

An Evening with John Blanke

Imagine the black Tudor trumpeter

The Great Chamber, Sutton House, Homerton High Street, Hackney, London, E9 6JQ

Friday 13th April 2018, 18:30 - 20:30

Welcome to John Blanke Live! event at Sutton House

A celebration of John Blanke the black Tudor trumpeter to the courts of Henry VII and Henry VIII. Over 50 artists, historians, rappers, musicians, poets have made a contribution to the project, tonight some of them will share how they imagined John Blanke.

Corporal Lawrence Narhkom - Trumpeter

Lawrence is a trumpeter with The Band of The Corps of Royal Engineers. He toured in Afghanistan where his performance of the Last Post and Reveille was commended by HRH Prince Harry.

Michael Ohajuru - Historian

Devised and developed the John Blanke Project through commissioning works from visual and spoken word artists, writers, rappers and historians.

Miranda Kaufmann - Historian

Miranda a senior research fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. Her recent book Black Tudors was widely acclaimed including a 5 star review from the Telegraph.

Graeme Evelyn - Artist

Graeme's a multi media visual artist, musician and curator – whose varied body of work comments on cultural social identity, politics and language.

Mengistu Etim - Artist

A Camden lad, Illustration BA Hons graduate at the University of Bedfordshire, he is a full time Freelance Caricaturist and Illustrator.

Robin Walker - Historian

Robin also known as The Black History Man, is one of the foremost historian and writer on all matters related to ancient and medieval African history.

Seema Manchanda - Artist

Seema's art work is based on her interest including personal experiences, anti-racism, feminism, London, conservation and environmental issues.

Lanre Ajisafe - Photographer

Lanre's a portraiture photographer whose practice is grounded in the light found in black and white images with an acute attention to detail.

Linett Kamala - Artist

Linett is a visual artist whose paintings merge abstraction with expressive hand script. She draws inspiration from calligraffiti and abstract expressionism.

Jan Marsh - Art Historian

At the National Portrait Gallery Jan is part of a team compiling entries for the portraits Victorian personalities and she curated the ground breaking Black Victorians: Black People in British Art, 1800-1900 exhibition.

Sheba Montserrat - Performance Poet

Dancer, choreographer, Poet and Stand-Up Comedian. As a social commentator, edutainment is her outlet!

Sharon Foster - Artist

Studied graphic design at Central St Martins, since 2011 has practice her art as Alicia Dean Artworks recently had a commission to paint a portrait of Bernie Grant for the Marcus Garvey library, Haringey.

Phil Day - Rapper

Phil wrote The Rap History of the World (RHW) presenting a thematic history of the universe, life and Human civilization from the Big Bang to the present day, in syncopated rhyming verse.

Jeremy Salmon - Illustrator

Creative director of a busy design agency working in not for profit organisations and London borough councils working with the community.

Paul Dash - Artist

Paul's a Barbados-born artist, educator and writer he exhibited with the 1960s Caribbean Artists Movement (CAM), most recently in Colour Bar: Black British Art in Action 1960–1990 at the Guildhall Art Gallery.

Fowokan - Artist

Jamaican born sculptor George 'Fowokan' Kelly, con and 'Elder' of the Black British arts movement. His work is held by many public and private art collections.

To find out more about tonight's contributors go to <http://JohnBlanke.com>

I imagined John Blanke as....

a **Jazz musician** a man who was proud and confident

a strong minded individual **Shabaka HUTCHINGS**

a talented career musician **not as an image I**

hear him A REFLECTION OF MYSELF *a bold and brassy*

leader a powerful force of sound a talented, proud yet

sad man a seasoned traveller **a CHEERFUL FELLOW**

someone who strived to use his skills to succeed **both self-assured**

and soulful a fellow diaspora musician and parent *talented and*

unique **HAVING A STRONG SENSE OF DETERMINATION,**

PERHAPS QUITE FEARLESS a lone black person in the white

context of the Royal Court **a learned man** a man *a graphic*

crowbar a musician **a survivor** an exceptional musician

a Jazz musician **a real person not fragmented to fit in a**

box or category of inclusiveness *strong, charismatic,*

creative, a man of courage a man who blew a medieval fanfare

a time traveller an individual in possession of

exceptional talents **physically and**

emotionally strong a "trump card" a talented man

in his own right the firstborn son of Nana Damoah

A CONFIDENT AND ASSERTIVE CHARACTER a man who might

have felt he was a stranger in many strange lands.