

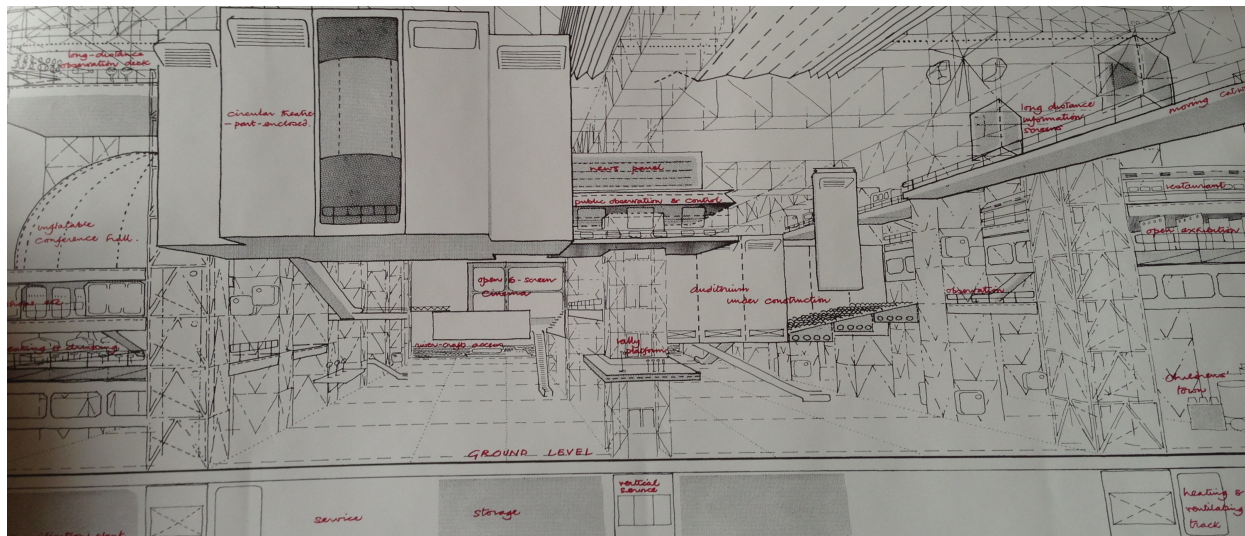
Fun Palaces

**Making a difference –
with a new kind of public engagement.**



**4 & 5 October 2014
and beyond ...**

In 1961 theatre director Joan Littlewood and architect Cedric Price conceived the Fun Palace – a ‘laboratory of fun’, ‘a university of the streets’. Temporary and moveable, housing arts and sciences, it was to welcome children and adults, based on Joan Littlewood’s motto of “Everyone an artist, everyone a scientist.”



The original design said : “Choose what you want to do – or watch someone else doing it. Learn how to handle tools, paint, babies, machinery, or just listen to your favourite tune. Dance, talk or be lifted up to where you can see how other people make things work. Sit out over space with a drink and tune in to what’s happening elsewhere in the city. Try starting a riot or beginning a painting – or just lie back and stare at the sky.”

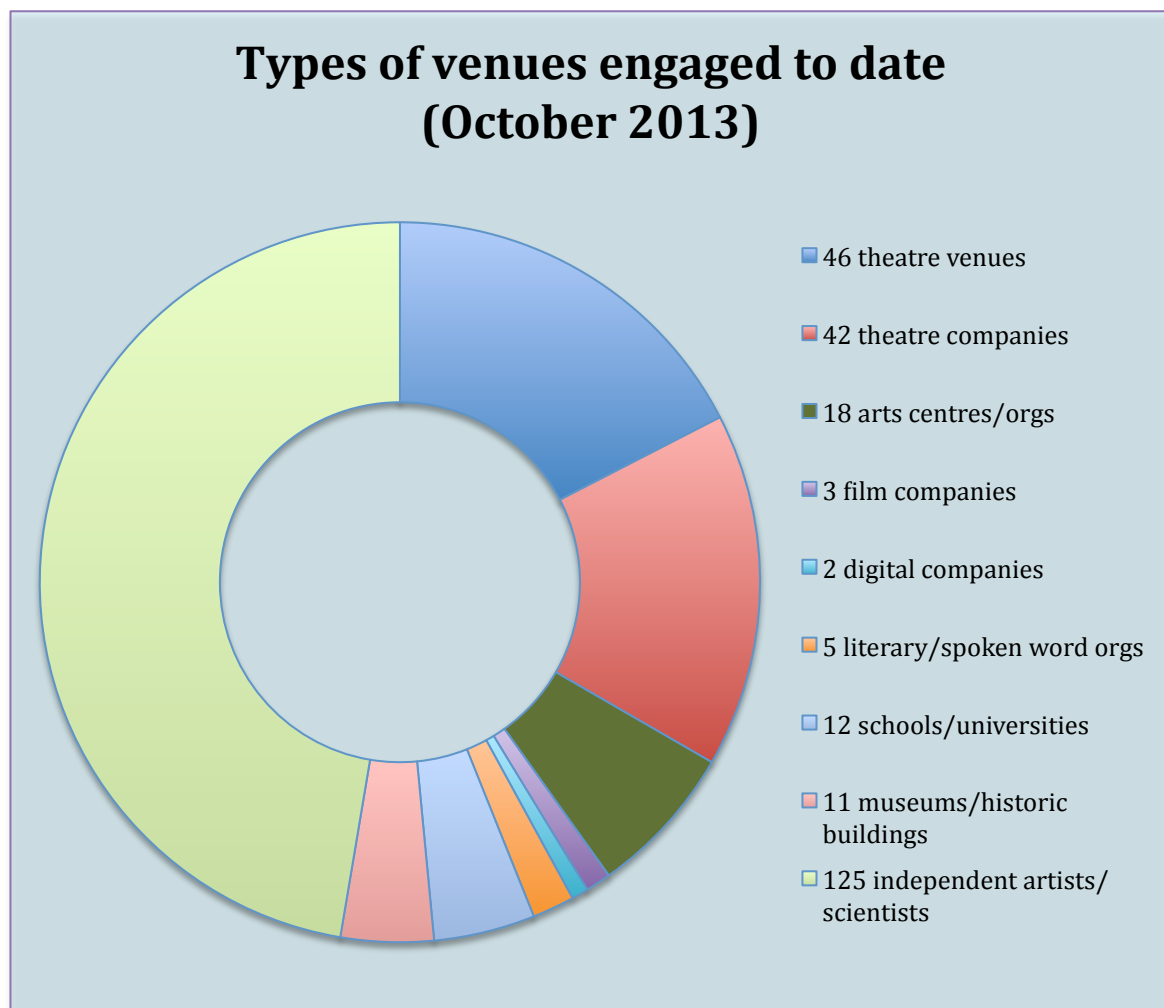
We aim to take the best of that never-built 1960s vision and bring it into the 21st century in a weekend of events, locally curated and attended – linked nationally and internationally, virtually and actually. On 4/5 October 2014 there will be hundreds of local, pop-up Fun Palaces across the country, each one based on the needs and wants of that community, all part of the national network of Fun Palaces.

They will be linked by a website that is a digital Fun Palace and by walks between locations.

The weekend of Fun Palaces in 2014 is the kick-off. We will run the same in 2015, 2016 and beyond. This is not just an event, it is a movement, putting cultural participation and public engagement at the heart, simultaneously and nationally, *together* – across the UK and beyond.

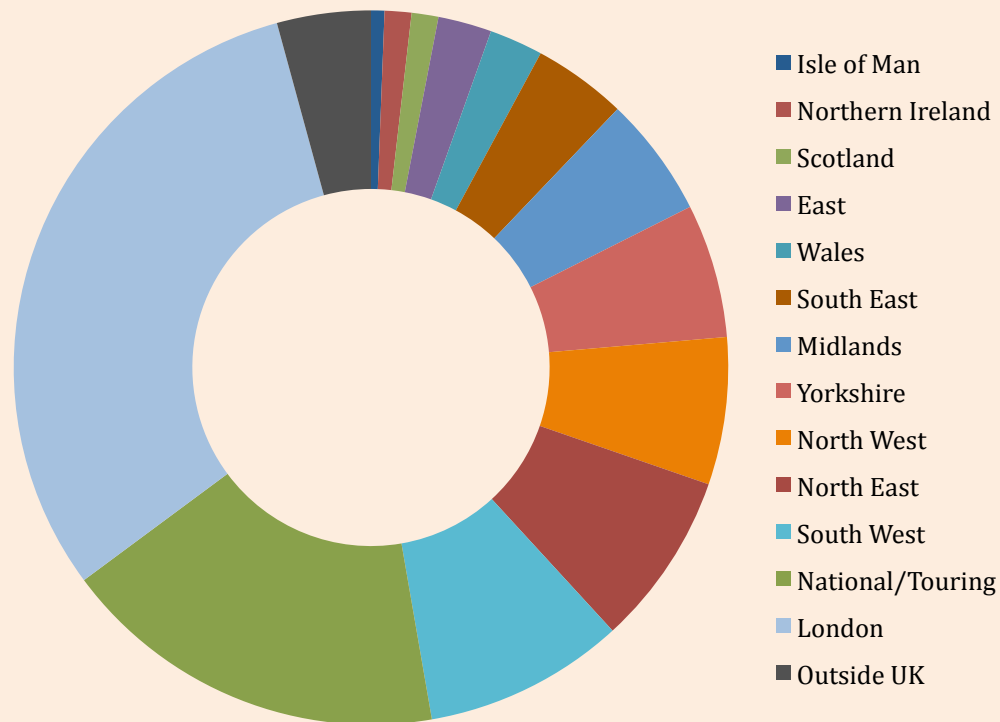
Where will they be?

Anywhere and everywhere, in large venues and small halls, public squares and private gardens. Already there are over 150 signed up, as diverse as the RSC, the SouthBank Centre, Graeae, Kneehigh, Ormesby Hall National Trust, London Metropolitan Archives, Manchester Museums Festival, Kent Libraries, Clean Break, Arvon, Kali Theatre, Yellow Earth, the Institute of Ideas, schools and universities, 125+ independent artists, thinkers and scientists.



We know many more, in many more locations, will also want to join.

Locations of venues engaged to date (October 2013)



Each Fun Palace will be as unique as its location, held together by the Fun Palace website and a massive, passionate marketing/PR campaign that trumpets the value of cultural and public engagement, with local communities and local people at the heart of all our work.

Whether you are an individual, a small company, a national institution, a huge corporation, or a tiny community with an empty shop-front, we welcome anyone who wants to get involved – because engagement is at the heart of positive change.

We want you to make this with us.

Will you help us make a difference?

Stella Duffy and Sarah-Jane Rawlings, October 2013

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further information : www.fun-palaces.com