



PRESS RELEASE

15 August 2025

Watermans Seeking Polish Female Participants for Artist-led Photography Project as part of FAC's *Our Freedom: Then and Now*.

Watermans is inviting Polish women in Hounslow to share their personal stories, reflect on their migration experiences, and take part in creating a powerful portrait of the local community. The **Free.Her** project will be exploring what freedom means to women today, through their own words, histories, and identities.

They will work with artist and ethnographer **Anna Jochymek**, to invite participants to a friendly, safe and respectful conversation where they can speak about their journey, challenges, and what has empowered them as women and migrants in the UK.

The resulting portraits will then be exhibited in two outdoor locations: Brentford Market and Bell Square and then be included in the Gunnersbury Museum Hounslow Archive.

Potential participants should contact Watermans on info@watermans.org.uk for further information.

For more information please contact:
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Editors' Notes

About Anna Jochymek

Anna Jochymek is a Polish-born, London-based artist, ethnographer, and researcher working at the intersection of visual arts, social anthropology, and public engagement. Anna Jochymek is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the School of Social Sciences and Professions, Centre for Global Diversities and Inequalities at Metropolitan University London, working as an ethnographer in a pioneering interdisciplinary study funded by the Economic and Social Research Council,

About FAC

Future Arts Centres (FAC) is a national network of over 170 arts centres across the UK. FAC champions the role of arts centres as vital public spaces that foster creativity, community, and cultural expression. In 2023, FAC became a registered company and an Arts Council England IPSO, providing sector support and leadership.

About Our Freedom: Then and Now

"*Our Freedom: Then and Now*", is part of a £2 million national creative programme marking the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Supported by the UK Government through Arts Council England, the Future Arts Centres and Libraries Connected initiative will see 60 arts centres and libraries across Britain present community-led projects exploring the legacy of VE Day and VJ Day.

"*Our Freedom: Then and Now*" empowers artists, veterans and residents to explore themes of past and present freedoms through 60 creative projects, including exhibitions, performances and installations running from June to November 2025.

About Watermans

Watermans' mission is to bring communities together through cultural practice and to enrich lives through the arts and creativity. It presents a programme of international outdoor performance at **Bell Square London** from May to November, including in 2025 the **Theatre is Freedom | Teatr to Wolność** festival as part of the UK/Poland Season and delivers an extensive programme of participative arts activities in the community, where it is also lead partner for **Creative People and Places Hounslow**. It is also a partner in the EU funded project **Artcast4D**, an



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innovative pan-European project that combines art and immersive technology to enable people to interact with culture.

