medium.

With that in mind, it’s difficult not to be thankful that there are companies like SelfMadeHero out there working to bring us the more esoteric and interesting, the often overlooked, imaginative gems that make it still worth keeping an eye out for new releases. In their words, the mission is to: ‘…publish ground breaking and beautiful work by authors and artists from across the globe, from the quirky and humorous to the political and profound.’

…A statement that perfectly describes a range of titles that features thought-provoking and keenly crafted pieces including adaptations of Lovecraft and Cervantes, illustrated histories, and even an original story from famed Pixies front man, Black Francis.

Fresh off one of their biggest releases to date, *Seconds*, the long anticipated new standalone Graphic Novel from *Scott Pilgrim* author Bryan Lee O’Malley; they’ll be joining us for a very special evening of discussions and dialogues right here at Karamel. The event will feature Oscar Zarate, who’s more-than 30 years working as an illustrator and author make him the perfect candidate to guide the conversation about where comics are, where they have been, and what’s next for this vital and under-appreciated medium, particularly here in London. Oscar will be accompanied on stage by some of his closest colleagues and contemporaries, selected from an ever expanding pool of amazing artists from the UK and Europe and even further abroad, for a lively and frank discussion with plenty to keep you thinking long after the lights go off.

If you’ve ever thought about dusting off that old collection of *Judge Dredd*, or putting pencil to paper yourself, then join SelfMadeHero at Karamel on October 30th for what’s sure to be a highly illustrative evening.

SelfMadeHero is a Graphic Novel publisher based in London’s King’s Cross. To see more about their current books, including Oscar Zarate’s *The Park*, and Martin Rowson’s latest collection of viciously funny cartoons The Coalition Book, please visit www.selfmadehero.com or find them on twitter, Vimeo and Facebook.
With the summer fading and autumn steadily approaching, that can only mean one thing for the good people of the Chocolate Factory… Open Studios is just around the corner!

This year will see the 18th annual return of the fantastic atmosphere and vibrant spirit of creativity that always occurs when the Chocolate Factory throws open its doors to the general public. As ever, a broad variety of artists will be on hand to chat about their work, take you through their weird and wonderful processes, and guide you through the fascinating nooks and crannies of their studios. There'll be fresh work on show from new artists and old, as well as classic pieces from some of your favourite stalwarts, those rare geniuses that have been roaming the chocolate factory corridors for a decade, or even longer. It’s impossible to predict just what will be displayed once November comes around, but last year we were treated to such wonders as Steven Gregory’s macabre and rib-tickling skeletal sculptures (see the centre pages for more on Steven and his work), fabulous and elaborate hand-made jewellery from Harma Op’t Holt and Lucky Rutland, and a seemingly endless array of painters, illustrators, photographers, designers, decorators, and makers of all stripes.

In what’s fast becoming an Open Studios tradition, we’ll also be inviting a local charity to join in, with the aim of raising some much needed proceeds for their valuable cause. This year we’ll be working with Pramdepot, an organisation very closely linked with Collage Arts that helps to provide essential resources to at-risk mothers, many of whom are incarcerated or currently seeking asylum. For the past year, the organisation has been arranging crochet circles at Karamel where dedicated volunteers have built up a great collection of hats, booties, and bibs to add to the ever growing assembly of buggies and cots building up in project director Karen Whiteread’s Chocolate Factory studio. We’re very proud to be working with such an important project and encourage everyone who can to get donating, and speak to Karen at the Open Studios about other ways to get involved, including any upcoming crochet get-togethers.

In another new twist for 2014, artists from Create Space London will be taking up residency for the duration of the event, and displaying work created in their Wembley project space. A relatively new endeavour, Create Space London is a hub of creative activity which is open to all manner of artists (and even hackers!) and provides both the room and access to equipment necessary to create unique and original pieces, from the more traditional to multi-media installations, and high concept performance work. It’s a prized resource for many of the city’s artists, where like-minded practitioners, both young and old, convene to trade techniques and concepts in a fully kitted out workshop where those ideas can then be totally realised, without having to go through the rigour of tracking down the right tools. The kind of work they’ll be bringing to the event is sure to reflect this high level of artistic exchange, and will be a welcome addition to the vast breadth of inspirational talent usually on show. Add to that fabulous vegan food from Kabaret, an exciting flash fiction competition, and lots more still to come, and it looks like we’re on to a winner!

Chocolate Factory Open studios will be taking place this year on the 15th and 16th of November and is, of course, totally free to attend. For more information and previews of the art on show, be sure to visit www.chocolatefactoryartists.co.uk.
Sculptor Steven Gregory’s studio looks like some kind of twisted fantasy land equal parts whimsy and menace: there are skulls in plastic bags; some leg bones on a bench and a cast bronze shell with an ornate copy of a human eye peering out.

As fantastical as Gregory’s work may be, his studio is just a work place, the domain of a person who has spent the past 40 years creating work which has included decorated human skulls and bones, as well as surreal creations like a fish on a bicycle.

Among the collectors of Gregory’s decorated skulls and bones are David Roberts and Damien Hirst. Gregory studied sculpture at Saint Martins College of Art but was also apprenticed as a stonemason at Westminster Abbey.

In the autumn of this year, Gregory will be exhibiting a large bronze circle of bones Tick-Tock at Crucible 2 in Gloucester Cathedral. He will also be showing new bone works cast in silver at Sculpture’s Jewellery in Pangolin Gallery London at the end of 2014 and into 2015.

Gregory says simply “I like making things” as he shows me his most recent work, a skull, painstakingly adorned with iridescent beetle carapaces.

His surreal sense of humour comes over as he tells me he doesn’t like working in spaghetti!

So you appreciate the ambiguity?

Exactly.

How did you come to be working with human bones?

I always used to have skulls and bones around the studio to draw. A number of years ago, I used to teach kids’ classes and would take in a piece of skeleton or a skull. By putting some clay on the skull the kids would very quickly start to see the way the flesh and muscles work. The kids were fascinated. Children have no problem with human bones, they’re really intrigued. It’s only as they get older that they start to get a bit freaked out. There’s still a big taboo, some people won’t even touch them.

When did you start decorating skulls?

About 25 years ago I had a skull lying around the studio and started playing with the idea of decorating it. There are lots of

The Jesus College Cambridge website for Sculpture in the Close describes Fish on a Bicycle as a physical embodiment of the feminist dictum that ‘A woman without a man, is like a fish without a bicycle’, whereas the Cass Sculpture Foundation speaks about the piece as being sort of the ultimate absurdity.

In the 2000 exhibition at The Hague, people came up to me and said, ‘It’s a herring isn’t it?’ and I said, ‘It could be...’, because they have this whole big thing about herrings. Everyone can interpret it the way they want it, I’m pretty happy to go along with that.
cultures that have something to do with the remains of the dead. I started looking at the Mexican painted skulls, along with the Israeli skulls covered in plaster and paint that go back over seven thousand years. And so I started working with decorating these skulls and that began a whole thing about getting people look at them in a different way. And if they would get involved in the surface, they’d forget that it’s a bone. I did this very big beaded wreath of bones for the 2006 Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition and there were these three old ladies who were standing around it. Suddenly, one of them twigged that they were bones and then they were completely horrified. But up until that point, they were enjoying the colours and beading for what they were.

Is it difficult to finance large works?

Extremely. Most sculptors, just to keep ideas coming, will keep making models and maquettes and drawings, making things on a small scale.

For the very big sculptures, like the ones commissioned by the late publisher and poet Felix Dennis or the Cass Sculpture Foundation, the cost of the metal alone is considerable. I tend to work only on big projects if they are commissioned because they’re too expensive to do on your own.

Why did you leave college to be a stonemason?

I wanted to do the Saint Martins course on my terms and it took me about ten years to do my degree. I walked out, but they kept letting me back, which was very nice of them. At the same time, I did a full indentured stonemasonry apprenticeship, based at Westminster Abbey. When I finished, I went back to Saint Martins. I’m a maker and I think the problem is that there was no training in making and understanding things in different materials. A lot of people come out of college and they haven’t got a clue. They’re not makers because they haven’t been taught those skills.

Damien Hirst, for example, is not a maker, and he wouldn’t purport to be. He has studios full of people that make his work and he’ll come in and design and direct, which he is brilliant at doing.

What do you feel is missing from fine arts education?

I’m very concerned the fine arts people have no understanding or explanation of technique. If I want to see sculpture in an art school, I go to the fashion department. Brilliant! They play with cloth; they’re folding it, weaving it, they’re doing all sorts of amazing things with it.

What’s your favourite material?

I love all kinds of materials, from wood through stone to bronze and precious metals, especially working with marble, silver, gold and precious stones.

Any materials you don’t like?

Spaghetti? I’m not great in clay, you have to keep it wet or it cracks, then you have to squeeze the air out or it blows up in the kiln. When I used to teach, the kids would make sculptures, put them in the kiln and they would come out fine. But the adults would spend hours doing everything you’re meant to do and inevitably they would often explode.

The children’s work would be thrown together in a really carefree way and it always seemed to survive. They didn’t overwork it. It’s the way I like to work, not over thinking, but just letting it come through.

Sculpture at the Chocolate Factory

Bryan Kneale RA

Once described by the BBC as ‘One of the Isle of Man’s most famous artists’, Bryan Kneale has been sculpting and painting for some 60 years, spending much of that time teaching at the Royal College of Art and the sorely missed Hornsey College of Art and Design. He is a regular exhibitor in the Royal Academy’s Summer Show, and between 1982 and 1990, held a professorship at the Academy. His work is also featured alongside Steven Gregory, and many more of the country’s greatest sculptors, at Crucible 2 at the Gloucester Cathedral, September and October 2014.

Sam Neal Metal Works

Sam Neal and his team work with artists to realise their singular visions, using a level of expertise and sensitivity to processes that has come about from forming such close professional relationships, and a wealth of experience in techniques for creating finished pieces of unique sculpture and furniture, including a purpose made barbecue for one of Heston Blumenthal’s Channel Four series’.

Craig Murray Orr

Murray-Orr is known for his meticulously-crafted sculptural works and his intense small-scale watercolours. The common thread with all Murray-Orr’s work is an interest in the landscape. His pared down hunting rifles, each carved from a single piece of mahogany, beautifully capture the essence of their subject with the spare elegance of near abstraction.

Sam Boffey

Sam Boffey was one of the first artists to graduate from Wimbledon School of Art with a Masters Degree in Site Specific Sculpture, culminating in a commission for St. Georges Hospital in Tooting and is a founder member of The British Snow Sculpture Team, creating international prize winning sculptures in France and Canada. Central to his work as a sculptor is a passion for gaining deeper understanding of the use and integrity of materials, both traditional and modern.
In addition to providing all sorts of great entertainment for youngsters at Karamel, including our very first annual Midsummer Family Fun Day, Booster Cushion Theatre spent the summer hitting the streets of Europe to hunt down the best of festival fun! Here’s what they found...

2014 offered me the chance to visit 3 festivals in Europe and a few occasional visits to varied theatres.

We start in Denmark with AprilFest. What a treat. For 44 years the Danish government has been supporting an un-curated festival for all practitioners for Children’s Theatre in its widest sense. This festival has such a variety and offers the chance to see nearly 200 productions in such a diversity of forms, organised with a lot of help from Teatercentrum. This year the festival was held in Holstebro the home of Odin Theatre. The town made us all very welcome and treated the entire town to performances in schools, halls, gyms, libraries, functions rooms, and even theatres! A highlight for me was ‘The Palace of Memories’ by Luna Park Scenekunst wrapped in a tent set in a library. Part installation and storytelling performance we explore the memories of a young girl’s father filed away in a variety of interactive boxes, cupboards and tins.

We then got to know Groupe38 from Denmark too, with ‘A True Tall Tale’ that was well received at AprilFestival and then in Edinburgh at Imagnate, which was my next festival to start May. Imagnate is a very well curated festival and treated us to the wonderful dance of Barrowland Ballet and their lively ‘Tiger Tale’. The other local treat for me was ‘Up to Speed’, such fun and inventive production by Rosalind Sydney. In between these two festivals I had the chance to visit KinderKinder and understand the amount of work that is needed to set up a 2 month family festival for up to 50,000 people. Hats off to their determination and spectacle, just 25 years young and blooming in Hamburg. While in Hamburg we also had a chance to see a great puppet version of Red Riding Hood using songs by Elvis Presley, way to go!

After flying back from the Imagnate Festival 5 days later, Booster then drove back to Scotland to be part of Book Bug Week. We worked with Libraries in Dundee, East Dunbartonshire and back to Edinburgh to harvest in Portobello. A treat to work with so many lovely book bugs. But no rest here, after a 10 hour drive back to base BCT had to work the next few days in the Home Counties before blasting off to Poland on the bank holiday. Wow Warsaw. We were made so welcome and pleased to be at Assitej 2014. A great mix of work from around the world and so much informed discussion on the work, presentation and development of theatre for young children and young people. This was the largest meeting of professional theatre makers for young people I have attended in 2014. It is a little bit overwhelming to get your head around all that is going on but worth all the effort and made especially rewarding as TYA-UK won its bid to host a conference in 2016 in Birmingham. Mark July 2016 as a time to visit the Midlands, NOW!

In Warsaw, the selection of work was very varied but only available to see for one day so you had to pick well or chat to others who already knew. Hence ‘Spot’ was a treat for me. An Italian artist befriends a spot light and encourages it to illuminate the stage and the audience. A lovely natural performer and a demonstration of beautiful life like programming by La Baracca Testoni Ragazzi.

June saw us visit a Circus School in Mazamet and a chance to talk to a director of teenage productions in Carcassonne in France. We talked of funding becoming a very serious concern for all their work and how they are constrained within their region. They even believe Avignon Festival may lose its funding too, so get there soon.

Now Booster is set to work at the charming 3 Foot Festival in Chelmsford, after visiting 5 countries over 3 months, it is nice to be taking part in a festival too. Overall it has been great to see so much diverse work in so many varied locations and we will be continuing to do so and wholeheartedly recommend it to everyone.
JAZZ AT KARAMEL

ANOTHER GREAT SEASON FOR LOVERS OF EVERYTHING UNDER THE JAZZ UMBRELLA, BUT NOW TWICE A MONTH FOR THE SAME GREAT TICKET PRICE.

10 SEPT 2014
THE LONDON JAZZ ORCHESTRA
Director Scott Stroman and a 17 Piece Big Band full of talented musicians, young and old!

“How effortlessly this expert band negotiates fast ensemble bebop!”
- John Fordham, The Guardian

“This concert will affect how I listen to orchestral music for the rest of my life!”
- George Foster, London Jazz Blog

www.londonjazzorchestra.com

24 SEPT 2014
THE GREAT WEE BAND
Founded in 1999, the band has had two albums shortlisted for UK Jazz Record of the Year.

“Perfect small band jazz. Only the very best and most mature musicians can achieve this degree of simplicity, in which every tiny nuance counts”
- Dave Gelly, The Observer

“Perfect small band jazz. Only the very best and most mature musicians can achieve this degree of simplicity, in which every tiny nuance counts”
- Dave Gelly, The Observer

22 OCT 2014
PIGFOOT
21st Century Acid Trad from Jazz at Karamel favourites

“Chris Batchelor has gathered three virtuosos of British Jazz. They sandblast away decades of treacly cliche, revealing music of both intense joy and subversive power”
- Matthew Wright, The Arts Desk

08 OCT 2014
PROFILES QUARTET
Chris Biscoe, saxes, alto clarinet, Tony Kofi saxes, Larry Bartley, bass, Stu Butterfield, drums

“The four men thrive on each other’s energy, respecting the compositions while investing them with terrific verve and enthusiasm. The result is a fiery display of musical skill, dynamics and almost telepathic understanding between the players”
- Bruce Lindsay, All About Jazz

12 NOV 2014
STAN SULZMANN - COLIN OXLEY QUARTET
Stan Sulzmann, tenor and soprano saxes, Colin Oxley, guitar, Pete Whittaker, organ, Stu Butterfield, drums.

Stan Sulzmann is without question one of the most respected musicians in the UK today. He has been at the forefront of European contemporary jazz since the 60s, and his talents having been sought by a host of discerning musicians, including Gil Evans, Mike Gibbs, and Kenny Wheeler. More recently, his writing talents have found expression in the Stan Sulzmann Big Band.

Colin Oxley is a Professor at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, is a long standing member of Stacey Kent’s groups, has appeared at the Montreux and North Sea Festivals, and has had residencies in New York and San Francisco. He has appeared with American legends, as well as very many of Britain’s top players.

26 NOV 2014
TROGON
Nick Smart, trumpet, Denny “Jimmy” Martinez, bass, Chris Montague, guitar, Kishon Khan, piano, Dave Hamblett, drums, Pete Eckford, percussion

Named after the national bird of Cuba, Trogon make full use of the cultural breadth of London’s rich musical landscape: alongside leader and Head of Jazz at the Royal Academy of Music, Nick Smart, the band includes “Troyka” guitarist, Chris Montague, cutting edge drummer and composer Dave Hamblett, London-Bangladeshi pianist Kishon Khan, Cuban bassist Denny “Jimmy” Martinez, and long established London percussionist, Pete Eckford.

The group’s exciting mix of musical backgrounds is enriched by the propulsive rhythmic traditions of Afro-Cuban music and the rich harmonies of contemporary jazz.

www.nicksmart.co.uk

10 DEC 2014
ORQUESTRA MAHATMA
Paul Clarvis, hitty things, Sonia Slany, scrappy things, Stuart Hall, twangy things

An eclectic band which draws heavily on international music including Spanish, French, Bulgarian, Macedonian, and Latin American as well as jazz influences.

“A little miracle of home grown British Jazz”
- The Independent

“Stirring and stunning experiments in Jazz without frontiers”
- The Sunday Times
Vanessa Gebbie is a short fiction writer, novelist and poet who lives in East Sussex. Her novel The Coward’s Tale came out from Bloomsbury in 2011 and was awarded a Hawthornden Fellowship for 2012. She is the author of two short story collections, Words from a Glass Bubble and Storm Warning (Salt 2008 and 2010). In 2012 a poem of hers was shortlisted for the Bridport Prize and Poetic Republic’s eBook.

Graham Clifford is an award-winning poet, who works and lives in East London. A graduate of the UEA Creative Writing MA, his first pamphlet Welcome Back to the Country won the Poetry Wales Purple Moose Award, and his debut collection The Half-life of Fathers was published by Seren. His short story collections The Stone Thrower and Instruction Manual are published in the UK by Comma Press, and in North America by ECW Press.

Lisa Kelly is half English and half Danish and is learning Danish very slowly. She is a freelance journalist living in London, specialising in technology, but please don’t ask her to sort out your printer. Her pamphlet, Bloodhound, is published by Hearing Eye. She regularly hosts poetry evenings at the Torriano Meeting House in London and is studying for an MA in creative writing at Lancaster University. She has been published in magazines including Ambit, The Spectator, Long Poem, The Interpreter’s House, The Morning Star, South Bank Poetry and has been shortlisted for the Bridport Prize and Poetic Republic’s eBook.

Ok so the 11th isn’t the first Thursday but it’s a one-off!
WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS
DISCOVER OR DEVELOP THE WRITER IN YOU!

IF YOU’VE ALWAYS WONDERED IF THERE’S A WRITER IN YOU, OR IF YOU’RE A DEVELOPING POET OR FICTION WRITER, OR BUDDING JOURNALIST, WHO RELISHES THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH SUPERB WORKSHOP PRACTITIONERS, ENROL FOR OUR WRITING MINI-COURSES, WEDNESDAYS IN THE LONG LOUNGE AT KARAMEL, WITH POET JEHANE MARKHAM, FICTION WRITER REBECCA SWIRSKY, AND OUR NEW PRACTITIONER, JOURNALIST AND FICTION WRITER GIOVANNA IOZZI.

WORKSHOPS RUN IN THREE-WEEK CYCLES AND SPACES WILL BE AT A PREMIUM SO EMAIL HARINGEY LITERATURE LIVE PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR, KATE PEMBERTON AT KATE@COLLAGE-ARTS.ORG TO STATE WHICH COURSE/COURSES YOU’D LIKE TO ATTEND AND SHE WILL RESERVE YOUR PLACE.

COURSES COST £45 IN ADVANCE FOR A THREE WEEK COURSE, AND THE PRICE INCLUDES KARAMEL HOT DRINKS AND BISCUITS DURING A WELL-EARNED TEA BREAK IN EACH SESSION.

THE PROGRAMME IS DESIGNED SO THAT ATTENDEES CAN WORK THROUGH EACH OF THE COURSES IN SUCCESSION, OR PICK AND CHOOSE COURSES AS REQUIRED. NEW THIS TERM WE ARE RUNNING SOME DOUBLE SESSIONS, WITH ONE COURSE IN THE MORNING AND ANOTHER IN THE AFTERNOON, SO YOU COULD MAKE AN EXTREMELY PRODUCTIVE TIME OF IT, WITH A WHOLE DAY OF WORKSHOPS, AND, IF YOU WISH, A DELICIOUS KARAMEL LUNCH IN THE MIDDLE!

THE CRAFT OF CREATIVE NON-FICTION
17TH, 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1ST OCTOBER, 10AM-12.30PM
WORKSHOP PRACTITIONER: GIOVANNA IOZZI

Creative Non-Fiction is an exciting genre of writing which fuses factual real-life experience with the best story-telling skills. In short, to write the truth with the drama and intrigue of fiction. Over three classes, we will look at extracts from writers using the form: within documentary, travelogue, the personal essay, ‘reality’ literature and literary journalism. We will warm up with writing exercises while we experiment with different components of fiction (beginnings & endings, narrative structure, point of view, setting, dialogue etc) to explore experiences of place, society, and the wider world around us. Each class will have a workshop element where students will get the chance to share their work.

POETRY IN THE MAKING
8TH, 15TH, 22ND OCTOBER, 10AM-12.30PM
WORKSHOP PRACTITIONER: JEHANE MARKHAM

‘Reading is complicity in the creative process.’ Marina Tsvetaeva

Poetry is a two-way street - poems need readers to come alive. Making sense (and sometimes nonsense!) reading and writing together, we will practice ways to free the imagination and encourage the hunger within to write, producing a range of individual poems from our own unique viewpoints. Using Russian and American poets as examples, we will compare and contrast their work and find ways of reaching a deeper understanding of them as well as a means of inspiration to ourselves.

LIFE WRITING IN FICTION
5TH, 12TH, 19TH NOVEMBER, 1.30PM-4PM
WORKSHOP PRACTITIONER: REBECCA SWIRSKY

Together through these three workshops we will consider how writing about our lives helps capture people and places, the ordinary and the extraordinary – experiences which are unique and make us who we are. We will consider how to turn life experience into compelling narrative without becoming too confessional, and the ethics of writing about those we know: Is there ever separation between fact and fiction? How real is memoir? By considering different narrative points of view using texts from contemporary fiction writers, we will begin several life-writing pieces, using prompts that may then be added to our writing ‘tool kit’.

2ND ANNUAL OPEN STUDIOS N22 FLASH FICTION COMPETITION
Come along to the Chocolate Factory Open Studios, write a piece of fiction, up to 200 words, on an artwork that inspires you, and enter it for free into our competition! We will judge it in three categories - under 11s, 11 to 17s, 18 and over. We are extremely lucky to have as our competition judge the fantastic fiction writer, screen writer and dramatist, Robert Shearman (of Dr Who fame!)

COMPETITION ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE OPEN STUDIOS.
CLOSING DATE 20TH DECEMBER, WINNERS ANNOUNCED 31ST JAN.

FREE FLASH COMPETITION WORKSHOP!
NOVEMBER 15TH, 2-4PM, MEET AT KARAMEL

Join our writing tutors for a walk round the open studios and a flash fiction writing workshop - all ages welcome! Should be a lot of fun, and is the ideal way to produce some potentially competition-winning pieces of short fiction! Places limited so sign up by emailing kate@collage-arts.org

BOOK WORMS ALERT!! OUR FREE BOOK EXCHANGE CONTINUES AT KARAMEL...
The free book exchange set up by Haringey Literature Live last year is still going strong! Bring along an unwanted poetry, fiction, non-fiction or kids title and swap it for a book you’d love to read. If you keep swapping one book in and one out, you’ll have access to hundreds of books, completely for free!

Find out more at : www.haringeyliteraturelive.com | Follow us: @HLiteratureLive | Queries/bookings: email kate@collage-arts.org
Following a fantastic series of live readings over the summer season, Poetry and Paella is back, albeit with a slight name change to reflect the great and varied cuisine now being offered in the newly revamped Karamel. Poetry and Poppadoms will continue to furnish the Karamel stage with a lively mixture of spoken word from such amazing names as the ferocious Kat Francois, and philosophical comedy mastermind, Simon Munnery. Last season also brought about a visit from the children’s laureate and all around creative powerhouse Michael Rosen, along with his band, the formidable Dulce Tones. Fingers crossed we’ll be able to get them back in again this time around for another brilliant evening of performance poetry that takes in Rosen’s inimitable sense of fun, and keen interest in the politics that shape the city.

The autumn series will be kicked off with fast rising star of spoken word and theatre; Simon Mole, on September 25th. Since completing his tenure as official Poet for the London borough of Brent, the writer and sometime rapper has been very busy, developing a theatre show, No More Worries, which is currently being previewed to audiences around the country. Simon’s previous one man show, Indiana Jones and the Empty Chair, was an ambitious and well-received tale of fantasy colliding with reality that incorporated work from young writers engaged by the poet throughout its run, and No More Worries seems set to be just as impactful. He’ll be joined by a fantastic list of yet-to-be announced guests, each bringing their unique take on spoken word to the Poetry and Poppadum party. Comical, moving, insightful, challenging; no two performances are the same.

Make sure not to miss out by checking www.karamelrestaurant.com for more information.

While autumn is blowing in some exciting changes at the KMC, one thing that won’t be changing is the consistently high level of acts appearing on Karousel Music’s showcase evening. The season will be kicking off in some style on October 1st when we’ll be hosting the first of our collaborations with those forward thinking music industry giants Pledge Music. Pledge will be sending up a couple of their most exciting acts together with one of our own in what we are hoping will be a long and fruitful collaboration. Two companies whose purpose is to help artists get great music out there and to the fans, working together in a venue with a huge heart.

November 5th we’ll be welcoming back that blues monster Matt Woosley, alongside the superb Kal Lavelle, back from a tremendously successful ‘Song Sisters’ Tour of the UK. Kal’s Breakfast At Tiffany’s went into the top 10 on iTunes in Japan, Netherlands and Belgium as well as charting well in Finland and Ireland; and she recently supported Ed Sheeran on his UK & Ireland Tour. Tipped by the Sunday Mirror as one to watch in 2012, Kal has been out there making fans ever since – and we’ve delighted she’s coming to Karamel to do the same here. She’s opened for Bastille, The Beach Boys, Paloma Faith, Paddy Casey and Ed Sheeran – you’re going to love her.

While the date isn’t confirmed at time of going to press, we’re also very excited to be hosting an evening sometime before Christmas with Australian song writing legend, and Flying Burrito brother Brian Cadd (The Groop, Axiom), for an audience with him and fellow Aussie and friend of Karamel, Joel Sarakula. They’ll be talking music, tour stories, songwriting and all manner of insights from a man that’s done it all – and still is doing. Expect a packed house full of incredibly happy antipodeans! Brian was inducted into the Australian Recording Industry Association Hall of Fame in 2007.

Finally, we’ll be off to the Reeperbahn Festival as ever in September to find you the cream of what’s about to break out there, so you can get to see them before the rest of the UK. Keep your eyes on the Karamel Music Club facebook page (www.facebook.com/karamelmusicclub) and the Karousel website www.karouselmusic.com for the latest info on who’s coming to play for you, blogs, videos and links to some great music. We can’t wait for the new season to start! See you on October 1st.

Forthcoming Dates
October 1st – Pledge Music X Karousel Music Collaboration – 3 Great Acts
November 5th – Matt Woosley, Kal Lavelle and guest
December 3rd – Xmas Special
**SEPT 2014**

- **Wild Bunch Club**: Run by people with learning difficulties - 6pm - FREE
  - **01, 08, 15, 22**

- **Luminous Frenzy Sound System**: Mr Frenzy & DJ Luminous present 20 DJ’s on rotation - Every Friday, 9pm till late - FREE
  - **05, 12, 19, 26**

- **London Vegan Drinks hosted by Fat Gay Vegan**: 6pm - FREE
  - **06**

- **Jazz at Karamel**: The London Jazz Orchestra - 7pm - £8
  - **10**

- **Sadie Jemmott & friends Live Acoustic Night**: 7pm - FREE
  - **13**

- **Haringey Literature Live**: Word for Word Writers Group - 7pm - FREE
  - **11**

- **Exhibition - Ambit Covers**: FREE
  - **15-30**

- **Composer Kirsten Morrison presents 'I Hate My Birthday'**: 7pm - FREE
  - **17**

- **Kids at Karamel**: Mike Dodsworth Storyteller - 11am - FREE
  - **20**

- **Live Music From Morton Valence**: 7pm - FREE
  - **20**

- **Jazz at Karamel**: The Great Wee Band - 7pm - £8
  - **24**

- **Poetry & Poppadoms**: Simon Mole - 7pm - FREE
  - **25**

- **Society of Imaginary Friends Secret Soiree**: 7pm - FREE
  - **27**

- **An evening with raw food goddess/author Mirri Kirk**: 7pm - £30 including food
  - **29**

---

**OCT 2014**

- **Exhibition - Ambit Covers**: FREE
  - **01-31**

- **Karamel Music Club**: Fliona Bevan, Stephanie O’Brien and TBC - 7pm - FREE
  - **01**

- **Haringey Literature Live**: National Poetry Day with the Ambit Vanguard - 7pm - FREE
  - **02**

- **Luminous Frenzy Sound System**: Mr Frenzy & DJ Luminous present 20 DJ’s on rotation - Every Friday, 9pm till late - FREE
  - **03, 10, 17, 24**

- **London Vegan Drinks hosted by Fat Gay Vegan**: 6pm - FREE
  - **04**

- **Wild Bunch Club**: Run by people with learning difficulties - 6pm - FREE
  - **06, 13, 20, 27**

- **Jazz at Karamel**: Profiles Quartet - 7pm - £8
  - **08**

- **Sadie Jemmott presents The Workers in Song**: 7pm - FREE
  - **09**

- **The AutistiX Single Launch & DJ Adam Thomas**: 7pm - FREE
  - **11**

- **zer0classikil**: Raganini/ Kuljit Bhamra - 7pm - £8
  - **15**

- **DEKAY presents Deeper Underground**: Hip Hop & Alternative Artists - 7pm - FREE
  - **16**

- **Jazz at Karamel**: Pigfoot - 7pm - £8
  - **22**

- **Poetry & Poppadoms**: TBC - 7pm - FREE
  - **23**

- **Kids at Karamel**: Imagination Station Puppets - 12pm - FREE
  - **25**

- **An Evening with SelfMadeHero**: 7pm - FREE
  - **30**

- **Society of Imaginary Friends Secret Halloween Soiree**: 7pm - FREE
  - **31**
16

Sadie Jemmett presents The Workers in Song - 7pm - FREE

Karamel Music Club - Matt Woosey - 7pm - FREE

Haringey Literature Live - Fiction with Vanessa Gebbie and Adam Vanguard - 7pm - FREE

Luminous Frenzy Sound System - Mr Frenzy & DJ Luminous present 20 DJ's on rotation - Every Friday, 9pm till late - FREE

Jazz at Karamel - Stan Sulzmann - Colin Oxley Quartet - 7pm - £8

12

Open Studios - 12pm - 6pm - FREE

zerOclassikal - An Inner Voice - Kobini Ananth & Yarline Thanabalasingam - 7pm - £8

19

No Nation presents Afrobease - 7pm - FREE

22

Kids at Karamel - Paul Lyalls Poetry - 11am - FREE

Jazz at Karamel - Tragon - 7pm - £8

26

Poetry & Poppadoms - TBC - 7pm - FREE

27

01-31 Open Exhibitions - FREE

01, 08, 15, 22 Wild Bunch Club: Run by people with learning difficulties - 6pm - FREE

03 Karamel Music Club - XMAS Special - 7pm - FREE

04 Haringey Literature Live - Poetry with Graham Clifford and Lisa Kelly - 7pm - FREE

05, 12, 19, 27 Luminous Frenzy Sound System - Mr Frenzy & DJ Luminous present 20 DJ's on rotation - Every Friday, 9pm till late - FREE

06 Kids at Karamel - Booster Cushion Theatre presents A Christmas Carol - 11am - FREE

10 Jazz at Karamel - Orquestra Mahatma - 7pm - £8

13 Inappropriate Shaman Presents 'WE ARE 90 PSY TRANCE PARTY' - 7pm - £5

16 Sadie Jemmett presents The Workers in Song' - 7pm - FREE

17 zerOclassikal - Bite- Project 12 - 7pm - £8

20 No Nation presents Songlines Choir v Afrobease - 7pm - FREE

27 Franks Birthday Luminous Frenzy Sound System - FREE

31 New Years Eve Extravaganza with special guests - 7pm - £8