

CRYSTAL PALACE FESTIVAL

For immediate release
Press release

Festival takes Crystal Palace Park by storm with over 28,000 visitors

Saturday 17 June 2017 saw the triumphant return of the free festival to Crystal Palace Park with over 28,000 visitors to the Crystal Palace Festival, an arts and culture event now in its tenth year.

Festival director Noreen Meehan said *“We are really happy with our success in bringing music and the arts back to Crystal Palace Park, a place with a long history of great concerts and gigs. It was a very special day with an amazing headliner in Morcheeba. The weather was spectacular and we loved seeing our visitors immerse themselves in the many activities we had organised for them to enjoy.”*

The programme in the park included live music, family focused activities, theatre, visual arts and crafts, spoken word, comedy, storytelling, community activities, sports, amazing food and drink, vintage shopping plus much much more! See the full 2017 programme at crystalpalacefestival.org/about

Other highlights of the programme on 17 June included:

- **Lemn Sissay**, the official poet for the London Olympics, headlined the Spoken Word & Comedy Tent
- **Kianja**, a finalist in the Mayor’s GIGs competition and guest artist with the Jazz Warriors, headlined the Youth Takeover Stage
- **Temujin Gill** and **Sunanda Biswas**, from the 2012 Olympics opening ceremony creative team, performed and led mass dance engagement from three stages
- **Sian Evans** (Kosheen and DJ Fresh) and long-term writing partner **Ron McElroy** performed new work and their substantial back catalogue.

The festival team organised and delivered the park event on 17 June, a boutique open air cinema, The Orb Soundsystem gig and a concert of community choirs and opera at The Secret Garden. However this festival is truly a community effort with many local community groups, churches, residents and traders getting involved throughout festival week from **13 – 18 June** delivering a wide programme of events.

Noreen, festival director, explained *“While the festival team organises and delivers the park event and a few other smaller events outside of that, we invite the rest of the Crystal Palace community to organise their own artistic and cultural events during festival week. We then promote these events via our considerable marketing platform and help the local community to gain publicity for their activities and projects. We are passionate about keeping a community spirit alive in Crystal Palace and believe that the community that plays together stays together!”*

So what’s next? Stayed tuned for 2018 dates and much more coming to this leafy and lovely part of south London.

ENDS

Notes for editors

For media enquiries, interviews and additional hi-res pic requests please call Noreen Meehan on 07725 057453 or email info@crystalpalacefestival.org.

Dropbox link to press photos

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p8v9hdfb2qpecha/AADbfpUZAcha_ahReNabek3aa?dl=0

About the Crystal Palace Festival

The Crystal Palace Festival was launched in 2006 by the Upper Norwood Triangle traders and has gone from strength to strength with over 28,000 visitors to the 2017 park event and approximately 35,000 people attending the 2017 festival as a whole. The organisers of the park event, the **Crystal Palace Festival Group CIC**, took a year off in 2016 to prepare for the move of this event to Crystal Palace Park in June 2017.

The festival's free status is maintained by a dedicated band of volunteers who donate their time and energy to organising this huge event and the support of many local businesses and other funders and sponsors.

Sponsors and supporters of the 2017 festival are:

Arts Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, Crystal Palace Park Community Projects Fund, Croydon Council, Bromley Community Fund, PRS for Music, Frontier, Better, Just Giclee, Martin & Co., Amphlett Lissimore, Crystal Palace Physio Group, Acorn Group, Bambino, Brown & Green, Sefgrove Chemist, The Sparrowhawk, Papagaio, James Ware Stephenson, Coopers Yard Studios, Bamboo Fitness, BOB Wines, The White Hart, Bookseller Crow on the Hill, Merlin Shoes, Smash Bang Wallop, Westow House, D'Solo, Blue Door Bicycles, Domali Bar & Kitchen, Yak & Yeti, South of the River and Willie Smarts.

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crystalpalacefestival.org

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