



Pleasure 2015

Neon

Studio Long & Scenografika

14 February – 21 June 2015

From Valentine's day until Summer Solstice, the Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre presents *Pleasure*. *Pleasure* is a neon sign, positioned on the Community Centre's roof. It acts as a beacon for the centre and for the historic Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens below.

Produced by Studio Long & Scenografika, both tenants of artist studios at the centre, the sign is an expression of the joy taken from all the centre has to offer the local community. It's also a nod to the wide range of recreational activities that have been and continue to be enjoyed in and around the gardens.

The plant boxes in front of the *Pleasure* sign are embedded with evergreen shrubs common to coastal and cliff top environments. The light and the plants will be visible to users of the Pleasure Gardens, to railway commuters and to those who live and work in the rapidly developing area. The installations are just the beginning of a longer term project which will make greater, more colourful use of the roof and centre.

Although the Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre has been around for 30 years, it has only recently taken up residence on the Pleasure Gardens. Its second floor is full of artist studios and after Alice Achola-Omara, Manager of the centre and the Trustees asked us to get more involved in the life of the place, we came up with the Pleasure Project, a way of marking and celebrating the community centre and its historic location.

Vicky Long, Studio Long

The Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, variously known as 'New Spring Gardens', 'Vauxhall Gardens' and 'The Royal Gardens, Vauxhall' were a popular cultural destination over the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. People headed to Vauxhall for an outdoor stroll, for food, drink and entertainment. The gardens gave London its first public art gallery and a first hearing of Handel's Fireworks Music. Today, they are enjoying a new lease of life, hosting an ice rink in the winter months, outdoor cinema screenings in the summer and festival events throughout the year. Around the gardens, the Royal Vauxhall Tavern and a variety of clubs offer late night entertainment, while the Cabinet and Hirst Galleries, together with Beaconsfield promise access to high quality contemporary art. The Pleasure Project sets out to celebrate and contribute to this vibrant cultural landscape.

Light Manufacture: A1Designs
Horticultural Advice: Daniel Lobb MSGD

Generously funded and supported by the Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre and the National Lottery through Arts Council England, with additional support from CLS Holdings, Martinspeed and Neal's Nurseries, Wandsworth.

If you would like to get involved in the Pleasure Project, or want to know more about the sign or plants, please contact Vicky Long on studio.long.co.uk@gmail.com.

#Pleasure #VGCC #vauxhallpleasuregardens
@VauxhallGarden1 (VGCC twitter account)

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Notes to Editors

Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre

The Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre has served its local community since 1986. Today it is used for skills boosting classes for kids, bingo games, jewellery-making, art workshops, drama sessions, fitness and well-being activities, faith meetings, film screenings and much more. On its second floor are artist studios.

<http://vgcc.org.uk/>

Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens

More information can be found at:

<http://www.friendsofvauxhallpleasuregardens.org.uk/history.htm>

Studio Long

Studio Long produces visual and time-based works. The studio is based at Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre and is led by artist and producer Vicky Long.

www.studiolong.co.uk

Scenografika

Scenografika is a production design studio, headed by artist Erik Rehl. The studio is based at Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre has created work across film, theatre, dance, fashion, photography and art.

<http://www.rehldesign.com>



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