

Studio Days Newsletter #5

April 2021



Studios

Bollo Brook Youth Centre

Based in South Acton, Bollo has had a studio for the last decade. Well know in the area and beyond, young people travel from as far as Croydon and Kingston to attend sessions.

Young Adults Centre

YAC for the second location for the Studio Days sessions. Based in Southall these sessions usually serve a more local group of young people.

We reflect on a year of change and growth

With the country dipping in and out of national and regional lockdowns, planning for the future has often seemed difficult and frustrating. For much of the winter months, London remained in full lockdown and we were forced to keep the studio closed. Also with household mixing rules tightening we were unable to continue our partnership with Pirate studios.

However that didn't keep us from being very busy since our last newsletter. With new projects starting all the time and the roadmap to returning to normality here – we're feeling positive about the months to come for us.



CONTINUED ZOOM MUSIC PRODUCTION SESSIONS

As we've still not been able to return to the studio our online sessions have continued on Zoom. With many picking up music production or getting home set ups to record with, the demand for this has remained high.

We've also received lots of referrals for the sessions from the Ealing Youth Justice Service

ONLINE CONFERENCES WITH SOUND CONNECTIONS

Bollo and Sound Connections are currently hosting a series of online conferences to explore how can the music education and youth sectors learn, share and collaborate to effectively support some of the most vulnerable young people through music.

The series of events confronts issues facing young people, through provocation from experts and with the young people themselves.

The January event featured a keynote from Professor Lez Henry, Dr Spyros Papadopoulos and Bollo's very own Armyzy Realist. For the March event we were joined by Reveal Position, Dr Eleanor Peters and, from Bollo, Kavelly.

The final event in the series will take place on the 13th May.



“Lockdown has allowed me to take time with my music and think more critically.”

“Lockdown has been an opportunity to build new skills and focus on what really matters in life”



PODCASTING

We have continued our Podcasting series 'Bollo Speaks'. Now on episode 7, so far we have covered subjects such as Love, Home, Money and most recently – 'Our plant, our future?'

The episodes are now hosted on all major podcasting platforms such as Spotify, Apple podcasts and Google podcasts.

NEW RADIO SHOW ON WESTSIDE RADIO

We recently made a pilot show for Westside Radio – a community radio station based in Ealing. The show was well received and earned us a regular month show on the station. Two of our young people host the show – Niisey and Strelz-O - and each broadcast will feature new music from the Bollo's music studio and interviews.



NEW COLLABORATIVE SINGLE 'WANT MY NUMBER' WITH STREET UNIVERCITY, BERLIN

Following our remix EP we produced together, "Want My Number" is the first original collaborative track made between the Berlin based youth group – Street UniverCity and ourselves. Artists of the track are Branco (Berlin) and JSH (London) with production from Likkle Dotz (London).

