

Usurp Art Gallery & Studios

<http://www.usurp.org.uk>



PRESS RELEASE

Metroland Media is an exhibition of subtle, beautiful, reflective insights about growing up, creating new types of families and a future based on sharing experiences with young people from all over the world.

Metroland Media

**Launch Event with live performances and music by DJ Nikki of Future Fusion
Monday 26th July 2010 from 4pm to 8.30pm
Usurp Art Gallery & Studios, 140 Vaughan Road, London HA1 4EB**

**Gallery open during this exhibition Mon to Sun 2pm to 8pm until 1st August 2010
Free admission**

The Usurp Art Gallery will be enriched with stop-motion films, mobile phone pictures, large photomontage posters and music - created and produced by young unaccompanied refugees and young people living in Harrow aged 14 – 19 years.

Since May 2010, the young **Metroland Media** group have met weekly in creative workshops with professional artists and facilitators to develop and produce this project based on real life experiences, and aspirations for themselves and the world. Growing up without their families, their resilience, creativity and determination are an inspiration.

Metroland Media has enabled the young artists to learn new skills in digital arts media and has developed their self-organisation and confidence to engage publicly. It has offered reflective ways of thinking and questioning, and provided new visual and aural languages to help communicate their ideas and beliefs beyond the barriers of language, religion, background and culture.

For more information please contact: Poulomi at art@usurp.org.uk
0208 426 6264 / 07956 817038

Metroland Media is produced by the Usurp Art Gallery

Artist Mentors and Facilitators include

Aoife Twomey, Manjit Kudhail, Natalie Leer and Poulomi Desai

Young Metroland Media Artists

Ajmal Jabarhkel, Arone Gedey, Dagme Mesfin, Fatou Diallo, Ganimete Vucaj, Hana Yousef, Hassan Mohamed, Kanano Malik, Sajid Faquii, Saryas Mohammed, Sauraya Hassan, Taha Hassan, Tahira Syed, Tongwei Lin, Wang Zhang, Widad Mohammed, Xiao Ying, Zhiwei Chen.

Funders and Partners include

Arts Council England, Mediabox and Harrow Council

About Usurp Art Gallery & Studios

Led by Artistic Director Poulomi Desai, Usurp is a not for profit art collective set up in 2003 to develop opportunities for communities to work with artists and activists from diverse backgrounds. Open to experimental ideas in all media, we support artists to collaborate in research and action, and actively encourage a wide range of audiences to participate in the creation of artworks that challenge conformity, prejudice and discrimination. In 2010, Usurp launched the only contemporary art gallery and studios in the London Borough of Harrow.

Usurp Art Gallery & Studios promoting art and social engagement – not for profit