

TWO DEGREES

ART AND ACTIVISM
CLIMATE AND CUTS

12 – 18 JUNE 2011

ARTS
ADMIN.

TWO DEGREES

Two Degrees 2011 reflects world events since the first festival in 2009: failed climate treaty negotiations, financial disasters and government cuts. Protest and activism have hit the headlines, from revolutionary movements in the Middle East to London's biggest protests for nearly ten years. And away from the mainstream media eye there is a growth of alternative and inspiring solutions to our impending climate crisis.

Sitting between art and activism, performance and protest, this year's festival is a chance to be part of artist led actions; tell your own revolutionary story, help eradicate an invasive species, go on a mass bingo bike ride, ask a specialist about the future or exchange your own personal and political views for a free haircut.

JOIN IN, TAKE PART AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.

ALL WEEK >>>

Rebecca Beinart Potion

The Haircut Before the Party

Ellie Harrison A Good Climate for Business
/ Work-a-thon for the Self-Employed

Clare Patey Crayfish Bob's

<<< DAY BY DAY

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| Sun 12 | Cycle Sunday |
| Mon 13 | Two Degrees Futures |
| Tue 14 | This Is Not A Gateway Salon |
| Wed 15 | The Haircut Before the Party presents... |
| Thur 16 | Hitch |
| Fri 17 | Are you Sitting Comfortably? |
| Sat 18 | Our Current Climate?
Paths Through Utopias |

SUNDAY 12 JUNE

CYCLE SUNDAY

2 – 10pm, Toynbee Studios and Arcola Theatre (free)

Get on your bike for the first day of **Two Degrees**, in collaboration with Arcola Green Sundays. Routes between Toynbee Studios and Arcola Theatre will become performance spaces for a host of artist-led bicycle events, including a mass bingo bike ride, a graffiti tour of East London, a game of Capture the Flag and a bicycle treasure hunt.

Events will leave from both venues throughout the day – arrive early to sign up for your favourite, have a bite to eat in the cafes, and take part in drop-in workshops including training sessions for cyclists, bike repair and chances to customise your bike.

The full programme for the day will be available on the Artsadmin website.



| The House of Hot Breath, photo by Erica Earle

MONDAY 13 JUNE

TWO DEGREES FUTURES

8 – 9.30pm, Toynbee Studios (free)

Borrow a book from our **Future Editions** human library, featuring specialists with a wide range of perspectives on climate change and the environment. Our guest artist and maverick librarian Richard DeDomenici will select a book at random for you from our very special collection for a 10-minute conversation, during which you can share ideas, dreams and hopes of what the future might hold.

We'll also be premiering a series of films, entitled **What on Earth?**. From the slow sinking of two figures into a fissure on Beachy Head, to the decline of England's bees, to the tale of a pair of clockwork rabbits (Rabots), these films are six artists' imaginings of the future. Films by Ackroyd & Harvey, Lucy Cash, Curious, Robin Deacon, Graeme Miller and Matthew Robins.



| Photo by Cat Harrison

TUESDAY 14 JUNE

THIS IS NOT A GATEWAY SALON – ‘REPORTS ARE COMING IN THE POLICE AND MILITARY HAVE JOINED AND ARE ALIGNING THE PROTESTERS’

8pm, Toynbee Studios (free)

Twitter and news reports from the Middle East and North Africa this winter were awash with an unfamiliar though exhilarating phrase; ‘Reports Are Coming In The Police and Military Have Joined And Are Aligning The Protesters’. When did this last happen in Britain? What were the circumstances? When did these organisations switch from protecting the establishment and start supporting ‘the people’? The March 26 protests in London included uninformed police marching with the general population but also ended with police brutality against peaceful protesters. The salon brings together a diverse collection of speakers to examine when we might hear ‘Reports Are Coming In The Police and Military Have Joined And Are Aligning The Protesters’ and what it might mean.



| Photo by the artist

WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE

THE HAIRCUT BEFORE THE PARTY PRESENTS THE NETWORK UNION OF HAIR SALONS

8pm, meet at Toynbee Studios (free)

On Wednesday we'll be taking a tour to The Haircut Before the Party's salon just around the corner from Toynbee Studios.

This event will give you a chance to contribute to and take part in ideas and projects around the commons, social space, gift economies, reimagining trade unions and creating new collective languages. Come together to discuss and manifest your ideas and imaginings in an evening hosted by the newly formed Network Union of Hair Salons. Expect buzzcuts and banners.



| Photo by fivefingerfilms

THURSDAY 16 JUNE

KIERAN HURLEY – HITCH

8pm, Toynbee Studios (free)

On the 8th of July 2009, the leaders of the eight most powerful countries in the world met for three days in the earthquake-ravaged town of L'Aquila in Italy to make plans for the future of our society and our planet. On 27th June, I hitched a lift from Glasgow, alone, to be there too.

An intimate piece of contemporary storytelling, Kieran Hurley's **Hitch** tells of the real experience of this journey, asking questions about the meaning and purpose of political protest, the limits of personal power and the possibility of change. Humorous, honest, thought-provoking, and ultimately hopeful and uplifting, **Hitch** is a story of global leaders, compassionate strangers, a young man, and his thumb.



| Photo by Flora Pitrolo

FRIDAY 17 JUNE

WHITE RABBIT – ARE YOU SITTING COMFORTABLY? REVOLUTION

8pm, Toynbee Studios (£8)

On Friday we're channeling the revolutionary spirit of the literary salons of 18th Century France, so sit back, eat (free) cake, and get comfortable whilst White Rabbit entertain you with an evening of original short stories written by local rabble-rousers, rebels and hell-raisers, read by a team of anarchic dandies. In the sumptuous candle-lit surrounds of the Arts Bar & Café, part Mad Hatter's party, part 1930s tearoom, there'll also be literary competitions and prizes and even the odd firework.

Take part: We're looking for stories of around 1000 words on the theme of revolution to be read at the event. If you have a story please send to areyousittingcomfortably@live.com by June 3.



| Photo by Anna Lenihan

SATURDAY 18 JUNE

OUR CURRENT CLIMATE?

10am – 6pm, Toynbee Studios (free)

For one day we will be hosting a myriad of talks, workshops, performances, interventions, walks and discussions to look more closely at the themes of Two Degrees 2011: 'Art & Activism, Climate & Cuts'. The day will bring together artists from across the festival programme, along with guest organisations and artists including Encounters, UK Uncut and Larry Bogad of the The Yes Men.



| Photo by Anna Lenihan

We will be asking: How exactly are the climate and the cuts linked? And how can we use art and activism to change our current climate? The full programme for the day will be available on the Artsadmin website.

ISABELLE FREMEAUX / JOHN JORDAN / KYP KYPRIANOU – PATHS THROUGH UTOPIAS

8pm, Toynbee Studios (free)

Blurring the fluid boundaries between present and future, documentary and fiction, this "passionate anarchist road movie" (Le Monde) explores a postcapitalist Europe.

From the direct action Climate Camp set up illegally besides Heathrow airport to a hamlet squatted by French art punks, occupied self-managed Serbian factories to a free love commune in an ex-Stasi base, this magicorealist travelogue transports us to a parallel universe after an economic and ecological collapse. The film is half of a book-film published by Editions Zones.

REBECCA BEINART

POTION

Investigating plants that occupy the edge between 'medicine' and 'poison', **Potion** explores the delicate balance between a substance that can support health and life, or cause illness and death, depending on dosage. Rebecca Beinart will be harvesting and processing powerful plants from public sites around London, and collecting stories of the medicinal and magical properties of these plants. Throughout the festival a mobile apothecary will be installed at Toynbee Studios. **Potion** invites you to consider questions of potency, knowledge, power and healing; and the notion of a tipping point which depends fundamentally on a deeper understanding of the living world.



Saturday 18 June
11am and 2pm , start at
Toynbee Studios (free)

Join Rebecca and Pete Harrison on a contemplative journey through the back streets and secret gardens of East London to explore herbal folklore and hidden histories. Gathering plants along the way, you will be guided towards a performance in the heart of the city to extract a potent potion.

| Photo by Jeff Baker

THE HAIRCUT BEFORE THE PARTY

THE SALON

Sunday 12 – Saturday 18 June, 12 – 6pm

26 – 28 Toynbee Street, E1 (5 minutes from Toynbee Studios)

As the Government's cuts affect us in different ways, The Haircut Before the Party asks; what are opportunities we have to find unity and take action today?

The Haircut Before the Party has set up a new salon in Whitechapel for six months offering locals, individuals and groups a convivial space where different discourses can meet through the act of cutting hair for free. The salon is a space where conversations are initiated, built upon, networked and mapped, a space where friendship and trust come before membership and hierarchies.

In exchange for a free haircut, they're asking you to share your social and political views and ideas. During Two Degrees the salon will be open all week for drop-in haircuts, appointments and events, inviting participants to expand on the themes and issues raised in both the festival and the salon.

See also Wednesday 15 June event.

Book your appointment at thehaircutbeforetheparty.net



| Photo by Milda Sokolovaitė

ELLIE HARRISON

A GOOD CLIMATE FOR BUSINESS

In 2009 (pre Copenhagen), climate change was in the news. But it was soon overtaken by the much more tangible and immediate threat symbolised by the financial crisis.

Exploring our understanding of the relationship between climate change and capitalism, Ellie will spend the week putting into perspective two very different yet interconnected crises. This will culminate in a spectacle at the end of the festival (Saturday 6pm) with the aim of redressing the balance and refocusing the debate.

WORK-A-THON FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED

Monday 13 June, 9am – 5pm, Toynbee Studios

The Work-a-thon will attempt to set a record for the most self-employed people working in the same space (on their own individual projects) over the course of a single 9-5 day.

In a post-financial crisis world of increasingly precarious labour, the Work-a-thon aims to create a space where self-employed workers can enjoy their own water cooler moments; working together, lunching together, knocking off at 5 and going to the pub together – forging new friendships, connections, collaborations, working methodologies and political action, perhaps even the birth of a 'Union for the Self-Employed'.

To register and take part, visit selfemployed.me.uk.



| Photo by the artist

CLARE PATEY

CRAYFISH BOB'S

Monday 13 – Friday 17 June, 6.30pm Toynbee Studios (£5)

For Two Degrees, Clare Patey has collaborated with Bob Ring, Lizzie Clachan and Blanch and Shock to create **Crayfish Bob's**, a pop-up café serving American Signal Crayfish from the River Thames. This locally sourced delicacy is caught by Crayfish Bob himself and served from our al fresco crayfish shack in the grounds of Toynbee Studios.

Book a table, enjoy an extraordinary dining experience and help eradicate this invasive species which has already almost wiped out the UK's native white-clawed crayfish, as well as destroying other aquatic life.

Produced in association with
The Mayor's Thames Festival.



| Crayfish Bob. Photo by Dan Houston

BOOKING & OTHER INFO

Tel 020 7650 2350 (Mon-Fri 11am-6pm)

Book online at artsadmin.co.uk

Toynbee Studios
28 Commercial Street
London E1 6AB
(nearest tube: Aldgate East)

We don't charge fees for telephone or online bookings.

All events are free except **Are you Sitting Comfortably?** (£8) and **Crayfish Bob's** (£5). Some events have limited capacity so advance booking is recommended. No booking required for **Cycle Sunday**.

TWITTER

Get all the latest updates on Twitter.

@two_degrees or @Artsadm. Hashtag #twodegs2011.

**TO REQUEST THIS BROCHURE IN ANOTHER
FORMAT PLEASE CALL 020 7650 2350.**

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