

Wednesday 5 June 2024



## **PUBLIC STATEMENT**

### **ARTS CENTRE BUILDING AFFECTED BY FIRE**

Watermans, confirms that London Fire Brigade were called to a fire at the arts centre building earlier today.

The fire, which has badly affected the venue's smallest studio space, appears to have been started accidentally, involving a third party outside the building. According to the London Fire Brigade investigating team the fire then spread inside. The fire damage was contained within the studio space. However, water damage has affected the restaurant area below the studio space. No-one was inside the building at the time and there were no injuries.

For further information about the on-going investigation please contact the London Fire Brigade Press Office. The venue has been closed to the public since 11 April, this year.

**For further information please contact Antony Pickthall, Marketing Director:  
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#### **About Watermans:**

Waterman's has been West London's arts centre for nearly forty years. Our mission is to bring communities together through cultural practice and we exist to enrich lives through the arts and creativity. As an independent charity, Watermans believe the arts is for everyone and that is at the heart of everything it does. The charity closed Watermans ahead of its relocation to a new building on the site of the old police station building in Brentford.

Watermans presents a programme of cinema, fringe theatre, exhibitions and workshops in a riverside location in Brentford. As an independent charity with an outreach programme across Hounslow, Watermans reaches tens of thousands of people who would otherwise enjoy little or no arts provision, and works with them to build community through the arts. Watermans houses an independent cinema, 250-seat theatre, contemporary art gallery and creative spaces.

Beyond the venue, Watermans is responsible for programming **Bell Square**, Watermans' outdoor arts venue in Hounslow Town Centre, where it presents fortnightly free performances between May and November. Watermans also runs the major Arts Council-funded ***Creative People and Places (CPP Hounslow)*** programme that puts the decisions and views of local people at the heart of everything it does and aims to create a colourful, confident and creative Hounslow. CPP Hounslow is part of Arts Council England's national investment in engaging new audiences in the arts, in areas where there is little or no access to arts and culture. Watermans leads the Creative People and Places consortium in Hounslow.



**London Borough  
of Hounslow**



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Watermans is a social enterprise and holder of the **Social Enterprise Mark**.